

Topic: Parks Bylaw update

Introduction:

Bylaws are reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that they continue to meet their intended purpose. A review of the Parks bylaw was completed as part of the major bylaw review project and updated to reflect how Park spaces have evolved in use.

Background Information:

Administration has been working on the revision and drafting of new bylaws as part of the Major bylaw review project. The Parks Bylaw was identified as one of the bylaws requiring updating. The use of Parks, Trails and Boat Launches in Parkland County has changed significantly since the original bylaw was created. Additionally, the creation of the proposed new Unauthorized Use of County Lands Bylaw, required us to remove all sections in the original bylaw referring to County land use outside of a Park.

Analysis:

The Parkland County Parks Bylaw has not been reviewed since 2002. The updating of the bylaw was based on addressing the issues we currently see in the Parks, through feedback from users and staff as well as on best practices determined through a municipal scan. The initial draft was taken to public consultation. Internal and external feedback were incorporated into the final draft that was submitted for a legal review.

Alternatives:

1. Council could choose to keep the current bylaw (Bylaw 44-2002)
2. Council could make additional changes to the proposed new bylaw

Conclusion/Summary:

There are many changes to the Bylaw that reflect important updated park rules as well as recognizing new activities that are now part of day-to-day life. The Bylaw has been completely re-written with new sections and headings. To that end, the Bylaw provides for friendly park spaces and responsible use of County Land.

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