

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Updates to the Tribune Bay Park Recreation Enhancements Project**

Campground construction, picnic shelter replacement, and next steps

#### **HORNBY ISLAND, BC – DATE, 2025 – PROJECT UPDATE – FALL 2025**

As another busy summer at Tribune Bay Park comes to a close, preparations for next season are already in the works. There are two phases planned for improving recreation at Tribune Bay:

#### **PHASE 1: Enhancing the existing campground**

Phase 1 will focus on improving the current campground within its existing footprint. Construction is scheduled to begin immediately after the campground closes for the season on October 1, 2025. Details regarding upgrades to campsites, amenities, and the overall visitor experience were released in Spring 2025.

#### **What to expect during the Phase 1 construction period**

A construction contract has been awarded, and work will begin on October 1, 2025 with the installation of construction fencing, equipment, and temporary office facilities. Phase 1 is scheduled to be completed by May 2026. New traffic advisory signs will be installed along Shields Road and access will remain open during construction but there may be some limited delays from time to time. Access to the campground will be closed during the construction period.

Impacts to ferry capacity will be minimized by transporting materials by barge to Shingle Spit Terminal when required throughout the project. As needed, marine landings may occur several times a week, and an excavator will offload aggregates directly from the barge into waiting dump trucks, ensuring efficient handling. Work hours will be based on the tides but managed to minimize disturbance for the community as much as possible. The boat launch will remain open during barging activities.

#### **Environmental considerations**

A Construction Environmental Management Plan, prepared by a Registered Professional Biologist, will be approved by BC Parks before construction begins. This includes

measures to mitigate impacts at the material offloading site and in the construction area. Some of these measures include inter-tidal shoreline protection, erosion sediment control, tree protection, and noise controls to mitigate impact on bald eagle habitats.

Trees may be removed at the campground if they are found to pose a danger to workers or the public. All recommendations will be reviewed by BC Parks prior to removal and trees will be retained wherever possible. BC Parks has decided to withdraw campsites 41 and 42 from the current design to protect a mature Pacific crab apple grove.

There will be over 5,000 new plants installed on this site including native shrubs, sedges, and trees. These plantings will help to improve biodiversity, privacy between sites, and stormwater management.

### **Picnic shelter replacement**

The existing picnic shelter has been assessed by an engineer and determined to be near the end of its life. A new picnic shelter will be constructed on the existing footprint in the day-use area with construction expected to start October 2025 and be completed before Spring. Park users can expect some limited closures of the beach trail and the Outdoor Education Centre, as construction will be staged from this site. Picnic shelter materials may be brought in and out by helicopter and barge in Tribune Bay. Construction staging may also occur in the day-use parking lot.

### **PHASE 2: Planning and engagement for remaining campsites**

The existing campground will see a temporary reduction in campsites during Phase 1. These campsites will be built in a different area of the park to ensure there is enough space to provide the experience people expect in our campgrounds. The location for the remaining campsites is currently being explored.

More information regarding plans for Phase 2 and opportunities for engagement will be provided soon. Planning for Phase 2 will continue in Spring 2026 with the goal of beginning construction in Fall 2026.

For project updates and additional details visit: [helpshapebc.gov.bc.ca/tribune](https://helpshapebc.gov.bc.ca/tribune)