APPENDIX B: OPTIONAL OPEN-ENDED COMMENTS

Q18. Do you have any other comments regarding the Regional District's recreation and parks services and facilities?

**Town of Qualicum Beach**

- Affordable family housing is needed with accompanying recreation and parks services.
- Could a boardwalk of some kind be installed for wheelchair access to view wonderful sandcastle displays?
- Does a line down a road make a safe walkway? Not on Berwick Road - which has been taken over by construction trucks racing down hill from Rupert.
- Drop the parking fees in the parks so they will be appreciated again!
- Eliminate parking fees (Rathtrevor, Long Beach). Use revenue from small tax increase. To be on a family outing - free happy time - then have to watch the clock to plug the meter, ruins the relaxed time that should be had. More emphasis on youth training in tennis.
- Everything is great. Pay attention to young vandals. Support the police.
- I'm not into sports but have a small child who will soon use the Aquatic Centre. A waterpark in Qualicum would be beneficial to the community. More paved roads in areas like Whispering Pines, Larkdown Road, etc.
- I believe you should offer more programs for teens and youth and a place for them to meet.
- I don't know if facilities are sufficient, however, there should be a real push put on to encourage all people to participate in at least one activity to promote better health. If the responses indicate new facilities - go for it!
- I use the Ravensong swimming facilities regularly and love the lane swimming and aquafit classes. Instructors are wonderful and provide good, balanced exercise. However, classes are bursting at the seams - sometimes hardly room to move. I believe consideration should be given to a pool in Parksville.
- I would like to see soap dispensers installed in Ravensong showers: shouldn't cost much and would be helpful and healthy!
Town of Qualicum Beach continued

- I would like to use Ravensong regularly as part of wellness regime, but it is too expensive. Since this and the dog parks/trails are the only facilities I use, this seems rather unfair.

- In our sedentary society it is important to keep offering ways for people of all ages and abilities to keep active. Please keep making "being fit and happy" a focus for your programs. Don't give up - keep looking for ways to help motivate everyone to look at fitness as a way to be well.

- Keep up the good work.

- Let's hope this survey has not been in vain. Please print survey results in local newspaper.

- More security against vandalism.

- Overall facilities including golf courses, private gyms, etc. are excellent.

- Purchase land adjacent to French Creek Marina for a community park. Ice rink in Parksville Community Park should be returned to hockey, figure skating, and skating use. The curling facility in Qualicum Beach is under-utilized. Wider shoulders needed for cycling Oceanside Pointe from Parksville to Qualicum Beach.

- Ravensong change rooms do not always have the basics in place - like working soap dispensers, shower heads, and toilets; and toilet stalls that lock! Extras are wonderful but we need the basics!

- Recreation to keep teens off the streets.

- Should be more natural areas left as communal trails and park area. They are prone to flooding and expensive infrastructure to remedy disaster. Hydrologists and Geotechnicians from the Ministry of the Environment can identify these areas and that should be headed by ZONING bureaucrats.

- Teens need things to do. We are very fortunate and in many ways don't make good use of facilities already here.

- The facilities appear to be good for those wishing to participate. We keep fit and active in other pastimes.

- The recreation facilities are outstanding. We use the oceanfront walkway daily - would like to see it extended in the other direction. Whoever looks after Qualicum Beach facilities gets a bravo from me!
Too many outside district user groups at Oceanside Place.

Very pleased with recreation and parks services and facilities, however I believe there needs to be more of a focus on culture and the performing arts.

We need a hospital in Qualicum Beach for this area!

We need to control development and protect what we have. I support a small tax increase - but only for existing facilities - nothing for new development.

With the many facilities already in place, why not expand and improve what you already have? We have wonderful facilities for our age group and it just takes a bit of planning to improve what is already in place.

Would use aquatic centre if it had other facilities like fitness centre, racquetball, etc., to allow a combination of activity including a swim. Pool would need to have ample adult only time to facilitate these activities.

You are doing a great job with funds available. In Qualicum, it's sad to see so few neighbourhood playgrounds, and so little public beachfront. We need more green space near the water: trees, picnic areas. Keep dogs off swimming areas. Give them their own gravel sand spit to swim and play. Tourists need a clean enclosed dog walk NEAR the beach, just not on it where kids are digging in the sand! Parking could be provided on cliffside with an overhead walkway. Why sell our children’s birthright to developers? It is the beach that makes us Qualicum Beach! Pretty soon it will be called Qualicum Car Park.
City of Parksville

- A short sidewalk extension from playground area to the beach or new pavilion is needed. There's no way to go between other than through the grass and goose waste or walk with the traffic on a very narrow street.

- A waterfront path (walkway) for walkers, bikes, and rollerblades from Rathtrevor Beach to French Creek (similar to Stanley Park) would be excellent for both local residents and tourism. It would provide year-round use and an increase in year-round revenues for business owners in Parksville and French Creek. It would finally provide safe and beautiful biking access to this east side area.

- As a person with joint problems with a partner who is wheelchair bound, we would like to have smooth walkways to use for recreation that are relatively stress free (physically) so that we can set our own pace e.g., Nanaimo's waterfront walkway.

- Besides sports, there is very little of interest for teenagers.

- Better trail marking and maps should be available (website maps are poor). Work with city of Parksville and other groups to link up with proposed waterfront walkway, through surfside RV Park to Englishman River Estuary Trails, footbridge across the river to San Pareil, linking to Rathtrevor Park and top bridge trails.

- Crime in Parksville is on the rise. Innovative program choices needed for youth.

- E&N Railway should be converted into a bike trail, along the lines of Kettle Valley Railway in the interior. Mt. Arrowsmith Regional Park should be developed into a low impact hiking, biking, tenting park. Don't allow another private enterprise mess (last ones degraded the environment at our expense). Thanks for the great bridge over McBay Creek! It is wonderful.

- For the size of the town, we have ample recreation programs.

- Greatest recreational need in RDN is unrestricted access to the hinterlands, which provides abundant rec opportunities without additional expenses for infrastructure. This free access is increasingly denied to RDN residents by privatization and gating of many areas. Resource extractors must accept the human interface as part of the cost of doing business. RDN must do everything it can to uphold this free public access. Also, I suggest the provision of "Resident Exempt" stickers for parking in local provincial parks.

- I'm a senior with no transportation. A community bus would be helpful as I don't own a car. I can't be that helpful due to my limited ability to move and my age (88). I wish you luck.
I'm not in favour of the Community Park Plan (started in 1980) which would disrupt the wetland area animals and birds. Please re-think this area from river over to the community park: walking trails only along the waterfront, not in wetlands.

I am frustrated that dogs are expected to exercise in small fenced areas only. It is no different than my backyard! When I take my dog out, I enjoy walking - not just standing still. New programs should also utilize existing facilities like the lacrosse box and tennis courts in Parksville. Removing them will not motivate people into activity.

I am new to the area, but from what we hear, you're doing a great job.

I am very new to area and haven't used facilities yet.

I believe we need to consider the greater good when deciding on recreation facilities. For example, while I am unlikely to go skating, I vote yes on these things as they attract professional people (doctors, dentists, teachers, etc.) and we all benefit.

I enjoy swimming lengths at Ravensong but have stopped going because I have to make the 15 km trip at 7 am to find that occasionally there is a junior program scheduled into the Early Bird time slot, leaving only 4 lanes for seniors which causes excessive crowding. Can't school programs be scheduled so that we know about them? I have brought this to the attention of management at Ravensong, but nothing is done.

I have not lived here long enough to fairly comment on any facilities, but we intend to make use of Ravensong trails and art programs.

I see lots of chances for people to be active. The new rinks seem to have improved things. I'd like to see the parks clean and well managed for all to use.

I understand that RDN can't offer as many programs as a large centre like Victoria. It's just frustrating that if a teenager wants to take juggling, magic, hip hop, yoga, basketball camp for girls, etc. there is very little available. Teens in this area really need to be kept busy.

I was very unhappy when the pool was built in Qualicum Beach and not in the centre of the RDN (Parksville). I find myself swimming lengths in the pool at times that don't work for me, as I am too slow to swim when it's busy.

I would love to see a theatre with the capability of showing movies.
In regards to campgrounds around Oceanside: I think spaces should be saved for locals without reservations; last minute camping is a good decision. We used to be able to line up and get in on weekends. Take away pay parking at Rathtrevor.

Let people make their own recreation. If I wanted to swim, I would go to the ocean, or build my own pool.

More services for toddlers and children 8-12. A gymnastic program for preschool aged children in the Parksville/Qualicum area would be valuable.

My children used park and recreation services when they lived here (moved away 5 and 10 years ago). Don't increase taxes, let people pay more if they use facilities.

Not all of us are athletic people. Some of us are walkers, or art lovers. Issues that are important for seniors: safety issues, safe and easy beach walking, waterfit classes, transportation to and from seniors’ activities. On the other hand, our children and youth need recreation facilities, day camps, and activities.

Not enough adult swimming or skating offered during evenings and weekends for working adults. Parksville should have its own pool since we are paying taxes for Ravensong and it is difficult for us (and a vast majority of others) to access it due to distance.

Please don't destroy our lovely park and beach in Parksville. We spend many hours there and my husband is on a scooter - he enjoys watching the children play in the playground and the water. After having 6 children, we know what it means to the children to have a great place to play.

Rathtrevor Park should not have paid parking. We used to walk, summer and winter, through the park and it was great. But we do not go anymore due to the parking fees!

Remove parking fees in parks even if you have to increase taxation or reduce other services.

Since I am over 90 and physically confined, I cannot give valuable comment. However, I am all for areas providing playgrounds and guarded areas for children and teens. Teens seem to have little idea of values and need to be educated to value their free play areas.

There are plenty of areas for recreation. We live in a beautiful place.
There is a need for activities for youth living in Parksville/Qualicum. Too much emphasis on seniors and not enough on youth.

There needs to be more recreational programs for adults.

To have special needs children included in summer programs is a big plus.

Treat lifeguards with more respect and pay those with seniority a better wage. Their upgrades each year should be paid for by the Recreation Dept. None of the lifeguard staff stay! Our pool is cheap! Lifeguards have to be far more qualified than anyone else in the Recreation work force. Why can't we treat them better?

Very concerned about the erosion of the shoreline (200 ft. west of helipad). A boardwalk is not needed and in 5 more years, the shoreline will be back to the present road, so what's the point? Let's get this repaired. It's not right that we watch 6 to 10 ft of shoreline recede while we plan expenditures further back! PS - Parks staff are excellent! Helpful and friendly.

We are at the age when we have very little interest in group activities.

We love it here - all the wooded areas with walking trails.

You are doing a great job.

We need more ice time for hockey. A pool in Parksville with waterslide/wave pool/fitness facility would be great. More paved walking/bike paths. RDN parks and recreation does a good job!

We are in desperate need of a proper swimming facility in Parksville.

Work toward removing Provincial Park User Fees. Improve heritage lands.

We need easier access to our beach: better parking and better security, friendlier atmosphere, and a good walkway around Parksville Bay. It would be more pleasant if the rowdy, immature brats were controlled: there is fear for those who encounter these individuals, who are obviously under the influence of drugs and alcohol. We need more concern from city officials.

We need more facilities for youth, e.g., track & field, sportsfields, etc. We need to encourage people to participate.
Area E (Nanoose Bay)

- A 50 meter pool would be a great addition for those who swim lengths.
- Any place or program to help keep our pre-teens and teenagers safe and out of harm's/temptation's way. Free transportation in outlying areas to sports events for children.
- I don't know where Ravensong or Oceanside Place are. I support a tax increase only if for the benefit of Nanoose Bay!
- I feel the RDN is becoming a very large bureaucracy. Job vacancies seem to be advertised monthly.
- I have lived in RDN only 13 months and know very little about services in the area.
- I just moved to Nanoose Bay and they don't advertise their activities anywhere. It is too far to go swimming in Nanaimo or Qualicum Beach pools.
- I live in Fairwinds and have ample recreational facilities right here, so I don't use others.
- I love the improvements to trails in Parksville and Parksville Beach (it is clean, safe, fun, lots of space and things to do for everyone). I enjoy free concerts in the park. We appreciated free access to classes and swimming for my sister when she was battling depression - it demonstrated that Parks and Recreation is for all residents; thanks.
- Improve bicycle paths with more x-country paths from Nanaimo to Qualicum.
- It would be nice to have a fitness facility closer to Nanoose at a reasonable cost with early start times.
- More playgrounds are needed in Nanoose Bay and Parksville areas. The park on the water is way too packed in summer. An indoor pool would be useful to us as we drive to Nanaimo.
- Oceanside Complex is great!
- Please save Enos Lake (Garry Oak and Arbutus trees) and Nanoose Hill as parks.
- Protect as much of the natural areas as possible.
- Provide some land suitable for a Motocross Track to be developed by others.
Area E (Nanoose Bay) continued

Rather than increasing taxes, why don't you allow more property to be developed (sub-divided) into smaller lots so as to increase the tax base? This area is perfect for retirement - but retired people don't need big parcels of land.

Ravensong is a great facility but not convenient for Nanoose. Also, there has been animosity and extra fees for Nanoose residents resulting from Nanoose voters opting out years ago. I think all in Nanoose have felt alienated and choose Nanaimo facilities versus Qualicum Beach.

Ravensong should be in Parksville.

Swimming pool programs continue to grow and provide a great service to youth (self esteem, commitment, organization, and overall strong and healthy role models in our community). Providing sport or activity to more people is a winning situation.

Suggestion: we need a community bulletin board.

Tax increases are a real concern, as is unnecessary spending on a conference centre. Cities of 2 million can't support a conference centre - how can we? Enough recreational locations; concentrate on more important issues like health care, schools, and water services.

Thanks for keeping the cost of using the pool and arena reasonable.

We have been acquiring quite a few parks in the last few years - which is good - but please make sure you have adequate staffing to maintain them. It is not very nice to see a beautiful park littered with garbage, nowhere to use a bathroom, trails unkempt and dangerous. There must be adequate staff to keep them up.

We pay enough taxes already with everything else going up in price and wages not increasing!

The pool and new rinks in Qualicum are fantastic, but too far for residents of South Parksville, San Pariel, and Nanoose. I can't understand why two facilities were built in the same area when there are many others who have to use them? (I could see one, but both?!) For these reasons, we are moving to Nanaimo to be close to the Aquatic Centre and new rinks.

There is a pool table doing nothing at Nanoose Place - several seniors would love to put it to good use if full equipment were made available!

We had hoped that the pool would have been in Parksville or Nanoose. It is too far away for us to use.
Area F (Coombs, Hilliers, Errington)

Bathrooms/showers at the pool need more maintenance attention. Otherwise, it is a great facility. Could really be improved by the addition of a fitness area. There is great need for more options for teens - bike, rollerblade paths would be great, along with workshops like bike maintenance, drumming, art/music. We use the facilities often as well as various programs and appreciate it all.

Big tax rip off for Qualicum River Estates - we pay big taxes but have absolutely no services! Land has been donated to parks. We have two ball teams who have to drive to Qualicum to play or practice! Buy us the poles and wire and we'll do it ourselves! The lack of involvement with this area is a disgrace for the amount we pay for taxes.

Find a way to enforce leash laws and get people to clean up after their pets.

First Class.

I'm concerned the open fields and surrounding areas at Parksville Beach will be used as parking facilities, and the general public will be restricted to smaller areas around beach area due to new development.

I am pleased we have such great coverage for facilities such as senior's centres, health & wellness, the arts, halls for variety of music, dance, and concerts. I'm hoping fees to 'walk' the beaches and parks can be eliminated. The ocean air is free; scenery is free. Our youth need theatres, indoor sports, and a counselling centre.

I am wheelchair bound. None of the local ballparks (Qualicum upper field, Balleras track & field and football field) have an asphalt trail or at least a hard-packed earth trail for wheelchair access. It is too onerous for me to go and watch my grand-kids play sports.

I have only been in the area for 9 months so I am unable to judge.

I strongly disapprove of fishing expeditions funded by myself and other taxpayers to create a demand to spend more tax money on facilities we didn't know we wanted! I strongly disapprove of referenda to be voted on for free stuff for the majority to be paid for by the minority (e.g., Oceanside Place). Our parks are lovely - let's look after them and call it a day.

I think it should be cheaper for families to join swimming, softball, etc. And we need more softball fields.

I think what we have is just fine. There are hundreds of things to do on this beautiful island. People should use their imagination a little!
Area F (Coombs, Hilliers, Errington) continued

I would like to see events that could involve the community, such as the lantern parade they have in Vancouver on Winter Solstice. It involves several community centres and includes workshops on how to make your own lantern. Also a Mardi Gras or Carnival festival might be fun to give a break to the mid-winter blahs.

It would be a great asset to build a seawall along Parksville's waterfront and include an outdoor pool like at Kitsilano Beach in Vancouver.

More teen and young adult programs.

Most programs seem geared to seniors and not younger people. We go to Nanaimo facilities instead to participate in the types of programs we enjoy (e.g., aquacize classes). There should be more local programs and facilities for children and teens.

No more tax increases - we live in an unprotected area for fire and have to deal with our own garbage. Those are costs enough.

Overall, great variety of programs for a small community. My only beef is with teaching abilities of some swim instructors - they need more help in learning how to teach and how to run a lesson where all the kids are involved most of the time. My daughter spent over half of her lessons in the last 3 sets sitting on the edge waiting!

Pedestrian bridge at Top Bridge.

Programs for after-school card are almost non-existent and transportation is limited for working parents. Professional Development Day and Summer programs need to accommodate working parents by increasing the hours of operation (e.g. 7am-6pm) as the majority of parents work out of town. There are VERY limited programs for teens to keep them occupied in a positive way.

The playground in Parksville is not the only place people should go. It would be really nice to have a park/playground in the individual towns. It shouldn't be up to the parents from the schools to fundraise to get that to happen.

(There is) poor advertising. We don't really know what's out there.

This is an awesome place to live. There are so many places to go for walks and hikes!
Area F (Coombs, Hilliers, Errington) continued

- We are already overtaxed! I work 12-16 hours/day with no paid overtime to keep up with taxation and provide an average standard of living for my family. If people want these services, they should pay for them directly, not through taxes.

- We are tax payers, why are we paying to use fields?

- We live active lives and find it hard to access the services. Both of us are employed within the community, involved in quilting, master gardening, garden clubs, and seedy sat committee.

- What we need is a good region-wide transportation system from Whiskey Creek area to Qualicum Beach to Parksville and back, 4-6 times daily. Then people from outlying areas could use the facilities.
Area G (French Creek, Dashwood, San Pariel, River’s Edge)

Active Living Guide is great. However, continued updates throughout the year would benefit families: ongoing advertising.

Advertising (is needed) in regards to hockey games, in particular NHL Oldtimers at Oceanside Arena.

At present there are two rinks in Parksville/QB. They are both slowly dying. We need a single new larger facility in a central location (Area G?).

Denmark, Germany, etc., have established orderly bicycle transportation through town centres (rental pickup and drop off centres).

Find a mechanism to inform everyone what groups are doing. We need multi-use facilities that group pools with arenas, etc. Identify all government owned land in the region: show trails and other features. RDN parks and rec should 'leverage' off other sports and arts groups in the community. More emphasis on arts and cultural activities. Bring in sports and culture icons for demonstrations and instruction.

For children and youth, we need recreation programs and services as they no longer have physical activities at home, as our children did.

Funding needed for children of low income families.

I am impressed with the number of parks and care given to paths throughout several parks in area.

I have just moved to Little Qualicum River Village. Houses are going up fast here, and in Dashwood. Access to the Inland Highway via Corcan Road would great benefit us. We could access beaches and parks much quicker and save fuel costs. There is already an overpass there. I would use the extra time to volunteer for arts programs in town.

I have lived in Parksville for 30 years and am wondering when the parking meters at Rathtrevor will be removed. This has taken away the enjoyment of walking our beach for so many seniors - I think it’s appalling! We are taxed to death and now we have to pay to enjoy our parks too. Something in this life should be FREE to enjoy.

I sure would appreciate a traffic light at the junction of Lee Road and the Highway.
Area G (French Creek, Dashwood, San Pareil, River’s Edge) continued

I think that difficulties making social connections keep many seniors in their homes. I hear about walking groups, but never see an invitation or ad from the Recreation Department for seniors’ walking groups. I live in San Pareil, a beautiful area to walk, but I'm bored of walking alone. I would also like to explore other areas, but can't keep up with the hiking groups.

I think the beachfront park in Parksville is great. Other island cities should try to provide similar facilities.

I wish there was a fitness centre connected to the aquatic centre - one stop for the whole family.

I work out of town so have no time to use facilities. DO NOT RAISE TAXES!

I would like to see more professional cleaning maintenance on the dressing rooms at Ravensong. Cleaning of washrooms should not be the duty of life guards and aquafit instructors.

I would love to see more woodsy trails. Circle trails for 1-10 km. I just love these areas in Victoria and on the Sunshine Coast.

I would support an expansion of the existing pool, and would love to see an exercise/weight room at the same facility. Playing fields and tennis courts need lights. Would love to see an after-school teen program (12-15 years).

I would use Ravensong more if the change-rooms and shower facilities weren't so cold! There should be a way to make them more comfortable for the users!

If we didn't have to pay for provincial park use, I would be willing to pay more taxes for RDN facilities.

It's important that facility use be constantly monitored and adjusted. Our communities are growing at an alarming rate and we're falling behind in recreation. Oceanside Place is already almost at capacity and it hasn't been here long! Let's build new facilities with tomorrow's needs in mind, not today's. We have families here who want to keep their children active and we have to turn them away due to lack of room! What a shame! There is not enough room in the swim club to accommodate my child due to lack of pool time for the club.

It is a great pleasure living in such a beautiful area of Canada. The facilities greatly enhance the desirability of living in this area. RDN does a great job, but there is always room for improvement.

It would be nice to have a pool in Parksville!
Area G (French Creek, Dashwood, San Pariel, River’s Edge) continued

- Look forward to seeing results from survey over the next few years.
- More time for length swimming needed.
- My wife and I stopped using parks about 5 years ago because the areas were hangouts for young vandals and we did not feel safe. Park equipment destruction was very evident. Please budget for increased security so parks can be used by families and the elderly instead of vandals.
- Need a community pool with a gym room with machines for the guys, and treadmills and bikes for the ladies.
- No more taxes.
- On the whole, our facilities are not bad. But we definitely need more youth/teen centres, especially in Qualicum.
- Please drop the parking fees!
- Programs that are offered seem to be at times when working parents can't sign up their kids (9 to 5). We have a pool that is great for lessons, but not for 'family fun'. People will go to Nanaimo wave pool for that. More money could be kept in Parksville if we had that type of facility here! We definitely have the population to support it! I also believe we have outgrown the little waterpark in the Community Park, especially with all the tourists.
- RDN needs to keep in mind that Nanaimo is closer to my home and offers a wide range of programs. RDN needs to improve programs or lose our business to Nanaimo.
- Sorry, I can't help much - I'm in my 80's and on fixed income.
- Swimming lesson registration always happens before kids know schedules for hockey/soccer, so my kids don't get to swim. Change sign up times to start after hockey/soccer. Parks and natural areas are so important! Elevate the role of parks in people's minds - it is about more than walking trails!
- The region is growing fast and more services and facilities will be needed for people of all ages. A Multipurpose Recreation Facility combined with a swimming pool and seniors centre would be great. For ideas on scope of activities, contact Surrey about Newton Seniors Centre. It is very active, and has reasonable rates.
There are not enough Adult Badminton programs. Schools and Parksville Community Hall have limited times and one gets bumped often. This year there has been the most interest ever (sometimes 30 people/night) for 3 courts. It would be nice to have 4-6 courts available on consistent nights.

Take the parking fees out of the Provincial parks.

There is a serious problem with teens and lack of place to 'hang-out'. We have had to call the police many times due to teens drinking/smoking at the back door of my business. Also kids are smoking pot at SOS.

Totally disapprove of parking fees at Rathtrevor, Little Qualicum Park, and Englishman River Park.

We attend Nanaimo Aquatic Centre for pool and fitness centre at a very reasonable senior’s rate. By choosing the day and time, we avoid crowds. Driving time is only marginally longer than to Ravensong.

We have great facilities here, but as the population grows over the next 15 years, we can do things to make recreation even better. As long as the majority is willing to come up with an additional $2-3/month, I'm sure some of this is possible. Keep up the good work.

We need community fitness programs. Latin Dance fitness was enjoyed when offered in evening.

We need more sportsfields for soccer and track & field facilities. Ravensong pool is no longer adequate - we need another/bigger facility. Build it and they will come.

When Ravensong was built, I felt it was short-sighted to build only a swimming pool (sauna was voted down due to cost). A full size exercise facility for weights and aerobics would have brought more use.

Why are the tennis courts in Parksville Community Park being taken out? (Bad idea) Form a study group to make an in-depth study of where to provide services and opportunities that generate the most participation. Utilize our natural surroundings.

Would like to see more waterfront areas purchased and turned into picnic/hiking areas. Disappointed that French Creek Waterfront lots did not pass referendum to turn them into parkland. Proper and safe bicycle paths through the area would be helpful and promote cleaner air.
Area G (French Creek, Dashwood, San Pariel, River’s Edge) continued

Would like to see the parks in French Creek improved and streetlights on Johnstone Road. There should be no charge for residents to park in our parks - it’s too hard on seniors and young parents. The parks are for people - not to keep them away because they can't afford to park!
Area H (Shaw Hill, Deep Bay, Bowser, Qualicum Bay)

- Ensure selective medium and high density development. 2. Ensure developers provide underground services, adequate access, and plenty of green space. 3. Most development should be low density. 4. All environmental considerations should be addressed and given top priority. 5. Quality trumps quantity.

- I do not condone destroying wildlife habitat for recreation purposes (i.e., golf courses), as they also consume water which should only be used for human consumption and residential gardens.

- I don't have children, so I am not aware of what is needed for them but am concerned with reports of teens behaving negatively in Parksville and QB and feel more activities to get them off the streets would help. I believe we need free or reduced fees for children and families. Raise taxes a bit, provide photo ID for all our kids and let kids and teens participate free of charge.

- I enjoy facilities at Oceanside Place. I would like to see more time offered to women's hockey. I would like to see someone else running the canteen (I have seen many bad health habits of the current operator and will never use the canteen for this reason). I believe seniors are well served, but youth are underserved.

- I think large centralized facilities like Oceanside Place will get limited usage because there is limited public transportation. Smaller local facilities that can be reached on foot or bicycle are or more use to school-age kids. A fishing pier, more of a boardwalk, to take anglers out to the drop-off at Deep Bay spit is an example.

- I would like to see more recreational use of the Lighthouse Community Centre.

- I would love to use the swimming facility but distance and expensive fuel costs discourage this.

- It's a shame that some sports and leisure activities require so many tax dollars, while other less demanding activities, such as gymnastics aren't being run in this area, forcing us to drive to the Comox Valley for our daughter to take gymnastics.

- The ball fields in Qualicum Bay have been totally ignored in the last 7 years. With ever-growing population in Area H and ongoing developments, it is time to look to the future. We have enough parks and trails, we need facilities like curling rinks and a fitness centre.

- The walking trail system is the best program that has happened in this area.
Area H (Shaw Hill, Deep Bay, Bowser, Qualicum Bay) continued

There has been no assistance to our volunteer trail committee, even though it is listed as a local priority. Virtually no programs are offered in our community, and therefore our community hall is not fully utilized.

This area is sadly lacking in track & field facilities and track for running club for youth (elementary age and up). The closest track is Courtenay/Comox or Parksville (1/2 hour away). Ravensong pool is small for the communities it serves. We often drive to Courtenay to swim!

This area needs a lot more as it is growing.

Trails for ATVs and horses.

Work with transit to extend bus service to Jamieson Road Bowser. A lot of young, low income and seniors will then have access to your facilities.