Coquitlam

City of Coquitlam
AGENDA – REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING

SPORTS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, May 7, 2026

TIME: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

PLACE: Council Committee Room
Coquitlam City Hall
3000 Guildford Way
Coquitlam, BC

CALL TO ORDER AND TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. **Minutes of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, March 12, 2026**
   Recommendation:
   That the Minutes of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on Thursday, March 12, 2026 be approved.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

2. **Sports/Recreation User Group - Coquitlam Minor Football Association (Presentation by Tim Jurgielewicz, Vice President)**
   7:05 – 7:30 p.m. (25 minutes)

3. **Urban Forest Management Strategy (Presentation by Kathleen Reinheimer, Director Parks)**
   7:30 - 8:00 p.m. (30 minutes)

4. **Planet Ice Update (Presentation by Tobi May, Director Major Capital Projects)**
   8:00 - 8:30 p.m. (30 minutes)

5. **Coquitlam Sports Hall of Fame Annual Update (Presentation by Cydney Smythies, President)**
   8:30 - 8:45 p.m. (15 minutes)

6. **Committee Members' Roundtable / Emerging Issues (Standing Agenda Item)**
   8:45 - 9:00 p.m. (15 minutes)

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – Wednesday, July 8, 2026

ADJOURNMENT

Coquitlam

City of Coquitlam

MINUTES – REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING

SPORTS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 12, 2026

A Regular Meeting of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee convened on Thursday, March 12, 2026 at 7:01 p.m. in the Council Committee Room, City Hall, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam, BC, with the following persons present:

** Indicates virtual attendance*

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:	Councillor Trish Mandewo, Chair
	Councillor Craig Hodge, Vice Chair
	Sara Maglio, Coquitlam Field Sport Association*
	Andrea Mattinson, Coquitlam Indoor Athletics Association
	Cameron McBryer, Citizen Representative
	Emily Moughtin, Citizen Representative
	Karen Schofield, Citizen Representative
	Isabel Silvestre, Citizen Representative
	Cydney Smythies, Citizen Representative*
	Carl Trepanier, Citizen Representative
ABSENT:	Dan Cooper, Citizen Representative (regrets)
	Erin Davidson, Citizen Representative (regrets)
	Chuck Peries, Coquitlam Tennis Club (regrets)
GUESTS:	Joanne Turnbull, Special Olympics Coquitlam (re: Item 2)
STAFF:	Jenny Lush, Director Partnerships and Planning
	Doron Fishman, Senior Manager Park Planning and Design
	Kathleen Reinheimer, Senior Manager Parks
	Vinh Truong, Manager Community Recreation
	Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk

CALL TO ORDER AND TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. and provided an Indigenous territorial acknowledgement.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, February 4, 2026

The Minutes of the Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, February 4, 2026 were approved.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

2. Community Sport User Group – Special Olympics Coquitlam

The representative of the Special Olympics Coquitlam gave a presentation entitled "Special Olympics Coquitlam" and referred to slides found in the Agenda package.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Understanding the participation of athletes with both intellectual and physical disabilities, who constitute the large majority, and related coaching methods.
- Understanding the group's facility needs, particularly for an athletic track, and considerations for the use of the Centennial Track, Percy Perry Stadium, and the Burk Mountain Athletic Park under construction.
- Concerns about inappropriate or conflicting uses of the athletic track at Percy Perry Stadium during programmed group use, related safety concerns, and difficulty securing public compliance, which may be exacerbated by ableism.
- Understanding challenges and opportunities for volunteer commitment, particularly related to post-secondary students studying in related fields.
- Understanding the group's aquatic sports programming, and suggestion to participate in the aquatic sports user groups meetings for facilities allocations.
- Understanding the challenges in recruiting younger athletes and suggestions to seek support and partnerships with School District No. 43, Kinsight Community Society, SHARE Family and Community Services Society, and the BC Recreation and Parks Association.
- Understanding the impact of ableism within the sporting community and the importance of leadership in creating inclusive cultures and environments.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- The Centennial Track has not been prioritized in the asset renewal program and renewal is complicated by the extent of repairs needed and siting on School District No.43 property; current use is limited and under risk management.

- Options for enforcement of appropriate use at Percy Perry Stadium will be investigated including volunteer opportunities to serve as facility hosts.

The Chair thanked the representative for their presentation and for the time and effort given to sporting opportunities in the City.

The representative of the Special Olympics Coquitlam left the meeting at this time and did not return (7:34 p.m.).

3. Glen Park Redevelopment Update

The Senior Manager Park Planning and Design gave a presentation entitled "Glen Park Improvements" and referred to slides found in the Agenda package.

Cydney Smythies entered the meeting at this point (7:39 p.m.).

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Concern that trails leading from the park to Westwood Street result in jaywalking, creating a safety hazard.
- Suggestion that covered picnicking areas include larger tables and seating spaces to accommodate use by families and groups, particularly with the concentration of high-density residences in the area.
- Appreciation of the nature play area shared with Glen Elementary School.
- Suggestion to consider relocating the Inspiration Garden to Glen Park from Town Centre Park when Metro Vancouver construction affects its current site.
- Understanding the focus of the concept plan on passive and flexible use to support recreation of nearby high-density residences and to complement the facilities of Town Centre Park.
- Desire to maintain the great lawn despite many anticipated requests for structured uses.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- The relocation of the dog park to the current siting of a pump track and a beach volleyball court will result in the relocation of the pump track, but no decision has been made regarding the court.
- There is no planned tree removal, but risk assessment arising during the project may result in select removals.
- A variety of shelter options are under consideration for the relocated dog park.
- The project will build on experimentation in other parks with movable furniture that allows for the personalization of the user experience.

The Senior Manager Park Planning and Design left the meeting at this time and did not return (7:56 p.m.).

4. Summary of Qualitative Feedback from Planet Ice User Groups

The Manager Community Recreation gave a verbal update regarding the following:

- Feedback on Planet Ice was solicited through open-ended questions posed to five user groups, namely Coquitlam Minor Hockey Association, Tri-Cities Lightning Speed Skating, Special Olympics BC, Tri-Cities Female Hockey Association, and Coquitlam Moody Ringette.
- Feedback has been categorized in six areas, namely cleanliness, maintenance, ice condition, customer service, amenities, and temperature.
- On cleanliness, groups reported general tidiness and regular cleaning, but bathrooms and changing rooms need improvement.
- On maintenance, groups reported outdated facilities and lights; needed repairs including bathroom and changing room locks, bathroom leaks, changing room floors, faucet water temperature, exposed wood and screws, and scoreboard lights; and requests for automated doors and sound system improvements.
- On ice condition, groups reported both satisfaction and dissatisfaction.
- On customer service, groups reported high satisfaction with skill and responsiveness, average satisfaction with friendliness, and room for improvement on rule enforcement and communication of operational changes.
- On amenities, groups reported high satisfaction with staff, frequent player use of the fitness centre and pro shop, frequent family use of the restaurant, and requests for a child-friendly menu and restaurant operation at additional times.
- On temperature, groups reported satisfaction when space heaters are working and requests for space heaters to be turned on earlier in the year and for heating of the timekeeper's box.
- Overall, the facility is 30 years old so the primary area for improvement is maintenance and upgrades.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Concern that the feedback may be lacking in depth because users with previous direct experience of the facility may not have been engaged through the current process.
- Desire for improved notification, communication, and potential involvement in consultation processes regarding sport facilities, particularly those such as Planet Ice with previously identified interest from the Committee.
- Request for broader consultation with affected groups, particularly the Indoor Athletics Association, and a suggestion that the Association engage its membership and submit a summary of feedback to staff.

- Desire to understand any relationship between this consultation and the Planet Ice contract negotiation and to ensure the City is well informed for the purposes of contract negotiations.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- For the purposes of this feedback, user groups with direct facility allocations were identified, questions were directed to the presidents of those groups, and feedback was generally provided via a meeting following a period of consideration.
- Staff are open to receiving feedback on an ongoing basis, and communication of concerns, particularly about safety, is encouraged beyond specific consultations.
- Information about ongoing contract negotiations cannot be shared publicly.

The Manager Community Recreation left the meeting at this time and did not return (8:33 p.m.).

5. Parks and Capital Projects / Community Services Updates (Standing Agenda Item)

The Director Partnerships and Planning gave a verbal update regarding the following:

- The new Community Services department is in the final stages of hiring the senior management team and an organizational update will be shared at a future meeting.
- The Poirier Forum is categorized as a covered outdoor facility and as such, there is no plan to add an HVAC system in the 5-year capital plan; the facility is scheduled for regular asset maintenance.
- FIFA World Cup community activations have been approved by Council including four watch parties and an enhancement of the block party program to provide equipment for a neighbourhood watch party or a grant to support a soccer-themed neighbourhood event.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Suggestion to collaborate on watch party events with community organizations and businesses connected to the nationalities of the teams playing.
- Offer to connect staff with a contact on the FIFA Committee to have players come to events in Coquitlam for a meet and greet opportunity.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- Neighbourhood watch parties should be held outdoors on private property, indoors on private property or on a City street as other locations such as City parks introduce issues with attendance, licensing, and safety.

6. Committee Members' Roundtable / Emerging Issues (Standing Agenda Item)

The Chair invited Committee members to share emerging issues and information regarding events occurring in their communities.

Discussion ensued relative to the following:

- Concerns about erosion on the Coquitlam Crunch Trail.
- Report that the sign-ups will open March 16 for the 55+ BC Games to be held in Kamloops in September featuring twenty-six sports.
- Report that the Coquitlam Express U17 and U18 academy hockey teams will go to Edmonton for the Junior Prospects Hockey League championships and are seeking sponsorships to cover food costs.
- Report of community feedback regarding the development of the Burke Mountain Community Centre and the absence of an ice rink.
- Interest in a report on the upgrades to the Eagle Ridge Outdoor Pool.
- Report that the Class of 2025 induction ceremony to the Coquitlam Sports Hall of Fame will be held on June 10 at Centennial Theatre.
- Appreciation from and for Coquitlam Metro-Ford Soccer Club involvement in the City's FIFA World Cup watch parties.
- Reports of uncertainty in the FIFA World Cup due to the war in Iran.
- Report of a successful KidSport fundraiser over the previous weekend.

In response to Committee discussion, staff noted the following:

- Baffles are being installed on the Coquitlam Crunch Trail to redirect water that causes erosion into the drainage channel.
- Asset replacement progress in the coming months includes completing work at Riverview Park on the ball diamond, playground, and paving; and starting work at Mackin Park on the field and concession.

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING DATE – Thursday, May 7, 2026

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

MINUTES CERTIFIED CORRECT:

_____
Councillor Trish Mandewo, Chair

_____
Alex McLellan, Committee Clerk

Urban Forest Management Strategy

Draft

Coquitlam

Acknowledgements

We acknowledge with gratitude and respect that the name Coquitlam was derived from the həńqəmińəḿ (HUN-kuh-MEE-num) word kʷikʷəƛ̓əm (kwee-KWET-lum) meaning "Red Fish Up the River". The City is honoured to be located on the kʷikʷəƛ̓əm traditional and ancestral lands, including those parts that were historically shared with the qiċəy̓ (kat-zee) and other Coast Salish Peoples.

We would also like to acknowledge the time and effort contributed by the City of Coquitlam staff across departments, the Sustainability and Environmental Advisory Committee, and Diamond Head Consulting Ltd. in the development of this Urban Forest Management Strategy.

Executive Summary

Coquitlam's urban forest is a living network of trees, parks and forests that makes our city greener, cooler and healthier. Together we will grow, protect and care for the urban forest so that it continues to support nature and community for generations to come.

Coquitlam's urban forest is a core part of the city's landscape and identity. From established neighbourhoods in the southwest to the forested slopes of Burke Mountain, trees contribute to the character of streets and public spaces, provide critical habitat in parks and riparian areas, and connect people to nature.

With over 33% canopy cover in the Urban Containment Boundary and 52% city-wide, Coquitlam's urban forest is extensive and diverse. It includes street trees, active developed parks, forested natural areas, and private lands, each playing a role in supporting climate resilience, biodiversity and human well-being. As growth continues, the City is adapting how it plans for and manages the urban forest to meet evolving needs.

The Urban Forest Management Strategy provides a coordinated, long-range framework to guide the protection, enhancement and maintenance of the urban forest over the next 20 years. The Strategy is organized around four theme areas and four goals:

Forests

Enhance and protect forested natural areas in parks to maintain biodiversity, climate resilience and recreational opportunities.

Urban Trees

Plant and maintain trees in parks, on streets, and on development sites to deliver community and climate benefits.

Community Involvement

Promote the community's connection to their parks, forests and trees through public education and participation in the care and protection of the urban forest.

Urban Forest Management

Increase operational capacity, interdepartmental coordination and data systems to sustain a thriving and resilient urban forest.

Implementation will be delivered through an Implementation Plan that is updated periodically, providing a clear structure for phased investment, interdepartmental coordination and ongoing evaluation. This approach enables the City to align actions with capital planning cycles, track progress using measurable indicators, and adapt over time as conditions, data and community needs evolve. As Coquitlam continues to grow, this Strategy will help grow, protect and care for Coquitlam's living network of trees so it continues to support the community for generations to come.

Contents

1.0 Introducing the Strategy

1.0 Introducing the Strategy

Coquitlam's urban forest is a defining part of the city's identity. From the forests of Mundy Park to street trees in new neighbourhoods on Burke Mountain, it includes all trees and supporting vegetation across public and private land (Figure 1). The urban forest is a connected, living system that interacts with soil, water and air, and provides ecosystem services that support both ecological health and community well-being.

The Urban Forest Management Strategy is Coquitlam's long-range plan for managing trees and forested areas as the community continues to grow and change. It provides a coordinated framework to guide planning, investment and long-term decision-making while also supporting near-term implementation that will help the City prioritize investments, track progress and adjust course as conditions evolve.

The Strategy recognizes the need to balance urban growth with ecological function, and to integrate trees more fully into land use, development, and infrastructure planning. It supports the City's broader objectives around sustainability, climate adaptation and public health, and aligns with key policies such as the *Official Community Plan*, the *Environmental Sustainability Plan*, the *Climate Adaptation Strategic Plan* and the *Climate Action Plan*.

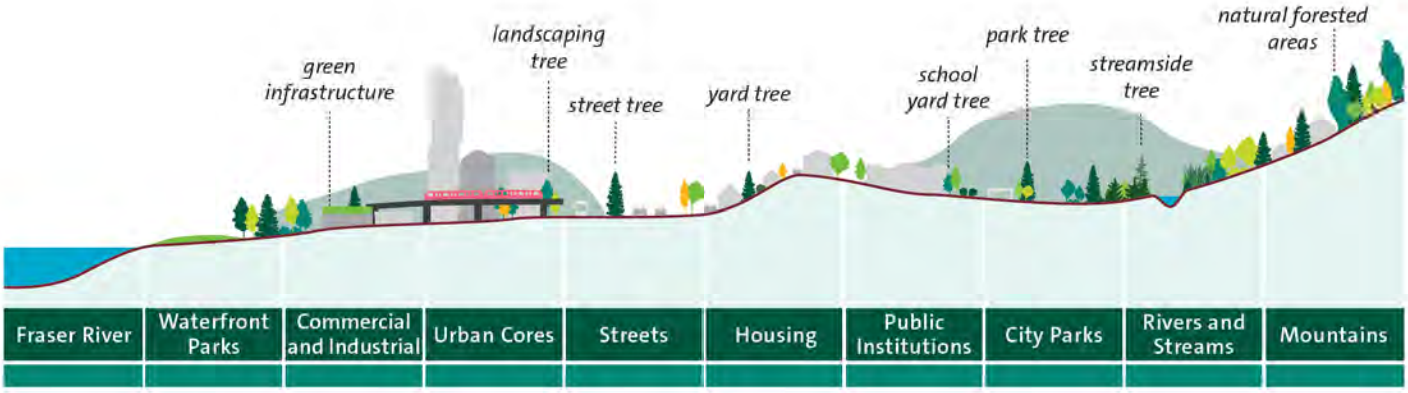


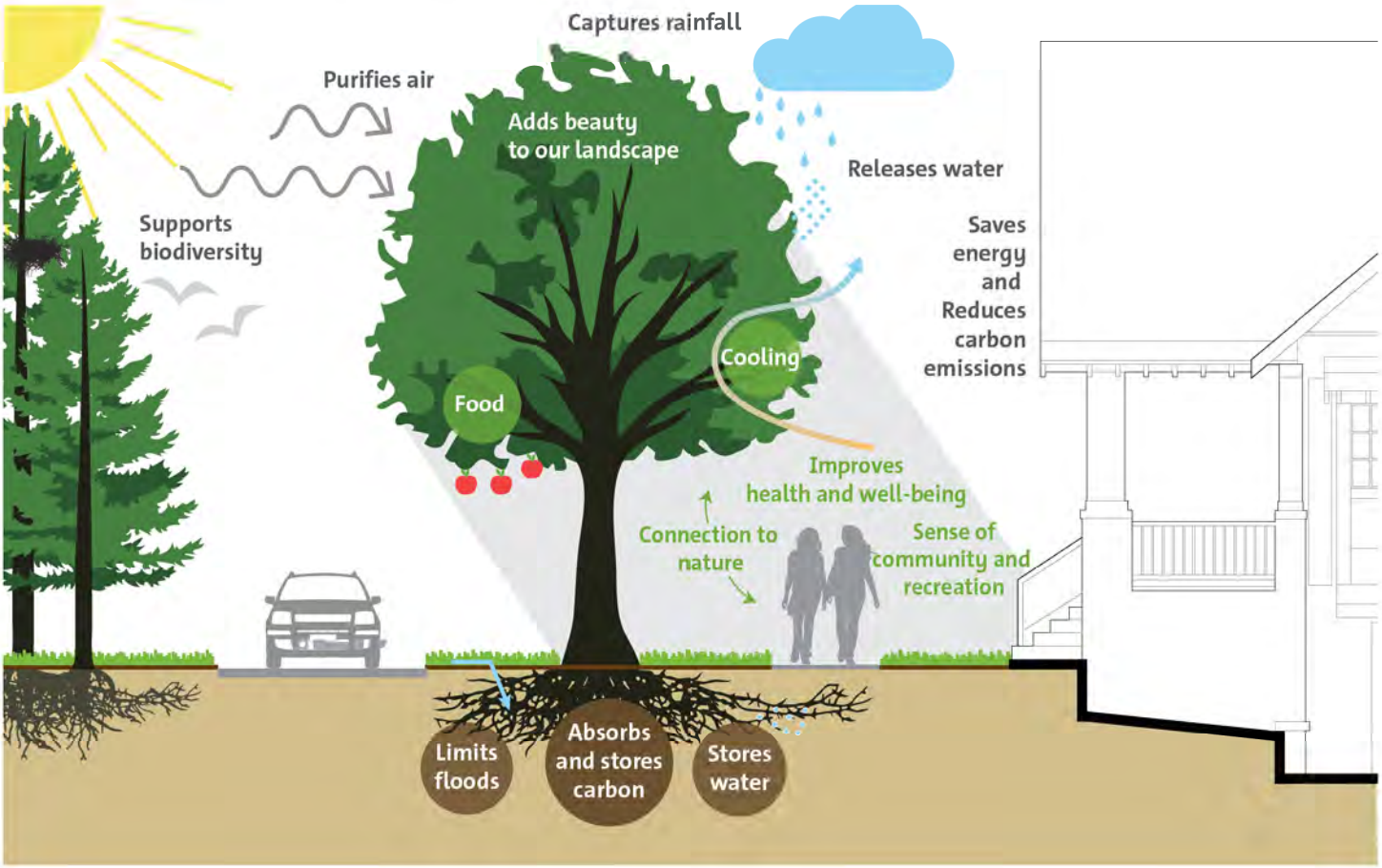
Figure 1 Coquitlam's urban forest includes all trees on both private and public land. Public institutions include schools, hospitals and government facilities.

1.1 The Benefits of Urban Forests and Why We Manage Them

Coquitlam's urban forest is part of what makes our city so vibrant, welcoming and liveable. Trees and forested areas provide measurable ecological services, such as cooling through shade and evapotranspiration, improved air and water quality, slope stabilization and stormwater management. They also play a key role in supporting biodiversity, including salmon-bearing creeks and critical habitats for wildlife [1, 2, 3].

These services are not only environmental; they directly benefit people. Exposure to nature has been shown to lower stress, boost creativity and cognitive function, and decrease rates of depression and chronic illness [4]. Urban green spaces also promote physical activity, strengthen social connections and foster emotional resilience within communities [5]. Trees and forests also protect communities from extreme heat by providing shade and cooling the air through evapotranspiration [6].

Figure 2. Benefits provided by the urban forest



The value of these benefits is significant. Coquitlam's urban forest is **estimated to provide over $161 million** in ecological value, including $151 in total carbon stored and nearly $10 million in annual benefits from air pollution removal, carbon storage and stormwater regulation[1]. These figures reflect only part of the forest's broader contribution to community well-being and climate resilience.

Proactive urban forest management ensures these benefits are sustained, equitably distributed, and aligned with the city's growth and development.

[1] *In this report, the ecosystem services provided by Coquitlam's urban forest were assessed using i-Tree Canopy, developed by the US Forest Service.*

1.2 A Forested City: Coquitlam's Urban Forest Over Time

The story of Coquitlam's urban forest begins long before urbanization. The Coquitlam River watershed and parts of the Pitt River watershed were the ancestral and traditional territories of kʷikʷəƛ̓əm First Nation [7]. They have stewarded these lands and waters since time immemorial. The name kʷikʷəƛ̓əm, meaning "red fish up the river", reflects the important connection between the people, the landscape and the salmon that sustained kʷikʷəƛ̓əm peoples.

European settlement began in the 1860s, concentrated in the southwest corner of what is now the City of Coquitlam [8]. Drawn by the region's abundant natural resources, settlers established Fraser Mills in 1889, which became one of the largest sawmills in the world at the time. This spurred the growth of a logging-based community and the French-Canadian neighbourhood of Maillardville in 1910. The area's development was shaped by river and rail transportation, with logging and milling giving way to early urbanization.

The landscape began changing significantly after the Second World War. Farms and second-growth forests gradually gave way to residential neighbourhoods, driven by car ownership, transit expansion and suburban growth [9, 10, 11]. In the 1970s and 1980s, planning efforts focused on Coquitlam Town Centre, creating a compact civic and commercial hub surrounded by higher-density housing, parks and civic spaces [12]. Across the city, many lands were transformed into public green space, expanding the urban forest in key areas. In City Centre, Lafarge Lake was converted from a gravel pit to a public park in 1978 [12]. In the 1990s, historic agricultural lands were transferred to Metro Vancouver, creating major protected areas like Minnekhada Regional Park and ƛ̓éxətəm Regional Park (formerly Colony Farm Regional Park). During the same period, Pinecone Burke Provincial Park was created by the Province of British Columbia. In 2025, Widgeon Marsh Regional Park, which includes 600 hectares of protected wetland, opened to the public.

(left) Aerial image of Southwest Coquitlam and (right) Lafarge Lake (Credit: James Wheeler)

Today, Coquitlam's urban forest reflects this complex history of natural systems, land use change, and stewardship. In the southwest, older neighbourhoods with larger lots retain mature canopy cover, while industrial areas along the Fraser River remain more tree-limited. Large parks like Mundy Park and Coquitlam River Park anchor the city's ecological network, connected by forested stream corridors that provide habitat, shading and storm water function. As older infrastructure is upgraded, programs like the City's Frontage Works initiative create opportunities to retrofit streetscapes with new trees and planting zones.

In contrast, Northeast Coquitlam is developing under long-term master plans that integrate green space with new housing and infrastructure. While development in this area may reduce canopy, particularly in the short term, robust landscaping standards, street tree requirements, and natural park connections will help to re-establish the urban forest over time. The area's public realm is being designed to support tree growth on both public and private land, with new trees eventually complementing the surrounding regional and provincial forest lands.

(left) Residential areas in Southwest Coquitlam and (right) Northeast Coquitlam.

1.3 Coquitlam's Forest Systems

Coquitlam sits within the Coastal Western Hemlock, dry maritime subzone (CWHdm) [13], a temperate rainforest ecosystem characterized by mild, wet winters and warm, dry summers. The region has one of the longest growing seasons in British Columbia, with approximately 222 frost-free days per year. Average annual precipitation exceeds 1,800 mm, while temperatures typically range from 0°C in winter to 30°C in summer. These conditions explain why forests have regenerated quickly and why urban trees can thrive when soil and moisture conditions are favourable.

Coquitlam's mature forest stands (a distinct, relatively uniform section of forest) typically include western hemlock, Douglas-fir and western redcedar, with understories of salal, red huckleberry and mosses. In wetter and higher-elevation sites, species like amabilis fir and yellowcedar are more common. On lower, warmer slopes and valley floors, grand fir, bigleaf maple and black cottonwood thrive. Red alder is often the first to establish on disturbed sites, helping rebuild soil structure and support succession, while black cottonwood and Sitka spruce are prominent in riparian areas and floodplains. Protecting and restoring Coquitlam's forested areas is key to sustaining Coquitlam's urban forest as both an ecological system and a defining part of the city's identity.

Coast Mountains (Credit: James Wheeler)

1.4 Coquitlam's Urban Forest Assets

Coquitlam's urban forest includes trees in many different settings: along streets, in parks, within natural areas, and on private land. These trees fall into four main asset classes, each managed differently depending on location, ownership, and level of public use. The City's commitment to the care and management of each category of trees is referred to as a 'service level'.

1.4.1 Street Trees

New street trees are typically planted by developers within public rights-of-way as part of subdivision and development projects. The City also directly plants a smaller number of street trees each year. Once established, the City assumes responsibility for their care, including regular pruning, watering during establishment, and eventual replacement. These trees provide shade, define neighbourhood character and contribute to the livability of the city's communities.

1.4.2 Landscape Trees

Trees in parks and in the grounds of public buildings, such as Town Centre Park and Poirier Civic Grounds, define the character of the city and contribute to the enjoyment of these spaces. The City plants and is responsible for routine maintenance to ensure park trees deliver their maximum lifespan and size.

1.4.3 Trees in Forested Natural Areas

Trees in forested parks and natural areas are managed at a broader landscape scale, focusing on species diversity, succession planting, and disease and fire risk mitigation with maintenance prioritized near trails and gathering areas that people frequent.

1.4.4 Private Trees

Private trees make up a large portion of Coquitlam's total canopy. While the City does not directly manage trees on private land, it supports their protection and planting through development requirements, environmental bylaws and public education. Stewardship programs also encourage residents to care for trees and understand their role in creating a healthy, connected urban forest.

1.5 Urban Forest Management Contributions

Urban forest management is shared across departments. The **Parks and Capital Projects** department leads the program, with a team of qualified professional staff responsible for over 17,000 street and park trees, as well as over 800 hectares of forested parkland. Their work includes planting, maintenance, restoration of natural areas, and administration of the Tree Management Bylaw.

The **Planning and Development** department develops key planning policies that define future parks and green spaces, develops urban design guidelines, and administers development permit processes to steward environmentally sensitive areas, tree planting and retention. Staff review Building Permit submissions for compliance with tree retention/replacement requirements for developments within Northeast Coquitlam.

The **Engineering and Public Works** department plans, implements, operates and maintains the City's systems that enable and support the delivery of high-quality water for drinking and firefighting, sanitary waste disposal, solid waste collection, storm water management, environmental protection and transportation services, along with corporate fleet and GIS services. They handle tree installations linked to capital projects and for offsite servicing associated with developments. They oversee the protection and function of watersheds and riparian areas through Watercourse Protection Development Permits and Integrated Watershed Management Plans, ensuring these function as part of the stormwater management system. They are also responsible for emergency servicing, such as fallen trees and branches after a storm.

Fire and Rescue provides emergency response, technical rescue, fire prevention and fire education programs to protect lives and property from the adverse effects of fires, sudden medical emergencies, or dangerous conditions caused by people or nature.

2.0 Drivers of Forest Change

2.0 Drivers of Forest Change

Coquitlam's urban forest is shaped by a variety of forces. As the city grows and changes, so too do the pressures on trees and forested areas. Climate change, emergent pests and diseases, disturbance agents, urban development and community involvement are all influencing how the forest is managed and how it will function in the future. Understanding these drivers helps to inform how we can plan for change and maintain a resilient urban forest.

2.1 Climate Change, Emergent Pests and Diseases

Climate change is one of the most significant pressures on Coquitlam's urban forest. In the coming decades, the region is expected to experience warmer average temperatures, wetter winters and drier summers [14]. By 2050, Metro Vancouver's average temperature could rise by 1.7°C under a high-emissions scenario and the number of days exceeding 30°C may increase from two to fourteen per year [15]. These shifts will intensify the urban heat island effect, increase seasonal water deficits and raise the risk of wildfires, especially in areas near forested slopes. Wetter winters could also increase erosion risks on unstable slopes and streambanks. These changing conditions are already impacting the health of native species like western redcedar, which is showing signs of decline due to seasonal water deficits, stress and pest vulnerability. In response, and in alignment with the City's *Climate Action Plan*, planting climate adapted species and integrating trees and green infrastructure into urban design will be a key part of Coquitlam's climate adaptation strategy.

2.2 Disturbance Agents

In addition to climate stress, the urban forest is increasingly affected by natural disturbance agents. Tree health is being impacted by **pests and diseases**. Native species like western hemlock are vulnerable to laminated root rot and other fungal pathogens, while pests such as the hemlock looper moth can cause widespread defoliation. These pressures are made worse by environmental stress. Meanwhile, invasive pests like the emerald ash borer pose a growing threat. Ash trees represent approximately 10% of Coquitlam's street tree inventory, and monitoring and diversification efforts are essential to preparing for future outbreaks [16].

Seasonal water deficits have become more frequent and severe, particularly during the summer months. In response, the City began a watering program in 2015 using tree bags to help newly planted trees establish more successfully. **Windstorms** also damage trees, particularly when forest edges are newly created within the first five to ten years after development. To reduce the risk of wind-throw, professional assessments are conducted when new edges are created, and proactive pruning is used to strengthen tree resilience.

Wildfire, once a less prominent risk in coastal communities, is becoming a more pressing concern. Rising summer temperatures and extended dry periods increase the risk of fires in forested parts of Coquitlam. The City's *Community Wildfire Resiliency Plan* provides a framework for managing this risk through planning, public education, emergency preparedness, and fuel management in parks and other high-risk areas.



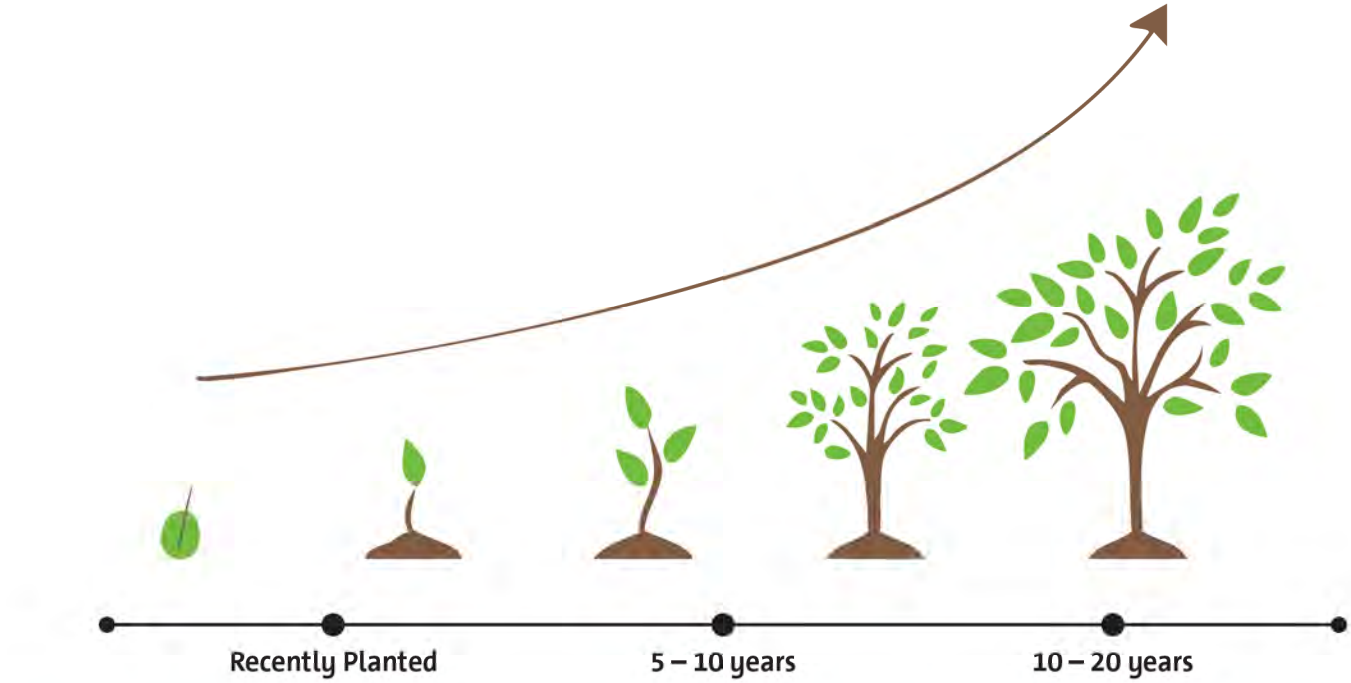

(From left) Tree bags installed on newly planted trees on a boulevard in Coquitlam; fallen hemlock tree after a windstorm; forest fires may become more common in heavily forested areas in and around the city; emerald ash borer could devastate the local ash trees (Credits: Diamond Head Consulting)

2.3 Urban Development

Coquitlam is a growing community. The City anticipates an increase of 72,000 residents between 2021 and 2041. Urban forestry and strategic planning play a vital role in balancing Coquitlam's rapid growth with the protection of natural systems. The City currently utilizes several tools to incorporate trees and greenspace into urban design, including the *Official Community Plan*, the *Environmental Sustainability Plan*, the *Climate Action Plan* and Tree Management Bylaw, which allow the City to balance development and the urban forest. However, housing legislation changes mandated by the Province, including redevelopment of single-family residential properties to small-scale multi-unit housing and establishing minimum heights and densities in proximity to Transit-Oriented Areas, will make it more challenging to retain existing trees on redevelopment sites and integrate new trees and green spaces into neighbourhoods.

In recent years, growth within the Urban Containment Boundary has accelerated alongside tree planting. The City has worked closely with developers to expand tree planting in Northeast Coquitlam — one of the fastest-growing areas of the city.

Tree Growth Over Time



2.4 Community Involvement

Community involvement is at the heart of Coquitlam's urban forest success. Residents, schools and local organizations play a vital role in caring for trees and natural spaces, sustaining the environmental, social and cultural benefits that define the city's landscape. Through City-supported programs like Tree Spree, Adopt-a-Trail and Bad Seed, thousands of volunteers contribute their time to planting, learning and protecting Coquitlam's green spaces. Nature education programs, such as tours and workshops, help bring residents into our greenspaces as well. Community partners such as School District 43, the Burke Mountain Naturalists and Hoy-Scott Watershed Society further amplify these efforts through education, restoration and habitat protection. Together with many dedicated residents, Coquitlam continues to build on its legacy of shared stewardship — creating a greener, healthier and more resilient community for generations.

3.0 Vision for the Future

3.0 Vision for the Future

3.1 What We Heard

Coquitlam's Urban Forest Management Strategy is built on a community-supported long-term vision for growing and maintaining a healthy urban forest. To help shape that vision, the City hosted 13 engagement activities during Phase 1 in spring and summer 2024, reaching more than 780 participants. Engagement included an online survey, interactive mapping tool, eight in-person pop-ups, two Council Advisory Committee meetings and three workshops with community members. A Community Working Group was established to provide ongoing input. City staff also met with kʷikʷəƛəm First Nation to discuss the plans for the Strategy and seek feedback and involvement.

Across all activities, participants expressed a strong desire for a growing, interconnected, resilient and accessible urban forest. They viewed the urban forest not simply as trees, but as a vital natural system that supports biodiversity, climate adaptation and community well-being. Through the interactive mapping tool and pop-up events, residents identified both their favourite forested places and areas needing improvement. Mundy Park stood out as the most valued location, appreciated for its natural beauty, forest trails and year-round shade. Overall, 65% of survey respondents wanted more trees in their neighbourhoods and prioritized planting in dense urban areas, along residential streets and greenways, and at parks and playgrounds.

Top 5 Urban Forest Values

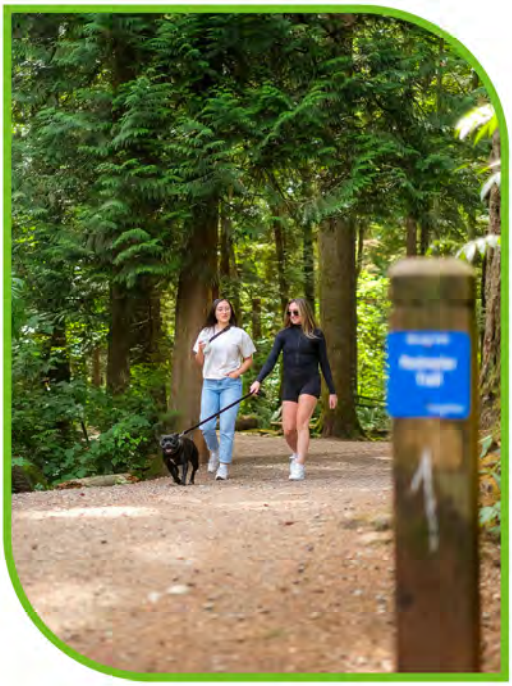
92%
Ecological benefits (e.g. biodiversity and animal habitat)

90%
Environmental (e.g. reduces soil erosion, rainwater management, air purification, wind protection)

88%
Beautification and enjoyment of spaces (e.g. parks and trails)

87%
Health and social (e.g. improved mental health, air quality and water quality).

86%
Climate change adaptation and mitigation (e.g. shade and cooling, carbon capture and storage)

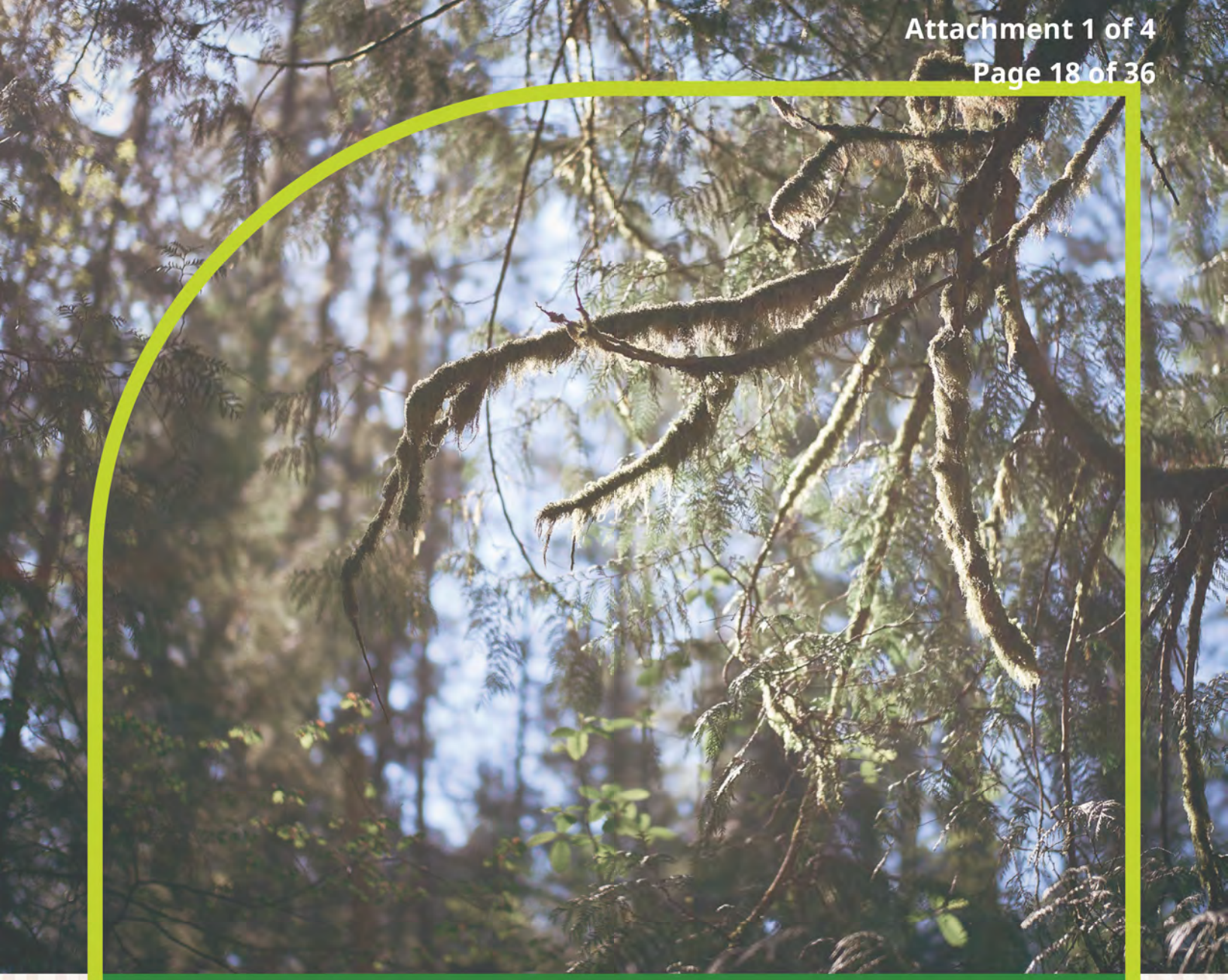


Mundy Park offers Coquitlam residents a chance to escape into the forest without leaving the City.

Vision

Coquitlam's urban forest is a living network of trees, parks and forests that makes our city greener, cooler and healthier. Together we will grow, protect and care for the urban forest so that it continues to support nature and community for generations to come.

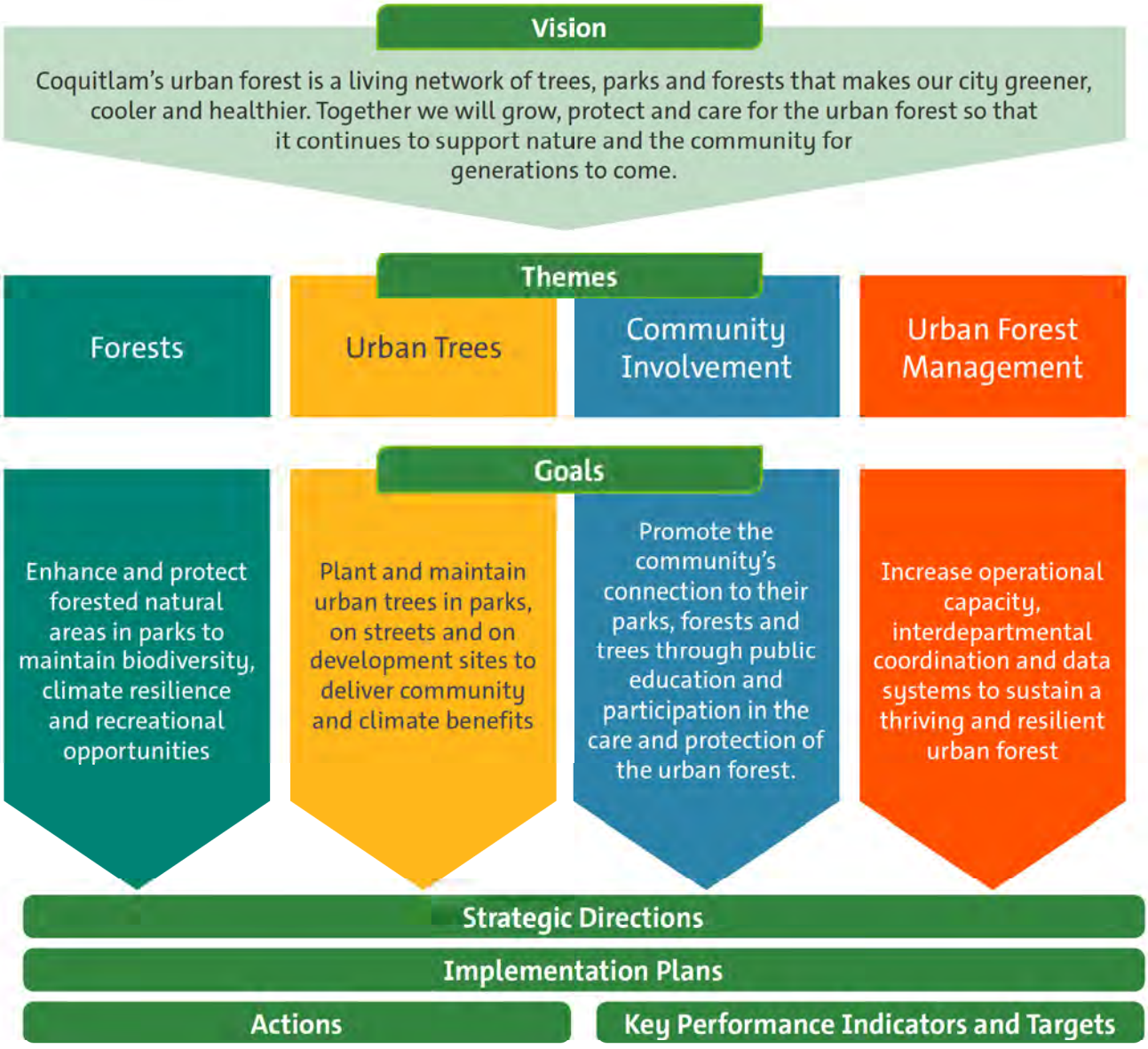
The City of Coquitlam's vision for the urban forest was shaped through input from community members, staff and partners. It provides a unifying direction for how the City will protect, manage and grow its urban forest over the coming decades, ensuring that today's decisions support a resilient, sustainable and equitable forest for future generations.



4.0 Strategic Framework

4.0 Strategic Framework

The vision is supported by four goals organized under four theme areas. Together, these goals and their 14 Strategic Directions form the framework for future Urban Forest Management Strategy Implementation Plans, guiding coordinated action across City departments, partners and the community.



4.1 Forests

Coquitlam's forests form an extensive network of more than 100 municipal forested parks, totalling 812 hectares of land, 385 kilometres of watercourses and riparian areas, and 140 kilometres of connected trails. Regional and provincial parks, although managed by senior levels of government, protect additional forested areas within the municipality. These forested parks and corridors are the ecological foundation of the city, providing wildlife habitat, air purification, carbon storage, stormwater management, and cooling during increasingly hot summers. They also offer year-round opportunities for recreation, education and connection with nature.

Major City Forested Parks

Mundy Park

At more than 178 hectares, Mundy Park is one of Metro Vancouver's largest urban forests and a cornerstone of Coquitlam's natural park system. Its unfragmented second-growth forest, two lakes and rich understory vegetation provide habitat for a wide variety of birds, amphibians and small mammals. The park's extensive trail network attracts thousands of visitors each year, offering an accessible and immersive nature experience in the heart of the city.

Coquitlam River Park

Spanning 67 hectares along the Coquitlam River, this park protects one of the region's most important river corridors. Its nearly 10 kilometres of trails connect residents to the river's riparian forest and floodplain ecosystems, providing valuable habitat and migration routes for all five species of Pacific salmon and other wildlife while supporting recreation and cultural connection.

Regional and Provincial Parks

Minnekhada Regional Park

Located in Northeast Coquitlam, Minnekhada Regional Park covers more than 200 hectares of forest, marshland and rocky outcrops. Managed by Metro Vancouver, the park offers a refuge for wildlife and a quiet natural retreat for residents and visitors. Its diverse habitats support birdwatching, hiking and environmental education opportunities.

Pinecone Burke Provincial Park

At over 38,000 hectares, Pinecone Burke Provincial Park is the largest protected area influencing Coquitlam's canopy and watershed. Its wilderness landscapes of old-growth forests, alpine ridges, wetlands and lakes extend from Burke Mountain to the Pitt River. The park supports salmon-bearing streams, diverse wildlife populations, and extensive recreational opportunities, including hiking, paddling and backcountry exploration.

ƛ̓éxətəm Regional Park

At the confluence of the Coquitlam and Fraser Rivers, sits ƛ̓éxətəm Regional Park (formerly Colony Farm Regional Park), one of the most significant bird habitats in the Lower Mainland. At approximately 260 hectares in size, it spans open fields and hedgerows dating back to its use as a farm throughout the 20th century, as well as ecologically significant riparian wetlands. The park's multi-use trails make it a popular destination for birdwatchers, cyclists and pedestrians seeking easy access to nature near the city.

Widgeon Marsh Regional Park

Widgeon Marsh Regional Park, which opened to the public in 2025, protects over 600 hectares of one of the largest and most ecologically significant freshwater wetland complexes in the Lower Mainland. Located northeast of Coquitlam in the Pitt River watershed, the Park's marshes, riparian forests and floodplains support salmon-bearing streams, migratory birds, amphibians and other sensitive wildlife.

Forests *Snapshot*

Coquitlam's forests provide most of the city's canopy cover and urban forest benefits. They are essential hubs and corridors for wildlife and recreation and provide unique opportunities to connect with nature near our homes.

Key Metrics

100	Municipal and regional parks
385 km	Watercourses
140 km	Trails
80 m	Tallest tree in Coquitlam
5,000	Native trees and shrubs planted annually
3,000m²	Riparian habitat restored on average each year
80	Habitat restoration sites (2021)
14,000	Volunteer hours (2021)

Certified Bear Smart Community
(2017)

Municipal Ravines, Forests and Greenways
Hoy Creek Linear Park
Ridge Park

Major Watercourses
Coquitlam River
Pitt River
Fraser River
Scott Creek
Como Creek

Municipal Natural and Urban Forests
Mundy Park
Walton Park
Coquitlam River Park
Riverview Forest

Regional and Provincial Parks
Minnekhada Regional Park
Ǻéxətəm Regional Park
Widgeon Marsh Regional Park
Pinecone Burke Provincial Park

Goal 1

Enhance and protect forested natural areas in parks to maintain biodiversity, climate resilience and recreational opportunities

To sustain the long-term health and resilience of Coquitlam's forests and watercourses, the City will expand its forest management framework, restoration programs, and risk management practices through four strategic directions.

1.1 Plan and manage forests and natural areas to strengthen resilience and maintain species diversity

Implementation of the Strategy will build on the success of the *Mundy Park Forest Management Plan* and include the development of a Forest Management Framework to guide and prioritize operational activities such as restoration planting.

1.2 Restore disturbed forests and natural areas to improve ecosystem function

The City will adopt a proactive and cost-effective approach to natural forest area restoration and invasive plant management that prevents degradation before it becomes widespread, strengthens long-term ecosystem health and supports community involvement.

1.3 Identify and manage risks to and from forests and natural areas

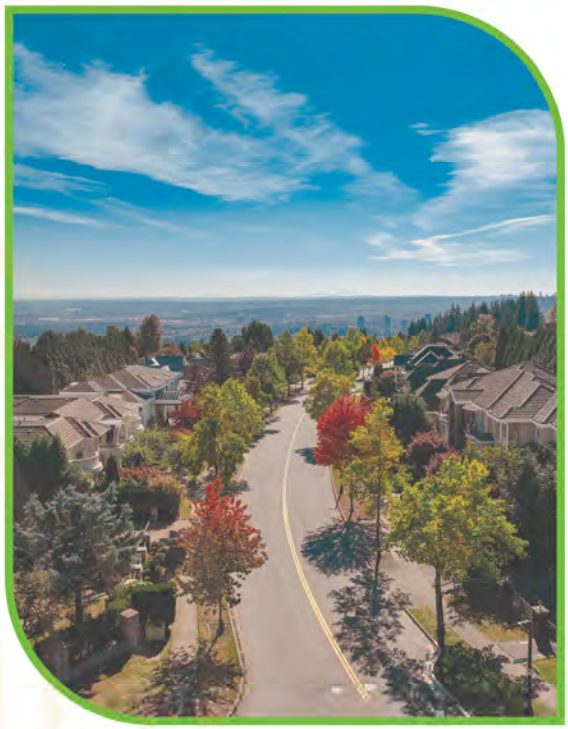
The City will strengthen its approach to natural area risk management through an operational focus on forest health, species diversity and maintaining tree cover to support slope stability, and through development standards designed to reduce risks from windthrow, erosion and flooding.

1.4 Manage a safe trail system to provide connectivity and access to nature across the city

Updating the City's *Trail Master Plan* will ensure neighbourhood connections with natural areas and integration with the City's transportation network using tools such as upgrades through existing trail programs, rights-of-way and strategic land acquisition.

4.2 Urban Trees

Coquitlam's urban trees are an essential part of the city's living infrastructure. The City directly manages an inventory of more than 17,000 street and park trees. These trees line boulevards, enhance parks, and frame neighbourhood streets, providing shade, cooling and access to green space in every part of the city.



Stewarding Coquitlam's urban trees means strengthening care across both public and private lands, ensuring that trees have the space and soil they need to thrive within a growing community. The larger trees are allowed to grow, the greater the ecosystem services they provide, including improving air quality, intercepting stormwater and enhancing neighbourhood character.

As climate conditions shift, species selection, site preparation and planting design must adapt to ensure that the right tree is planted in the right place. Following 5-10-15, a best-practice guideline for urban forest resilience, will help diversify Coquitlam's canopy and reduce vulnerability to pests and diseases. The rule advises that no single species should represent more than 5% of trees in the urban forest, no genus group more than 10% and no family group more than 15% [17]. This approach will help protect Coquitlam's urban forest against threats such as the emerald ash borer, now detected in nearby Metro Vancouver communities.

Planting trees is only the first step. Ongoing investment in proactive management is essential to sustain the health and longevity of urban trees. Preventive care such as regular pruning, watering and soil management helps trees establish strong structure and resilience, reducing the likelihood of future hazards or expensive removals. Addressing small issues early is far more cost-effective than responding to advanced decline or damage later. Shifting toward proactive management will help ensure trees remain healthy, safe and a defining feature of Coquitlam's landscape.

Urban Trees *Snapshot*

Coquitlam's urban trees are an integral part of the city. Our trees provide $161 million in ecosystem services, fostering community resiliency to climate change and a deep connection to the natural environment, even in our urban centres.

Of the 17,000 City owned urban trees...

62% are street trees

38% are in parks

190 species and 70 genera are represented

The three most common species are:

Red Maple **13%**

Western Redcedar **5%**

Douglas Fir **5%**

3,000 trees are watered every year

1,850 trees are pruned annually

800 trees are assessed for health every year

500 trees are planted on City property every year

- 17% are planted by the City
- 83% are planted by developers

Goal 2

Plant and maintain urban trees in parks, on streets, and on development sites to deliver community and climate benefits

Coquitlam's urban trees deliver measurable benefits to residents, neighbourhoods and the climate. To maintain and enhance this resource as the city grows, the Strategy provides a framework for coordinated planting, protection and long-term management of urban trees across the community.

2.1 Implement tree planting requirements for all development sites city-wide and implement a Tree Initiatives Program (TIP) Fund

The City can leverage development and densification to grow Coquitlam's urban forest through a fund that receives contributions when tree planting targets on private property cannot be fully met.

2.2 Prioritize diverse and resilient tree planting city-wide to deliver shade, storm water management and community health benefits

A city-wide tree planting plan will guide proactive planting by prioritizing locations that need shade and improved rainwater management, including school grounds, and by selecting diverse, climate-resilient species to strengthen the long-term health of the urban forest.

2.3 Expand proactive maintenance to extend tree health, safety and lifespan for all City maintained urban trees

A shift from reactive maintenance towards proactive maintenance can be achieved through early monitoring efforts, regular watering and pruning maintenance and inventory standards, supported by potential updates to pest management and tree risk policies.

4.3 Community Involvement

Coquitlam's parks and natural areas thrive because of the people who care for them. A resilient urban forest depends on collaboration among landowners, residents, community groups, First Nations and all levels of government. Continued involvement and partnerships are essential to achieving the goals of this Strategy.

The City leads and supports numerous initiatives that invite residents, students and local organizations to take part in urban forest stewardship. Programs such as Tree Spree, Adopt-a-Park and Bad Seed connect people to nearby green spaces like Mundy Park, Town Centre Park and the Coquitlam River trail system. Between 2008 and 2021, more than 6,000 volunteers helped remove invasive species and plant native trees, contributing over 14,000 hours of restoration work. City staff also host hands-on workshops to teach residents how to identify, plant and prune trees, building confidence and capacity to care for trees on private property.

Beyond City-led programs, urban forest stewardship thrives through the work of schools, community groups and partners. The Burke Mountain Naturalists, a long-standing local non-profit with over 200 active members, support wildlife monitoring, ecological restoration and environmental education across Coquitlam. The City also collaborates with School District 43 to integrate tree stewardship into classroom learning, helping students experience the urban forest firsthand. The kʷikʷəƛ̓əm First Nation, who have cared for these lands and waters since time immemorial, continue to work with the City toward a shared future based on partnership and reconciliation.

Community Involvement *Snapshot*

Community participation is a central component of a healthy urban forest. Together, the Coquitlam community engages, stewards and protects our urban forest.

Engagement and Satisfaction

Between 2008 and 2021:

6,000+
volunteers have helped remove invasive plants and plant native species

14,000+
volunteers hours have been recorded for City-run stewardship events

95%
of Coquitlam residents are satisfied with the parks, trails and greenspaces of the city

City Programs

Tree Spree
helped plant **10,000** trees in 2022

Adopt-a-Trail
has supported **120+ km** of trails

Bad Seed
invasive removal and restoration of **3,000 m²** annually

Public workshops
20+ annually to educate residents on tree care

School Partnerships
deliver urban forest stewardship programs

School Programming
engages youth with the urban forest

Non Profit Organizations

contribute grassroot efforts to urban forest stewardship

Hoy-Scott Watershed Society
supports salmon habitat

Burke Mountain Naturalists
support environmental actions

Goal 3

Promote the community's connection to their parks, forests and trees through public education and participation in the care and protection of the urban forest

The urban forest thrives through the collective care and commitment of the community. Building on Coquitlam's strong foundation of participation, this Strategy identifies three strategic directions to expand, support and celebrate meaningful involvement across all sectors of the community.

3.1 Support, expand and celebrate community efforts to plant, protect and care for trees

Expanding community programs that bring residents together to learn about and care for the urban forest, using events, volunteer opportunities and educational initiatives, will foster shared responsibility and long-term stewardship across Coquitlam.

3.2 Incentivize tree planting and care on private property

To support residents and businesses in growing Coquitlam's urban forest, the City will continue to deliver community tree planting programs and consider a range of incentive programs such as a subsidized tree sale to make planting and caring for trees on private land more accessible.

3.3 Build partnerships across sectors to help grow and care for the urban forest

Collaboration will remain central to growing and sustaining Coquitlam's urban forest, and the City will look to strengthen partnerships with the kʷikʷəƛəm First Nation, School District 43, local businesses, BC Hydro, post-secondary institutions, and corporate or institutional landholders to align stewardship practices, support learning opportunities and expand canopy cover across the city.

4.4 Urban Forest Management

Urban forest management is the practice of planning, planting, protecting and maintaining trees to maximize their benefits and minimize risk in communities. Coquitlam's qualified urban forestry staff deliver a range of services including tree maintenance, planning, permitting, education and risk management. Over the past decade, the city has made significant progress in strengthening and expanding its urban forest program. Continued investment in staff capacity, tools and resources will be essential over the coming decades to position Coquitlam as a regional leader in sustainable urban forest management and achieve the vision of the Strategy.

Asset management provides a structured approach for assessing the condition, value and life-cycle needs of public assets. While traditionally focused on built infrastructure, many municipalities are now applying asset management principles to natural assets such as trees, soils and riparian areas. Recognizing the urban forest as green infrastructure enables the City to define levels of service, allocate resources efficiently and plan for long-term maintenance and renewal.

As the city grows, Coquitlam's urban forest faces new pressures from climate change, development and aging infrastructure. Effective management requires an adaptive and transparent approach that tracks performance, measures results and adjusts priorities as conditions evolve. The success of this Strategy depends on the City's ability to monitor urban forest changes over time and report on progress in a way that supports learning and continuous improvement.

Urban Forest Management *Snapshot*

Urban forest management is the practice of planting, protecting and maintaining trees to maximize their benefits and minimize risk in communities.

Parks and Capital Projects

The Urban Forest Team provides core services like tree planting, pruning, watering, public education, natural area enhancement and bylaw administration

Planning and Development

Develops key planning policies to define future parks, environmentally sensitive areas and greenspaces as well as reviewing landscape plans for development sites

Engineering and Public Works

Manages core infrastructure and related tree care, oversees watershed and riparian functions as part of stormwater management and respondes to emergencies such as fallen trees after storms

Fire and Rescue

Lead fire prevention and fire education programs to protect the community against wildfires

Urban forest management includes:

- Planting
- Maintenance
- Monitoring
- Planning
- Public Engagement
- Risk Assessment
- Permitting
- Natural Area Restoration
- Storm Response

Goal 4

Increase operational capacity, interdepartmental coordination and data systems to sustain a thriving and resilient urban forest

To continue strengthening Coquitlam's urban forest management program, the City will focus on four strategic directions that emphasize leadership, integration, transparency and sustainable resourcing.

4.1 Continue to lead by example in how we manage, grow and protect the urban forest

Leadership in urban forest management could be achieved by aligning practices with recognized industry standards; collaborating with regional, provincial, and national partners to share knowledge; piloting innovative projects and exploring designations such as Tree City of the World.

4.2 Integrate urban trees and forested areas into the City's resource and asset management systems

The City will explore the use of natural asset management principles to guide data-driven decisions, define service levels and align resources with its inventory of trees, Streamside Protection and Enhancement Areas and other natural assets, supported by updated and expanded tree inventory data.

4.3 Track progress, report publicly, and adapt management practices over time

To maintain transparency and support adaptive management, the Implementation Plan will be updated to reflect new data, lessons learned and emerging trends, with an interdepartmental team coordinating actions and ensuring accountability across departments.

4.4 Ensure resources are available to deliver the urban forest vision over time

Achieving Coquitlam's urban forest vision will require sustained investment through City resources, grants and partnerships to support long-term implementation, including tree planting and high-quality tree care.

5.0 Implementation and Monitoring

5.0 Implementation and Monitoring

This Strategy establishes a long-term vision and goals that will guide Coquitlam's approach to protecting, managing and growing its urban forest. Implementation will be prioritized and communicated through the regularly updated Implementation Plan to provide a practical and flexible framework for advancing the long-term Strategy. This phased approach enables the City to:

- Translate the long-term goals into clear, achievable actions
- Align priorities with annual budgeting and capital planning cycles
- Evaluate performance and report on progress at regular intervals
- Adapt to new information, evolving challenges and changing community priorities

By dividing implementation into manageable phases, the City can maintain accountability and transparency while supporting continuous improvement through adaptive management.

5.1 Targets and Monitoring Progress

Specific performance targets and regular monitoring of accomplishments is essential to ensure the successful delivery of the Strategy and the achievement of its long-term goals. Tracking performance allows the City to document targets, evaluate outcomes, identify challenges early, and adjust priorities as conditions change.

A range of performance measures will be used to capture the ecological, social and operational benefits provided by Coquitlam's urban forest. Together, these indicators will create a consistent and transparent framework for assessing success and guiding adaptive management.

Table 1 outlines the proposed monitoring framework and performance indicators that will be used to measure successes in implementing this Strategy based on specific service level targets. These targets will focus on objective measurements in each indicator area.

Table 1 Core monitoring framework to support the tracking of the Strategy implementation. These metrics are samples that will be refined through the development of the Implementation Plan.

Indicator Area	Annual Performance Targets	Example Measures
A. Tree Planting and Replacement	5,000 – 7,000 trees planted annually[2]	Net new trees planted annually by the City, developers and as the result of incentive programs on private property. Compliance with required tree replacement.
B. Urban Tree Health	90% City tree survival 5 years after planting	Condition and survival rates of City trees.
C. Urban Tree Diversity	Plant no more than 5% of any species, 10% of any genus group and 15% of any family group annually	Species, genus and family composition.
D. Forest and Natural Area Management	3,000 square meters of annual forested area restoration planting	Condition of forested natural areas. Area of restored forested natural areas.
E. Community Involvement	5% increase in annual volunteer hours	Volunteer hours and participation in stewardship programs.

Monitoring results will inform and guide updates to priorities, budgets and resource needs, ensuring that actions remain aligned with the Strategy's goals and evolving community priorities. As new data, technologies and practices emerge, the City will use lessons learned to refine methods, address challenges and continuously improve the urban forest management program.

[2] *Subject to annual review – number of trees planted will vary from year to year.*

6.0 References

6.0 References

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Appendix 1 Glossary

Asset management: A coordinated approach to maintaining, improving and operating assets in a cost-effective way throughout their lifecycle.

Biodiversity: The variety of living organisms, such as plants, animals and fungi within a specific area.

Canopy Cover: A measure of the extent of the urban forest based on the amount of ground covered by tree leaves when viewed from above.

Green infrastructure: Natural and built systems that support ecological and water functions, such as trees, rain gardens and permeable surfaces.

Greenfield development: Development that transforms natural or rural lands into urban uses.

Natural asset: Ecosystems or natural resources, such as trees, forests and riparian areas that provide municipal services, such as stormwater management or air purification.

Natural Asset Management: Natural asset management is an established approach to recognizing and managing ecosystems, such as forests, streams, wetlands and riparian corridors, as vital infrastructure providing public services.

Urban Containment Boundary: A stable, long-term, regionally defined area for urban development across Metro Vancouver.

Urban forest: All treed landscapes within the city boundary, spanning residential yards, streets, parks and natural areas.

Urban forest management: The sustained planning, planting, protection, maintenance and care of trees, forests and related resources in and around cities and communities for economic, environmental, social and public health benefits for people and wildlife.

Appendix 2 What Our Urban Forest Looks Like Now

Coquitlam's urban forest is extensive. As of 2022, Coquitlam's city-wide tree canopy covered approximately 52% of the total land area, more than 6,500 hectares (Figure 3). Much of this canopy is concentrated in large natural areas, including the expansive Pinecone Burke Provincial Park in the north. These natural areas play a vital role in maintaining biodiversity, stabilizing slopes and intercepting rainwater.

Outside of the Urban Containment Boundary, where most housing, businesses and infrastructure are located, canopy cover averages over 69%. Within the Urban Containment Boundary, canopy cover averages 33%. This places Coquitlam among the top third of municipalities in Metro Vancouver for urban canopy cover.

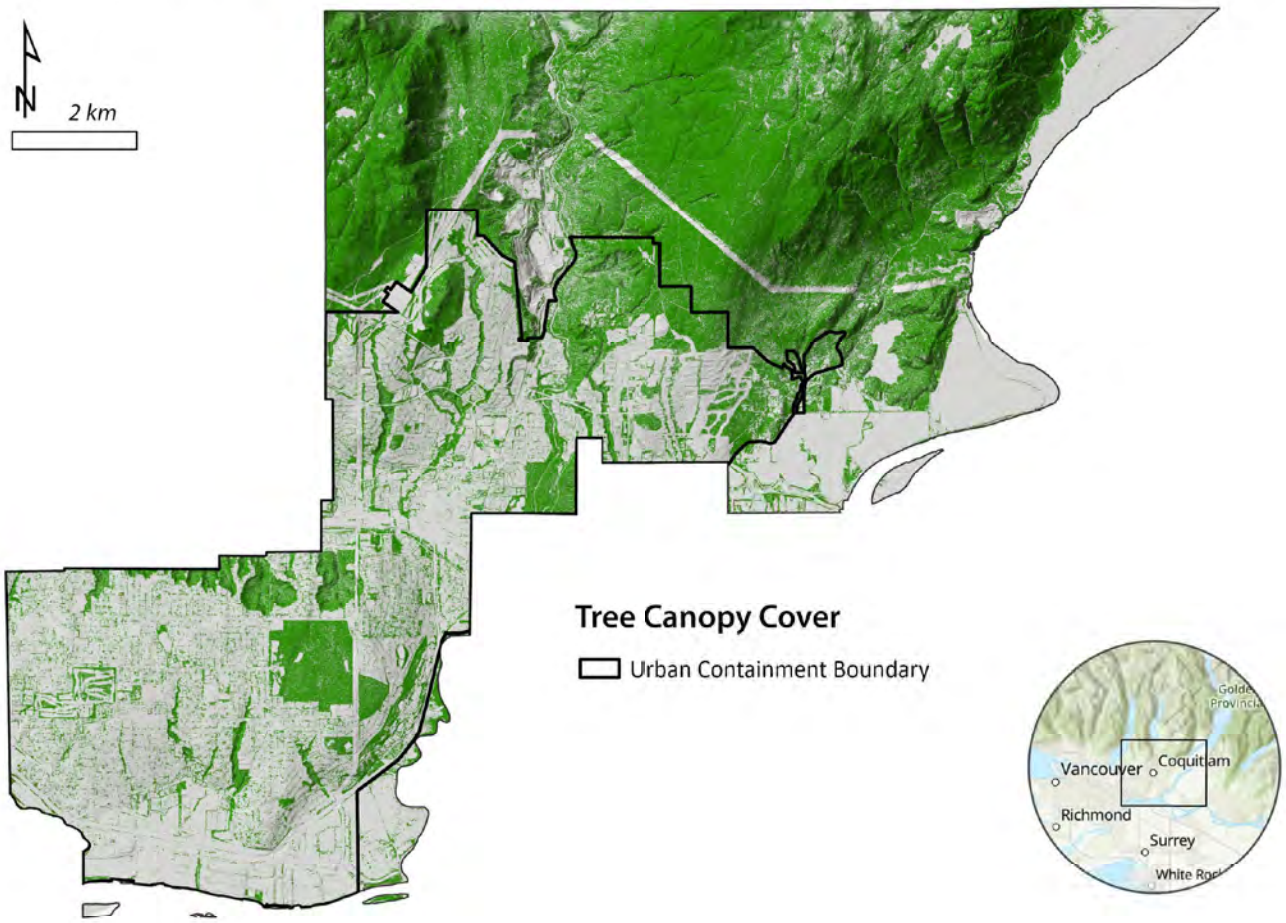

Figure 3 Canopy cover across the City of Coquitlam (2022).

Coquitlam's canopy is almost evenly distributed across public and private land. An estimated 54% of the canopy lies on public land, with 46% on private property. Public parks and civic space contain over one-third of all canopy within the Urban Containment Boundary. Smaller public lands, such as school grounds, also provide daily contact with nature for children and youth. Coquitlam will continue to work with partners like School District 43 to support school-greening initiatives and expand tree planting in learning environments.

Appendix 3 Policy Context

Coquitlam's urban forest is shaped by legislation, bylaws and municipal policies and plans. The *Community Charter* and *Local Government Act* provide a framework that allows the City to regulate trees on public and private land and the City has developed several strategies and policies to reflect the importance of the urban forest for livability, environmental and ecological services. This Strategy acts as a link between all municipal policies relevant to urban forestry (Figure 4).

Some of the most relevant plans are:

Official Community Plan (OCP): Integrates green space into urban planning and recognizes trees as essential for livability, health and biodiversity.

Environmental Sustainability Plan (ESP): Calls for canopy tracking, tree planting and development of the Urban Forest Management Strategy.

Climate Action Plan (CAP): Calls for embedding of climate solutions across City plans and operations.

Climate Adaptation Strategic Plan: Promotes monitoring and replacement of climate-sensitive trees.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan: Highlights the role of trees and green spaces in community well-being and resilience.

Tree Management Bylaw: Regulates tree protection and removal on private land.

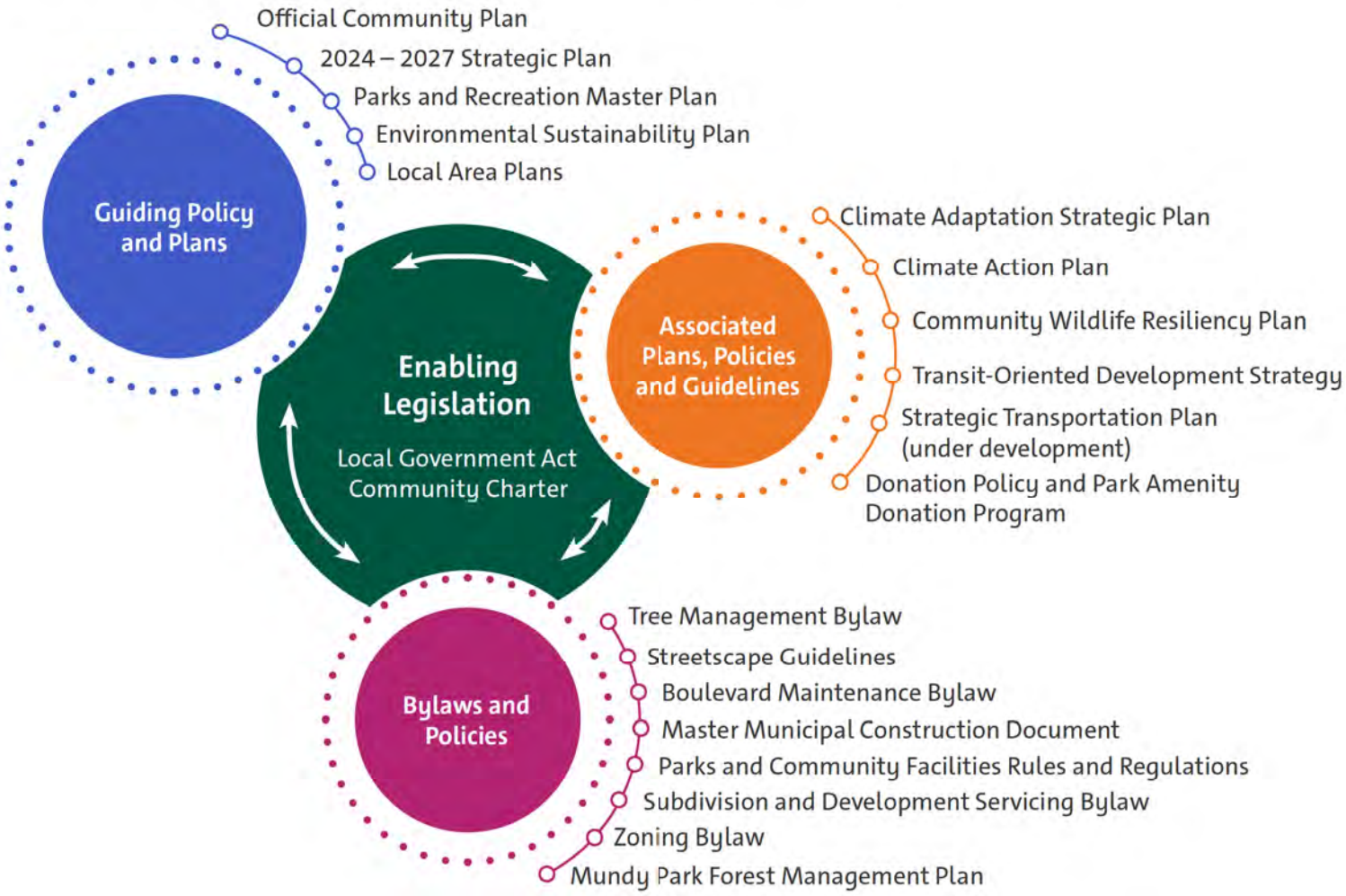

Figure 4 Policy framework for the City of Coquitlam.

Urban Forest Management Strategy - Draft Implementation Plan

Proposed UFMS Expense Estimate Key

$ - $0 - $50,000
$$ - $50,000 - $100,000
$$$ - $100,000 - $500,000
$$$$ - >$500,000
NAC - no additional cost to the City; potential grants
TBD - to be explored further

Proposed UFMS Timeframe Key

Ongoing
Short-term: 0-5 years
Medium-term: 6- 12 years
Long-term: 13+ years

Proposed UFMS Monitoring Framework:

Indicator Area	Annual Performance Targets	Example Measures
A. Tree Planting and Replacement	5,000 - 7,000 trees planted annually	Net new trees planted annually by the City, developers and as the result of incentive programs on private property. Compliance with required tree replacement.
B. Urban Tree Health	90% City tree survival 5 years after planting	Condition and survival rates of City trees.
C. Urban Tree Diversity	Plant no more than 5% of any species, 10% of any genus, and 15% of any family annually	Species, genus, and family composition.
D. Forest and Natural Area Management	3,000 square meters of annual forested area restoration planting	Condition of forested natural areas. Area of restored forested natural areas.
E. Community Involvement	5% increase in annual volunteer hours	Volunteer hours and participation in stewardship programs.

Urban Forest Management Strategy - Draft Implementation Plan

The Parks and Capital Projects Department will lead the Actions with support from the Departments / Divisions identified, except where noted in the table.

Strategic Directions	Actions	Timeframe	Expense Estimate	Supporting City Departments/ Divisions	Indicator Areas
1. Forests: Enhance and protect forested natural areas in parks to maintain biodiversity, climate resilience, and recreational opportunities.					
1.1 Plan and manage forests and natural areas to strengthen resilience and maintain species diversity	a) Develop Forest Management Plan Framework to guide and prioritize rehabilitation planting and conservation actions, including a climate vulnerability and adaptation analysis.	Short-term	$	Engineering & Public Works	A. Tree Planting D. Forest Management
	b) Develop park specific forest management plans for significant forested areas such as Coquitlam River Park and Ridge Park.	Long-term	$$		
1.2 Restore disturbed forests and natural areas to improve ecosystem function	a) Update Invasive Plant Species Management Plan and restoration Standard Operating Procedures (prioritize Mundy, Coquitlam River, Hoy Creek parks).	Medium-term	$		A. Tree Planting D. Forest Management E. Community Involvement

Urban Forest Management Strategy - Draft Implementation Plan

Strategic Directions	Actions	Timeframe	Expense Estimate	Supporting City Departments/ Divisions	Indicator Areas
	b) Create annual restoration work program guided by Forest Management Plan Framework and forest management plans.	Ongoing	NAC		
	c) Leverage community partnerships for invasive removal and restoration planting.	Ongoing	NAC		
1.3 Identify and manage risks to and from forests and natural areas	a) Develop Natural Area Risk Management Protocol to inform the Forest Management Framework.	Short-term	NAC	Legal, Fire & Rescue	D. Forest Management
	b) Map risk management zones/wildfire fuel zones.	Medium-term	$	Fire & Rescue	
	c) Review procedures for managing windfirm risk in the first five years post-clearing, when creating new forest edges.	Ongoing	NAC	Planning & Development	
1.4 Manage a safe trail system to provide connectivity and access to nature across the city	a) Update the City's Master Trail Plan to ensure neighbourhood connections with natural areas and integration with the City's transportation network.	Medium-term	$$	Planning & Development, Engineering & Public Works	D. Forest Management

Urban Forest Management Strategy - Draft Implementation Plan

Strategic Directions	Actions	Timeframe	Expense Estimate	Supporting City Departments/ Divisions	Indicator Areas
	b) Strengthen existing trail standards for tree protection and replacement.	Short-term	NAC		
2. Urban Trees: Plant and maintain urban trees in parks, on streets, and on development sites to deliver community and climate benefits.					
2.1 Implement tree planting requirements for all development sites city-wide and implement a Tree Initiatives Program fund (TIP)	a) Amend the Zoning Bylaw to expand tree planting requirement City-wide and establish a Tree Initiative Program (TIP) that receives contributions when tree planting targets cannot be fully met.	Short-term	NAC	Planning & Development leads with support from Parks and Capital Projects	A. Tree Planting B. Tree Health C. Tree Diversity
	b) Identify opportunities for tree planting connected to street improvement projects.	Ongoing	NAC	Engineering & Public Works	
2.2 Prioritize diverse and resilient tree planting city-wide to deliver shade, storm water	a) Prepare a 10-year Tree Planting Plan.	Short-term	NAC	Engineering & Public Works	A. Tree Planting B. Tree Health C. Tree Diversity
	b) Update recommended tree species lists for diversity and drought resilience.	Ongoing	NAC	Planning & Development	

Urban Forest Management Strategy - Draft Implementation Plan

Strategic Directions	Actions	Timeframe	Expense Estimate	Supporting City Departments/ Divisions	Indicator Areas
management and community health benefits	c) Develop a tree planting recommended species list for parking lots to maximize shade.	Short-term	NAC	Planning & Development	
	d) Collaborate with industry and regional partners to expand availability of diverse and resilient tree species.	Medium-term	NAC		
2.3 Expand proactive maintenance to extend tree health, safety, and lifespan for all City maintained urban trees	a) Expand the urban tree lifecycle maintenance program to include integrated pest management and to enhance the watering and tree care programs.	Medium-term (ongoing operating)	$$$	Engineering & Public Works	B. Tree Health
	b) Review and update inventory standards to align with asset management information requirements.	Medium-term	NAC		
3. Community Involvement: Promote the community's connection to their parks, forests and trees through public education and participation in the care and protection of the urban forest.					
3.1 Support, expand, and celebrate community efforts	a) Foster community-driven urban forest projects and initiatives that encourage neighbourhood action	Ongoing	NAC		A. Tree Planting E. Community Involvement

Urban Forest Management Strategy - Draft Implementation Plan

Strategic Directions	Actions	Timeframe	Expense Estimate	Supporting City Departments/ Divisions	Indicator Areas
to plant, protect and care for trees	on tree planting, protection and care.				
	b) Integrate trees into the Proud to Grow Here program.	Short-term	NAC	Communications & Civic Engagement	
	c) Develop an Adopt-a-Tree Program.	Short-term	NAC	Communications & Civic Engagement	
	d) Host tree focused community activities involving community partners.	Short-term	NAC	Communications & Civic Engagement	
	e) Expand Tree Spree programming to appeal to all demographics (neighbourhood tree walks, tree treasure hunts, forest bathing, etc.).	Ongoing	$	Communications & Civic Engagement	
	f) Develop a volunteer Tree Ambassador program (modeled after the Master Gardener Program) to deliver information and advice to property owners.	Medium-term	$	Communications & Civic Engagement	
3.2 Incentivize tree planting and care on private property	a) Continue to support private property tree planting (i.e: subsidized trees) through the Tree Spree Program.	Ongoing	NAC		A. Tree Planting E. Community Involvement
	b) Expand tree care public education programs through Park Spark	Ongoing	NAC		

Urban Forest Management Strategy - Draft Implementation Plan

Strategic Directions	Actions	Timeframe	Expense Estimate	Supporting City Departments/ Divisions	Indicator Areas
	(pruning & tree care workshops, guest lectures, etc.).				
	c) Expand tree planting incentive initiatives on private property including residential, commercial and institutional lands.	Medium-term	$$		
	d) Explore options for the delivery of professional consultations for property owners through grants and community partners.	Medium-term	$		
3.3 Build partnerships across sectors to help grow and care for the urban forest	a) Explore opportunities to support tree stewardship school programming, tree planting and maintenance commitments on SD43 lands.	Short-term	NAC		A. Tree Planting E. Community Involvement
	b) Engage with BC Hydro to develop vegetation management agreements.	Long-term	TBD	Engineering & Public Works	
	c) Develop partnership initiatives with kʷikʷəƛ̓əm First Nation, local businesses, post-secondary institutions and local organizations to support planting events, citizen	Medium-term	NAC	Engineering & Public Works	

Urban Forest Management Strategy - Draft Implementation Plan

Strategic Directions	Actions	Timeframe	Expense Estimate	Supporting City Departments/ Divisions	Indicator Areas
	science initiatives and/or adopt-a-tree programs.				
	d) Provide co-op/summer student opportunities to support implementation and build relationships with local urban forestry post-secondary institutions.	Short-term	NAC		
4. Urban Forest Management: Increase operational capacity, interdepartmental coordination and data systems to sustain a thriving and resilient urban forest.					
4.1 Continue to lead by example in how we manage, grow, and protect the urban forest	a) Participate in regional and national urban forestry networks to exchange best practices, innovations and knowledge.	Ongoing	NAC		D. Forest Management E. Community Involvement
	b) Pilot innovative City projects—such as circular wood recovery programs—to demonstrate best practices and inspire replication.	Short-term	NAC		

Urban Forest Management Strategy - Draft Implementation Plan

Strategic Directions	Actions	Timeframe	Expense Estimate	Supporting City Departments/ Divisions	Indicator Areas
	c) Centralize and enhance a web-based information hub.	Short-term	NAC	Communications & Civic Engagement	
	d) Focus on impactful communication tools (social media, videos, apps) to reach all demographics.	Ongoing	NAC	Communications & Civic Engagement	
	e) Explore external recognition awards (such as Tree City of the World) to formalize Coquitlam's commitment to professional standards, transparent reporting, and public education.	Medium-term	NAC		
	f) Explore certification under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Community and Urban Forestry Standard to benchmark and audit City practices, track continuous improvement, and demonstrate leadership.	Long-term	TBD		
4.2 Integrate urban trees and forested areas into the City's resource	a) Continue to refine urban forest resource management plans (street, park, natural areas) including service standards (e.g.,	Ongoing	NAC		B. Tree Health C. Tree Diversity D. Forest Management

Urban Forest Management Strategy - Draft Implementation Plan

Strategic Directions	Actions	Timeframe	Expense Estimate	Supporting City Departments/ Divisions	Indicator Areas
management plans and the City's asset management systems	inspection cycles, pruning frequencies, IPM, etc.).				
	b) Complete full tree and natural areas inventory and integrate with GIS systems.	Medium-term	NAC		
	c) Explore opportunities to develop a natural asset management plan	Long-term	$$	Engineering & Public Works, Finance	
4.3 Track progress, report publicly, and adapt management practices over time	a) Update UFMS Implementation Plan as needed.	Medium-term	NAC	Engineering & Public Works, Finance, Communications & Civic Engagement, Planning & Development	A. Tree Planting B. Tree Health C. Tree Diversity D. Forest Management E. Community Involvement
	b) Establish Interdepartmental UFMS Implementation Team (annual).	Short-term	NAC	Engineering & Public Works, Planning & Development, Finance, Communications & Civic Engagement, Fire & Rescue	
	c) Provide updates on performance measures and accomplishments	Short-term	NAC	Finance	

Urban Forest Management Strategy - Draft Implementation Plan

Strategic Directions	Actions	Timeframe	Expense Estimate	Supporting City Departments/ Divisions	Indicator Areas
	through the annual budget reporting process.				
4.4 Ensure resources are available to deliver the urban forest vision over time	a) Create a Tree Initiatives Program to receive funds when developer planting targets cannot be met.	Short-term	NAC	Planning & Development, Finance	A. Tree Planting B. Tree Health C. Tree Diversity D. Forest Management E. Community Involvement
	b) Pursue grants and partnerships to expand public education programming, tree planting and stewardship opportunities.	Medium-term	NAC		
	c) Update interdepartmental training materials for staff and contractors on tree protection, risk management, and species selection to reinforce consistency.	Medium-term	NAC	Planning & Development, Communications & Civic Engagement	

City of Coquitlam
Parks and Capital Projects

Draft Urban Forest Management Strategy

Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee
May 7, 2026

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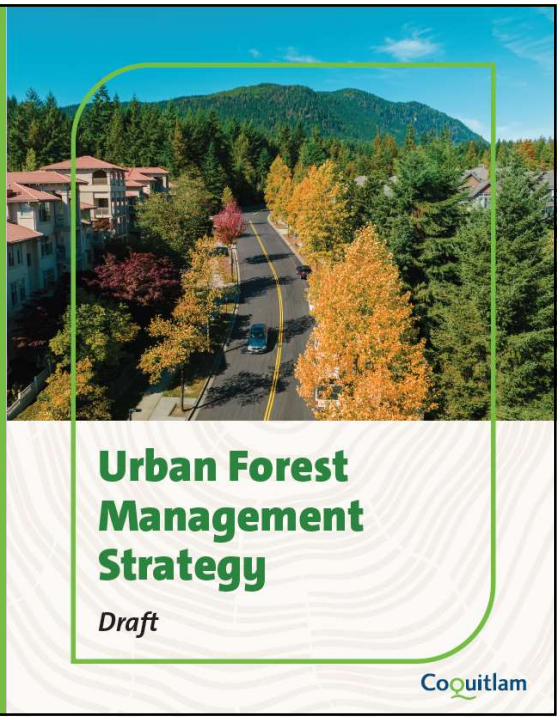


Agenda

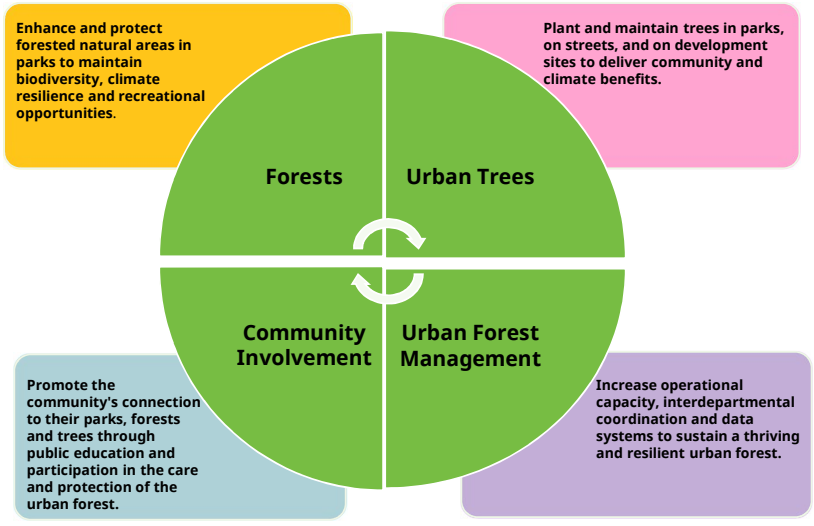
1. Vision
2. Strategy Framework
3. Themes, Goals and Strategic Directions
4. Implementation Plan
5. Performance Targets and Monitoring
6. Project Timeline

Vision

Coquitlam's urban forest is a living network of trees, parks and forests that makes our city greener, cooler, and healthier.

Together, we will grow, protect and care for the urban forest so it continues to support nature and the community for generations to come.

Strategic Framework



Theme 1: Forests

Goal: Enhance and protect forested natural areas in parks to maintain biodiversity, climate resilience and recreational opportunities.

Strategic Directions:

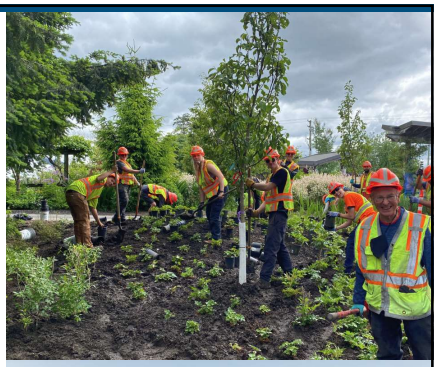
1. Plan and manage forests and natural areas to strengthen resilience and maintain species diversity.
2. Restore disturbed forests and natural areas to improve ecosystem function.
3. Identify and manage risks to and from forests and natural areas.
4. Manage a safe trail system to provide connectivity and access to nature across the city.

Theme 2: Urban Trees

Goal: Plant and maintain urban trees in parks, on streets, and on development sites to deliver community and climate benefits.

Strategic Directions:

1. Implement tree planting requirements for all development sites city-wide and implement a Tree Initiatives Program (TIP).
2. Prioritize diverse and resilient tree planting city-wide to deliver shade, storm water management and community health benefits.
3. Expand proactive maintenance to extend tree health, safety and lifespan for all City maintained urban trees.

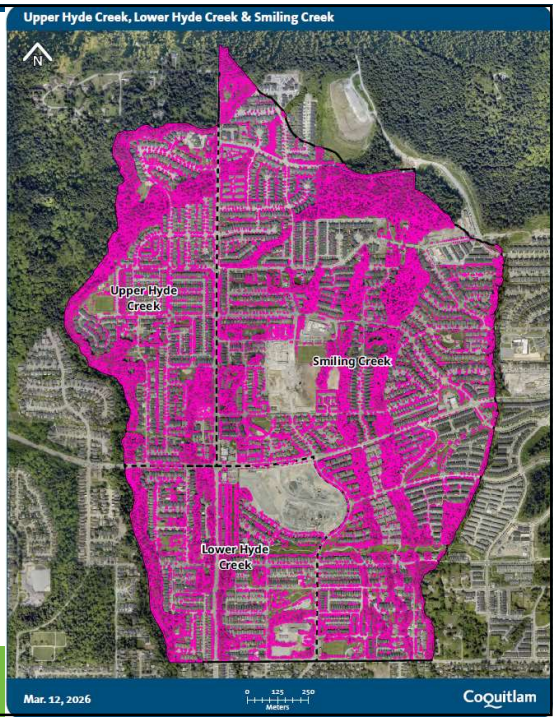


Coquitlam's Success Story

Images from Google Earth

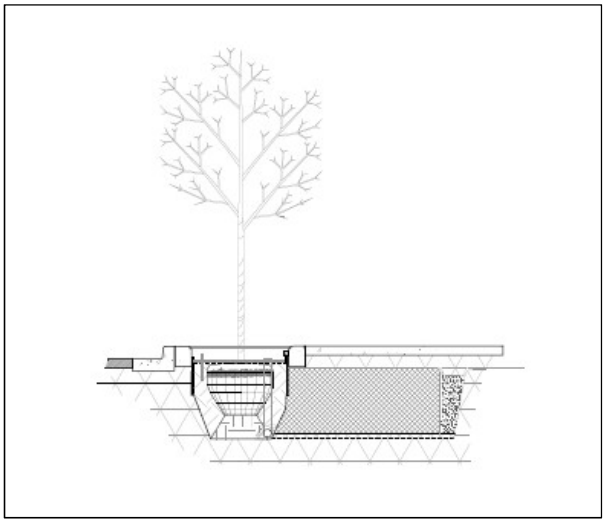
Coquitlam's Success Story

- Arborist reports to identify opportunities for tree retention early
- Inter-departmental collaboration
- Recommended tree lists including conifers



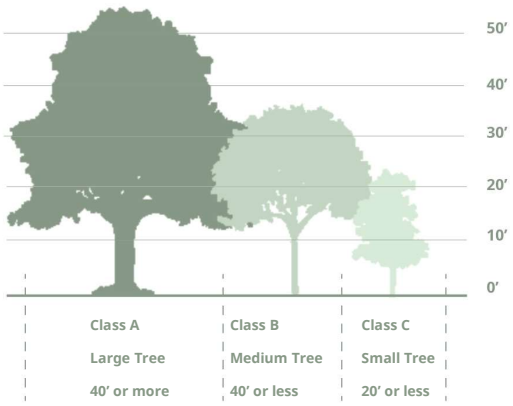
Coquitlam's Success Story

- Tree Planting Specifications
- Tree Management Bylaw



Northeast Tree Replacement Requirements

Lot Size (m^2)	Number of trees greater than 20cm stem diameter remaining on the lot after tree removal	Maximum number of required replacement trees
Less than $250m^2$	0	1 Class A or 1 Class B **or** 1 Class C
	1 or more	None
$250m^2$ - $500m^2$	0	2 Class A or 3 Class B **or** 4 Class C
	1 or more	None
$501m^2$ - $750m^2$	0	4 Class A or 6 Class B **or** 8 Class C
	1	2 Class A or 3 Class B **or** 4 Class C
	2 or more	None
$751m^2$ - $1000m^2$	0	6 Class A or 9 Class B **or** 12 Class C
	1	4 Class A or 6 Class B **or** 8 Class C
	2	2 Class A or 3 Class B **or** 4 Class C
	3 or more	None
$1001m^2$ - $1250m^2$	0	8 Class A or 12 Class B **or** 16 Class C
	1	6 Class A or 9 Class B **or** 12 Class C
	2	4 Class A or 6 Class B **or** 8 Class C
	3	2 Class A or 3 Class B **or** 4 Class C
	4 or more	None
Over $1250m^2$	1 tree every $250m^2$	None
	Less than 1 tree every $250m^2$	1 Class A every $125m^2$ **or** 1 Class B every $85m^2$ **or** 1 Class C every $65m^2$



Anticipated Impacts of Expanding Targets City-wide

1. Very little difference between NE vs the rest of the city;
2. Some projects in each housing category will meet targets while others will have a shortfall based on specific site constraints;
3. The biggest gaps will be for standard townhouse sites due to roadways/ parking/pathways;
4. Further work is required for Industrial, Commercial & Institutional zones;
5. Fees & Charges Bylaw used for setting per tree cost starting with $600.

Theme 3: Community Involvement

Goal: Promote the community's connection to their parks, forests and trees through public education and participation in the care and protection of the urban forest.

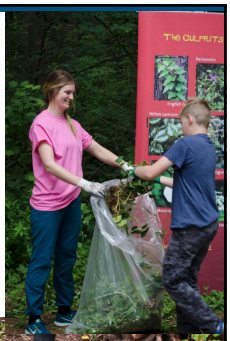
Strategic Directions:

1. Support, expand and celebrate community efforts to plant, protect and care for trees.
2. Incentivize tree planting and care on private property.
3. Build partnerships across sectors to help grow and care for the urban forest.

Coquitlam's Success Story

Tree Spree

Bad Seed



Tree Education Programming

Adopt a Trail

Theme 4 : Urban Forest Management

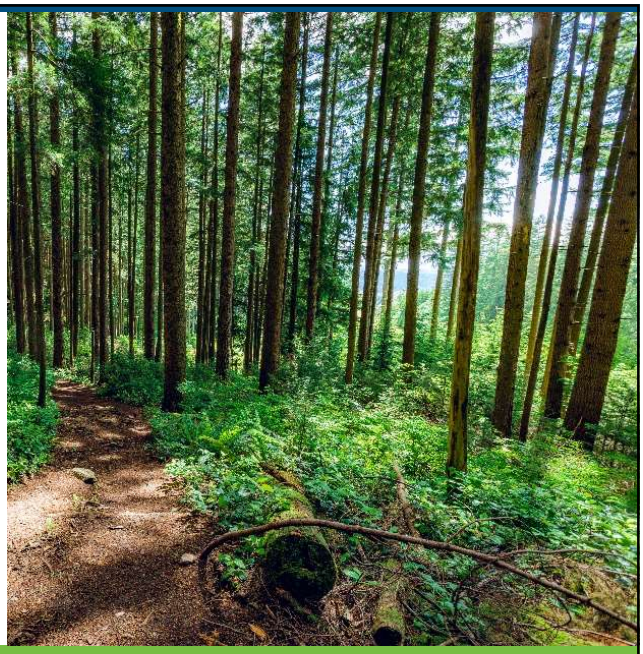
Goal: Increase operational capacity, interdepartmental coordination and data systems to sustain a thriving and resilient urban forest.

Strategic Directions:

1. Continue to lead by example in how we manage, grow and protect the urban forest.
2. Integrate urban trees and forested areas into the City's resource management plans and the City's asset management systems.
3. Track progress, report publicly and adapt management practices over time.
4. Ensure resources are available to deliver the urban forest vision over time.

Implementation Plan

- The Implementation Plan will provide a structure for prioritized and phased implementation of key deliverables;
- Align actions with annual budgets and capital planning cycles, track progress using measurable indicators, and;
- Adapt over time as conditions, data, and community needs evolve.

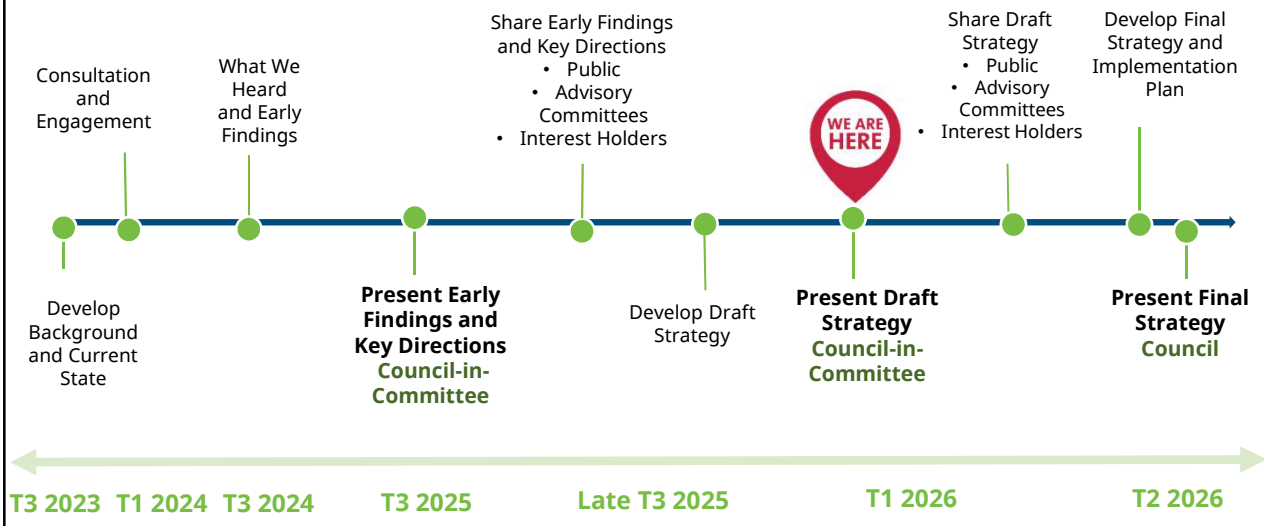


Performance Targets & Monitoring

Five indicator areas are proposed to monitor the success of the Strategy:

Indicator Area	Annual Performance Targets	Example Measures
A. Tree Planting and Replacement	5,000 - 7,000 trees planted annually	Net new trees planted annually by the City, developers and on private land as the result of incentive programs.
B. Urban Tree Health	90% City tree survival 5 years after planting	Condition and survival rates of City trees.
C. Urban Tree Diversity	Plant no more than 5% of any species, 10% of any genus, and 15% of any family annually	Species, genus, and family composition.
D. Forest and Natural Area Management	3,000 square meters of forested area restoration planting	Condition of forested natural areas. Area of restored forested natural areas.
E. Community Involvement	5% increase in annual volunteer hours	Volunteer hours and participation in stewardship programs.

Project Timeline



Coquitlam 16

Thank you

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City of Coquitlam – Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee

Planet Ice Update

May 7, 2026

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Agenda

1. Process Update
2. Agreement Update
3. Year-1 Improvements

Process Update

- Work on the agreement is ongoing
- Agreement outline is based on these mutually agreed principles:
  - GSL to operate the facility;
  - Ice only (no dry floor programming);
  - Immediate improvements to address documented condition issues; and,
  - New standards for ongoing maintenance.
- Will report back when agreement is finalized

Year-1 Improvements - 2027

These improvements will include:

- washroom and change room upgrades;
- lobby area upgrades;
- new flooring throughout the building;
- viewing area, concession and restaurant renovations;
- new lighting and scoreboards;
- exterior wall repairs and painting; and
- parking lot paving and landscape improvements.

Thank you

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Coquitlam Sports Hall of Fame Annual Report
January 2026

Submitted by Cydney Smythies, President CSHOF

Requirements: The Operator will submit a report of the previous calendar year to the City by February 28th annually.

The report shall incorporate the following key components (at a minimum):

1. **The Operator's most recent AGM Minutes (Unapproved)**
   CSHOF AGM was held on November 20, 2025, and the minutes are attached.

2. **Annual Financial Statements (including detailed Induction Ceremony costs)**
   Financial Statement and cost of Induction Ceremony included in statement.

3. **A brief review of the activities from the past year**
   Activities during the past year include:
   - Updating, organizing and preparing our website (volunteer is continuing this work)
   - Recruit a volunteer for as a fundraiser (completed). A volunteer is in place.
   - Clarified volunteer roles and responsibilities on the board to ensure stability, duties covered and volunteer sustainability.
   - Induction Event held on June 12th at the Centennial Theatre. Held an unformal reception before the ceremony where past and present Hall of Famers could connect. Event was sold out. PS Media produced a video and was the emcee for the evening.
     - Hall of Fame inductees
       - *Jeff Clarke, athlete*
       - *Ron Boileau, broadcasting*
       - *1969 Blue Mtn Thistles Soccer team*
       - *Gary Arye, builder*
     - Wall of Fame inductees
       - *11 athletes*
       - *1 coach*
       - *1 volunteer*
       - *1 team*
   - Displays and Cataloguing is ongoing with 71 out of 89 inductees archiving completed. 725 items have been archived to date.
     - In the Hall there are 23 sports represented:
       - 11 teams
       - 43 Athletes
       - 35 Builders

4. **A brief plan of the proposed service programs for the coming year**
   - Fundraising Pub Night on February 1st

- Induction Ceremony on June 10th
- Fall Fundraising Event: details to be determined
- Continue to update the website
    - Board volunteers access to Hall documents (secured)
- Continue to catalogue artifacts
- Formalize communication with alumni to foster a connection with the CSHOF
- Continue to work with the city and look for opportunities to expand to new facilities (ie. displays at the new Burke Mtn Community Centre)
- Continue working with Coquitlam Heritage Society