



PEACE RIVER REGIONAL DISTRICT

MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK PLAN



Regional Park Design Study | February 2018





View to Charlie Lake from Montney Centennial Regional Park

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	III
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	V
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Purpose of the Plan	1
1.2 Planning Process.....	2
2 THE PARK TODAY	3
2.1 Park Location	3
2.2 Park Context	4
2.3 Existing Park Elements	8
2.4 Key Park Challenges.....	13
2.5 Park Users and Activities	14
2.6 Trend Analysis	16
2.7 Demand Analysis	17
3 WHAT WE HEARD	21
3.1 Engagement Process Overview	21
3.2 Public Input #1: Gathering ideas.....	22
3.3 Public Input #2: Review of Draft Concepts & Recommendations	24
4 VISION, GOALS & PROGRAM.....	27
4.1 Vision	27
4.2 Goals.....	28
4.3 Park Concept	29
5 RECOMMENDATIONS	31
5.1 Overview	31
5.2 Recommendations List.....	31
6 IMPLEMENTATION.....	51
6.1 Overview	51
6.2 Funding Strategies	52
6.3 Capital Cost Estimates.....	53
6.4 Operations & Maintenance	55
REFERENCES	57

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Public Input #1 Summary

Appendix B: Preliminary concept options

Appendix C: Public Input #2 Summary

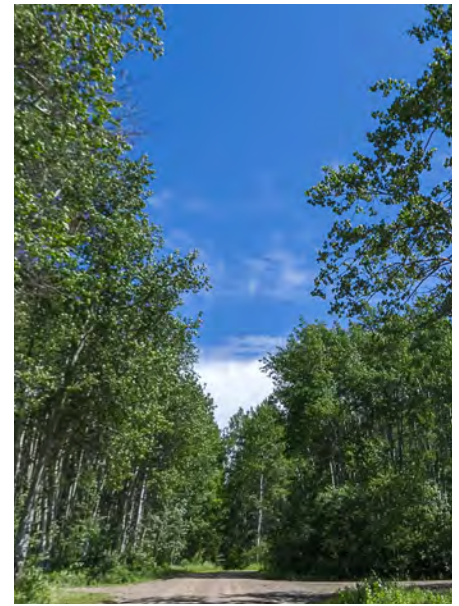
FIGURES

Figure 1: Process for the Regional Park Design Study	2
Figure 2: Location of Montney Centennial Regional Park	3
Figure 3: Montney Centennial Regional Park Context.....	5
Figure 4: Montney Centennial Regional Existing Features.....	9
Figure 5: The Camping Spectrum.....	15
Figure 6: Campsites in Close Proximity to Montney Centennial Regional Park	17
Figure 7: Typical Destination Trail	32
Figure 8: Typical Nature Trail	32
Figure 9: Potential Trail Routes.....	33
Figure 10: Recommended Campsite Improvement Phasing.....	34
Figure 11: General Campsite Layouts.....	38
Figure 12: Preliminary Vault Toilet Locations.....	40
Figure 13: Recommended Road Improvements.....	42
Figure 14: Suggested Amenities for the Play & Picnic Area	44
Figure 15: Potential Sign Locations & Types	47
Figure 16: Potential Recreational Development Area	49

TABLES

Table 1: Types of Campers	14
Table 2: Campsites within a 50 km Radius of Montney Centennial Regional Park.....	18
Table 3: Potential Funding Sources.....	52
Table 4: Capital Cost Estimate Phasing Summary	53
Table 5: High-Level Operational / Revenue Budget Summary (per Season).....	55

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



The Regional Park Design Study for Montney Centennial Regional Park has been undertaken by the Peace River Regional District (PRRD) with support from Lanarc 2015 Consultants Ltd. to explore the potential of enhancing the park to meet current and future recreation demands.

The Study was initiated in July 2017 and was completed in February 2018. During the Study process, the Project team engaged with PRRD staff, committee, and elected officials, local stakeholders, and community members in the Peace River Regional District to understand the park and gather ideas on future possibilities for enhancements.

The project has been guided by PRRD staff as well as the PRRD Board and Regional Parks Committee. The support provided by these groups has been fundamental to the Study.

During the Study, we heard from a range of community members who provided local knowledge and shared their visions for the park. We greatly appreciate the ideas, insights, and comments from everyone who participated in this process by attending the public events, sharing thoughts via phone and email, and responding to public questionnaires – thank you for your input. We hope that the resulting plan incorporates ideas that you have shared.

The outcome of this process is intended to be a realistic, implementable, and phased plan that serves as a guide for the future of Montney Centennial Regional Park. The plan outlines a proposed vision and recommendations to enhance the park's role as an outdoor destination for community residents and visitors today and into the future.

Campground access road at Montney Centennial Regional Park



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



INTRODUCTION

Montney Centennial Regional Park, situated on the northeast side of Charlie Lake, provides a rustic campground off the beaten track. Visitors are mainly local residents who enjoy the solitude of the area and the access to Charlie Lake. However, this solitude has also contributed to operational challenges for the park, with prohibited and undesirable activities being reported.

The Peace River Regional District (PRRD), owner and operator of Montney Centennial Regional Park, undertook a **Regional Park Design Study** to explore potential park improvements. A park plan outlines a concept and long-term strategy for enhancing the unique features of a park by making recommendations for future development, budget planning, operations, and management.

This plan is a high-level living document intended to guide overall improvements in Montney Centennial Regional Park over time, while remaining flexible to evolve based on new knowledge, experience, and changing public needs.

The Regional Park Design Study, completed concurrently for **Montney Centennial** and **Blackfoot Regional Parks**, followed a three-phase process (see below) initiated in July 2017 and completed in February 2018.

This document outlines recommendations for **Montney Centennial Regional Park**. Recommendations for **Blackfoot Regional Park** are in a separate plan.

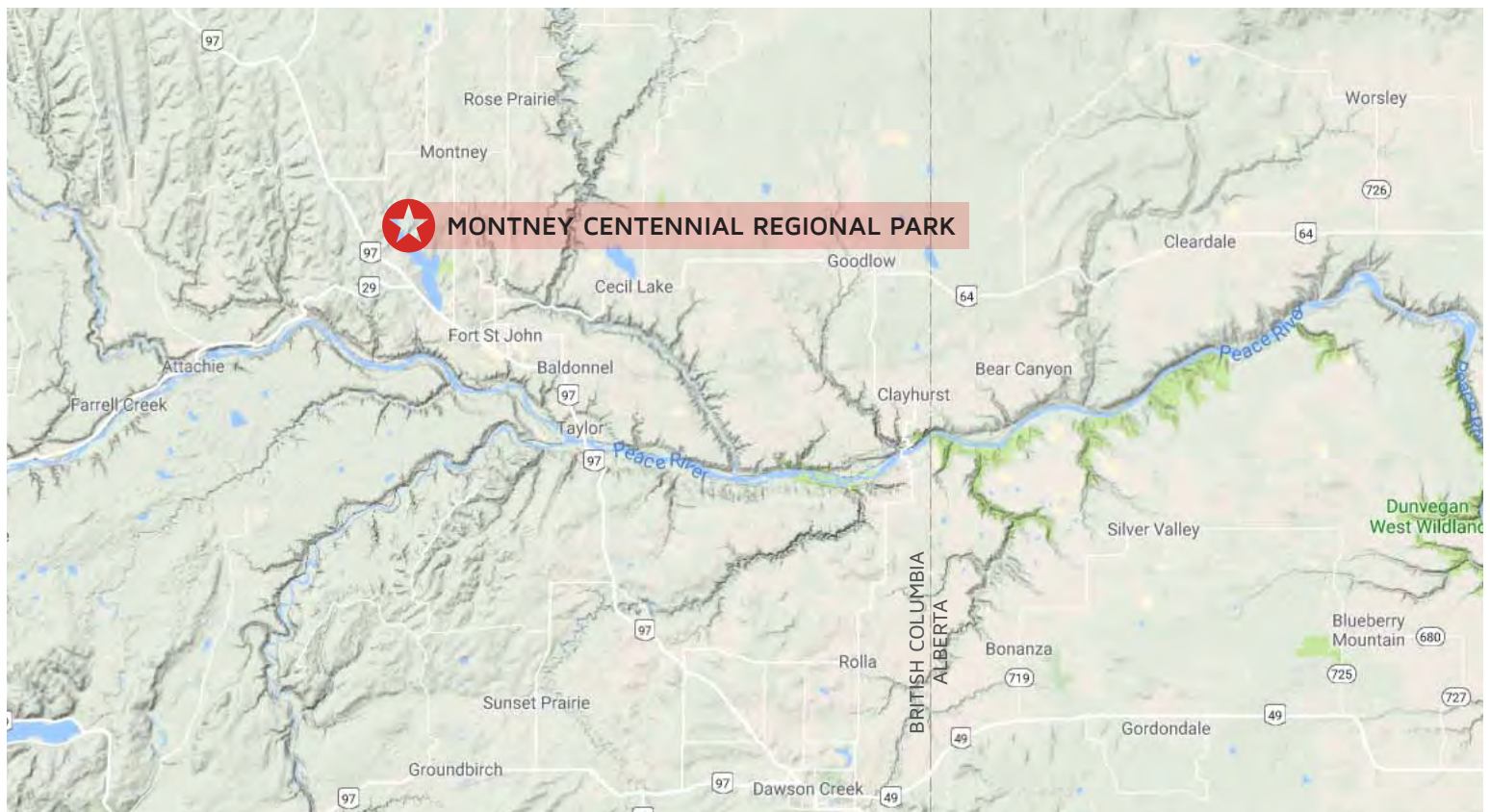


THE PARK TODAY

Montney Centennial Regional Park is 22.8 ha in size and includes the following key components:

- ▶ **Park Entry:** There is one park access from 279 Road. A heritage sign marks the park entrance and directional signs were installed in 2017 to improve navigation to the park.
- ▶ **Access Roads:** The entry road leads to a crossroads in the centre of the park where visitors can turn left (south) to the campsite area, right (north) to a gated access to the Northland Trailblazers Club, or stay straight (west) down to Charlie Lake. Steep sections of roadway currently present access challenges.
- ▶ **Park Entry Area:** The entry area includes a sign with park rules and regulations, garbage receptacles, a small information kiosk, and two pit toilets.
- ▶ **Boat Launch Area:** At the lake, there is a small area for boat launching and a single campsite. This is the only location in the public park area with access to Charlie Lake.
- ▶ **Vehicle Campsites:** There are six vehicle campsites along the campsite access road and one at the lakeshore. Campsites are road pull-offs, marked with a picnic table and fire ring.
- ▶ **Lake Shoreline:** The park borders Charlie Lake; however much of the shoreline area has steep slopes, limiting lake access.
- ▶ **Wooded Area:** Most of the park (approximately 90% - 95%) is wooded area, comprised mainly of aspen trees with heavy undergrowth. Parts of this area have steep grades, at times exceeding 20%.
- ▶ **Lease Area:** The Northland Trailblazers Snowmobile Club leases approximately 4 ha of the northern part of the park.
- ▶ **Northland Trailblazers Clubhouse & Dock:** The club has built a small clubhouse and deck, along with a dock on Charlie Lake. There are also pit toilets and parking.

Location of Montney Centennial Regional Park



KEY PARK CHALLENGES

Key challenges considered in the planning process for Montney Centennial Regional Park included:

- ▶ **Location:** The park's remote location means people must be purposeful in choosing to visit.
- ▶ **Awareness:** There is limited awareness about the park, amenities, and location.
- ▶ **Alternative Camping Options:** Charlie Lake has a large number of potential camping sites, including two Provincial Parks (Beatton and Charlie Lake) and two private campgrounds (Rotary RV Park and Charlie Lake RV and Leisure Park) which collectively offer over 200 campsites, three boat launches, and trails and amenities.
- ▶ **Safety:** Observations suggest there are issues with disruptive behaviour in the park, including firearm activity, drug use, partying, and noise, in part due to low use and lack of passive surveillance to discourage these activities.
- ▶ **Lack of Services:** The park has no potable water, sanitary, or electricity service and its rural location would make it costly to extend services.
- ▶ **Quality of Campsites:** The existing campsites are located along a wide access road and have little separation or privacy, limiting the attractiveness of the park to people seeking camping in a park-like setting.
- ▶ **No Recreational Amenities:** Aside from camping areas and a boat launch, the park offers no recreation amenities.
- ▶ **Limited Boat Access:** The existing boat launch provides access to Charlie Lake, but has minimal improvements (e.g., no ramp or parking). There are other launches on Charlie Lake that are developed to a higher standard (e.g., Beatton Provincial Park, Charline Lake Provincial Park, Rotary Park).

ENGAGEMENT

An integral component of the Regional Park Design Study was understanding the values and concerns of community members and stakeholders so that the resulting plan for Montney Centennial Regional Park is comprehensive and publicly supported.

The process included two rounds of engagement:

▶ **Public Input #1: Gathering Ideas**

Public Input #1 focused on gathering information and perspectives about the park today and hearing ideas for future improvements. Engagement included public outreach, an interactive community event on Saturday, July 29, 2017 at Montney Centennial Regional Park, alongside the PRRD's "Park Day" event, and a public questionnaire.

▶ **Public Input #2: Review of Draft Concepts and Recommendations**

Public Input #2 focused on defining a realistic and supported concept and framework for the park based on two illustrated concepts. Engagement included outreach, public displays at the U17 World Hockey Tournament in Fort St. John and Dawson Creek, and a response form to gather opinions on preferred directions.

VISION

A vision statement describes a long-term future for Montney Centennial Regional Park. It is a guiding statement and a touchstone for consideration when making decisions about changes and development.

Montney Centennial Regional Park offers unique and rustic recreational experiences on Charlie Lake that invite people to stay for a day or for a week and enjoy leisure and relaxation in a lakefront forest. The park will become increasingly well-used as new opportunities to play are added.

GOALS

Three goals support realization of the vision by providing specific guidance for future park projects:

► *Attract a Wider Range of Visitors*

- » Expand potential recreational pursuits in the park to attract a broader range of park visitors
- » Encourage unique experiences that are not readily available in the surrounding area
- » Support partnerships with clubs and organizations to develop recreation amenities and add amenity to the park

► *Enhance the Lake & Camping Experience*

- » Seek ways to better connect park amenities with Charlie Lake, capitalizing on the lakefront setting
- » Enhance existing campsites to increase the feeling of being in nature and add privacy, shade, and character to the sites
- » Encourage increased park use and passive surveillance, as well as potentially enhanced monitoring, to decrease undesirable activities

► *Plan for Economic Sustainability*

- » Work to establish strategic partnerships and grants that help manage capital and park operation costs
- » Maintain the park as a free or low-cost camping area in the near future
- » Plan and manage improvements incrementally, minimizing maintenance and operational costs, while still providing a higher quality experience

PARK CONCEPT

The park concept on the facing page outlines the key recommended improvements for Montney Centennial Regional Park. The concept corresponds with the recommendation in **Section 5** of this plan.

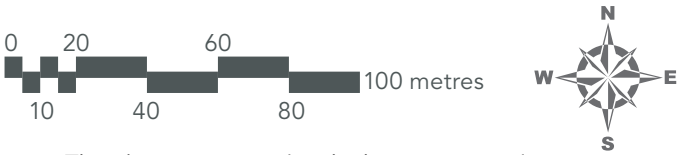
PARK CONCEPT



PROGRAM

Given the varied camping options already existing on Charlie Lake, it is anticipated that Montney will remain a rustic, modest campground in the foreseeable future. However, improvement and expansion of day-use activity areas, along with support for local clubs and groups to consider the park for development of new recreation amenities is encouraged to help expand the park's recreational value.

LEGEND



Note: The above concept sketch shows a general arrangement of proposed future improvements at Montney Centennial Regional Park. More detailed investigation will be required to verify actual siting of amenities based on terrain, geographical features, and existing vegetation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The park plan identifies 8 potential park improvements. **Section 5** of the plan provides details about each park improvement in a recommendation summary with costing for planning and budgeting purposes. The table below provides a brief summary of the recommendations.

#	Recommendation	Description
1	Develop a Trail Network	Develop a series of nature trails that support exploration and adventure including hiking loops and links between campsites and recreation destinations.
2	Improve Existing Campsites and Consider Campsite Expansion only if Demand Increases	Improve the existing campsites to enhance the quality and experience. If camping demand grows in the park, consider additional vehicle and tenting sites along the existing access road. Only consider long-term expansion of new camping areas if demand significantly increases or a user group comes forward to form a partnership.
3	Take Steps to Improving Public Perceptions about Park Safety	Continue to provide weekend maintenance services at the park, while encouraging more passive and/or active surveillance.
4	Add New Vault Toilets at Key Locations	Replace the two existing vault toilets with three new vault toilets at key locations to improve access from camping and recreation areas.
5	Upgrade Existing Roads & Add Parking	Upgrade the main park entry road and add day-use parking in key locations.
6	Develop a Lakefront Recreation Area	Develop a waterfront recreation area that provides a destination for park activities including a fishing dock, nature playground, picnic shelter, and potentially an improved boat launch.
7	Update Wayfinding & Signage	Add to existing signs to improve park navigation and attractiveness.
8	Encourage Recreation Groups to Develop Compatible Activities in the Park	Consider proposals from organized groups to develop compatible, low-impact recreation activities in underused portions of the park.

IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation of the recommendations in the Montney Centennial Regional Park Plan will likely be phased over time. The plan suggests a potential phasing and cost budget estimate summary (below) based on priorities identified through community input and logical phasing of projects. For more details on implementation, see **Section 6** of the plan. Staff should regularly review the recommendations and prepare strategies for funding and implementation of priority projects for Board consideration.

#	Recommendation	Preliminary Capital Cost Allowance*
PHASE A		
1.1	Large Loop Hiking Trail	\$21,000
2.1	Existing Campsite Improvements (including road narrowing, turn-around, fencing, and revegetation)	\$72,000
4.1	Remove Existing and Add New Vault Toilet near Future Tenting Area	\$20,000
5.1	Improve Existing Entry Road	\$24,000
6.1	Fishing Dock	\$29,000
7.1	Refurbished Park Entry Sign	\$9,000
PHASE A TOTAL:		\$175,000
PHASE B		
1.2	Small Loop & Connection Trails	\$7,000
2.2	Tent Camping Area	\$58,000
3.1	Fee Collection Box	\$2,000
4.2	Vault Toilet in the South End of the Park	\$17,000
4.3	Vault Toilet in the Lakefront Recreation Area	\$17,000
5.3	Day-use Parking at the Tent Camping Area	\$17,000
5.4	Day-use Parking at the South End of Campground	\$21,000
6.2	Lakefront Playground & Open Space Area	\$91,000
7.2	Park Kiosks & Maps	\$8,000
PHASE B TOTAL:		\$238,000
PHASE C		
2.3	Develop 6 to 7 New Campsites along Existing Access Road	\$54,000
6.3	Upgraded Boat Launch	\$78,000
6.4	Picnic Shelter	\$76,000
PHASE C TOTAL:		\$208,000
TOTAL, ALL PHASES:		\$621,000

*Cost allowances include a 30% contingency due to the pricing and quantity variables associated with this level of planning including unknowns and inflationary factors. Costs also include an add-on of 15% to 30% to account for design and engineering fees during detailed design development. Note that even with a 30% contingency built into the estimates, annual inflationary and market conditions will always need to be taken into consideration in the intervening years up to the point of actual implementation. These allowances provide an order of magnitude +/- 30% and illustrate relative costs among components. More accurate site information and engineering is required prior to final budgeting and implementation. The above summary does not include costs for potential partnership projects or long-tern expansion of campground areas. These costs could range significantly depending on agreements and circumstances.

1 | INTRODUCTION



A park plan outlines a concept and long-term strategy for enhancing the unique features of a park by making recommendations for future development, budget planning, operations, and management. This plan is a high-level living document intended to guide overall improvements in Montney Centennial Regional Park, while remaining flexible to evolve based on new knowledge, experience, and changing public needs.

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

Montney Centennial Regional Park, situated on the northeast side of Charlie Lake, provides a rustic campground off the beaten track.

Visitors are mainly local residents who enjoy the solitude of the area and the access to Charlie Lake. However, this solitude has also contributed to operational challenges for the park, with prohibited and undesirable activities being reported. Improvements, such as addition of new recreation activities and functions to attract more park users to Montney, could help increase "eyes on the park" and discourage undesirable activities over time.

The Peace River Regional District (PRRD), owner and operator of Montney Centennial Regional Park, undertook a Regional Park Design Study to explore potential park improvements. The intent of this plan is not to illustrate an exact or final layout for all potential improvements; rather to provide a guiding concept for planning and implementing future changes over time.

The plan was undertaken with the following objectives:

- ▶ Understand how the park is used today;
- ▶ Engage with stakeholders, members of the public, PRRD Board members, Regional Park Committee members, and PRRD staff;
- ▶ Understand key issues and develop potential solutions to address these issues;
- ▶ Develop a strong vision and concept; and
- ▶ Outline recommendations to plan, prioritize, and budget for park improvements over time, as funding opportunities arise.

Recommendations in this plan should be reviewed and adjusted regularly to reflect changing context and user needs.

1.2 PLANNING PROCESS

The **Regional Park Design Study**, completed concurrently for **Montney Centennial** and **Blackfoot Regional Parks**, followed a three-phase process shown below. The Study was initiated in July 2017, with completion in February 2018 following approval from the PRRD Board. This document outlines recommendations for **Montney Centennial Regional Park**. Recommendations for **Blackfoot Regional Park** are in a separate plan.

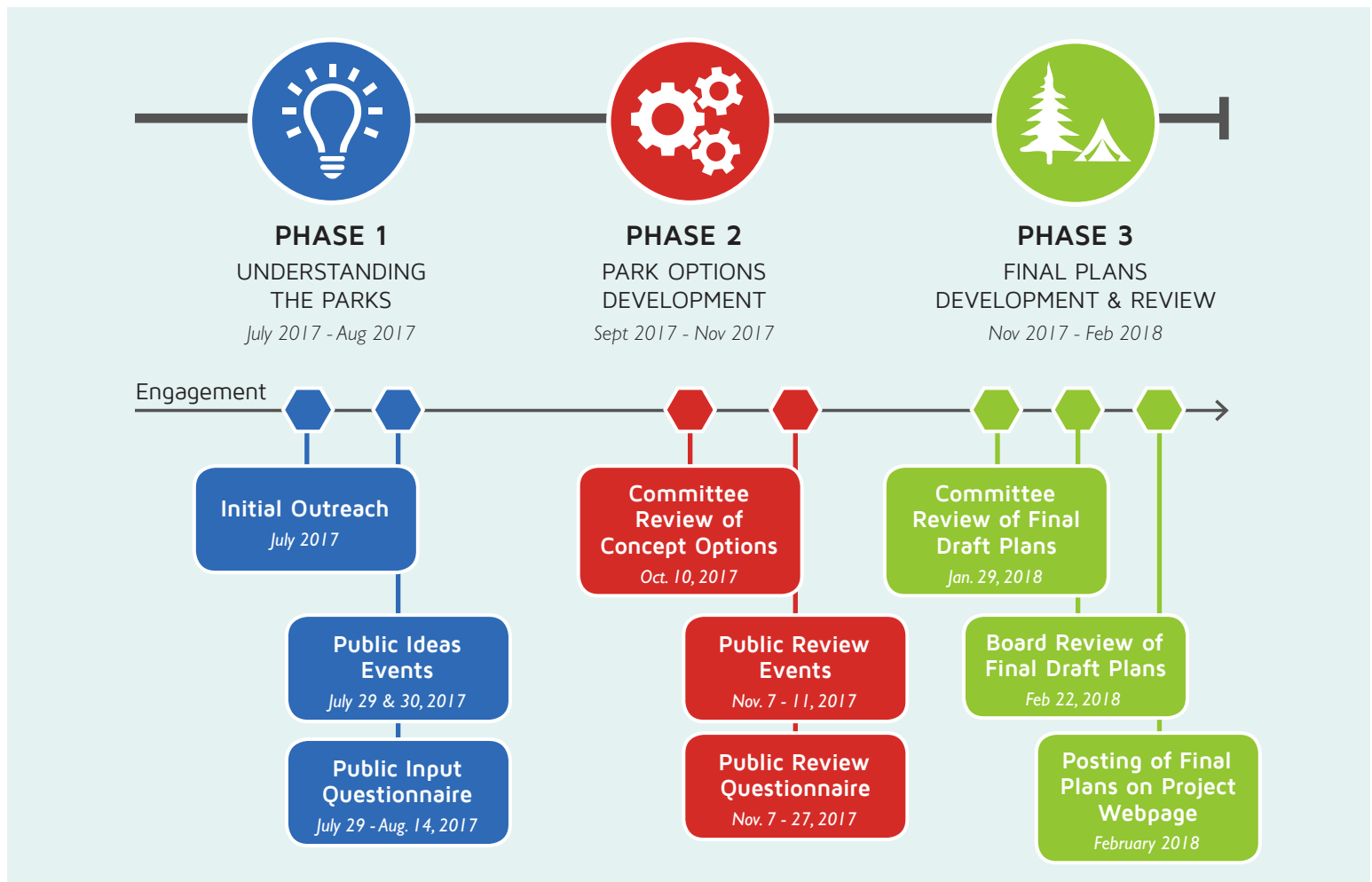


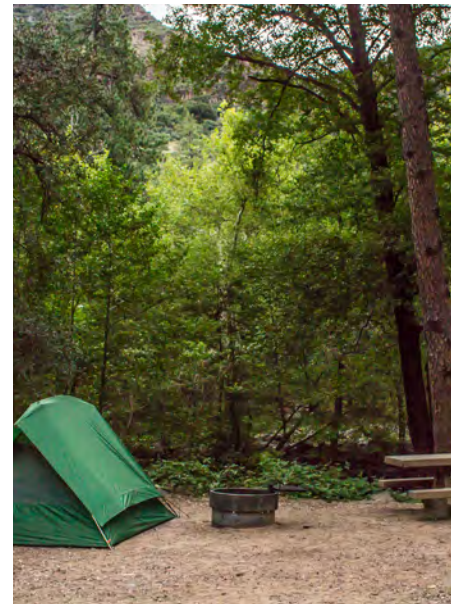
Figure 1: Process for the Regional Park Design Study

The Study invited public input during Phase 1 and Phase 2:

- **Public Input #1: Gathering Ideas** (July 2017) gathered information on key issues, potential amenities, ideas for improving the parks, and identification of precedents.
- **Public Input #2: Review of Draft Concepts & Recommendations** (November 2017) invited feedback on draft options and recommendations to be considered in the development of a preferred concept and plan for each park.

A summary of the engagement is provided in **Section 3**.

2 | THE PARK TODAY

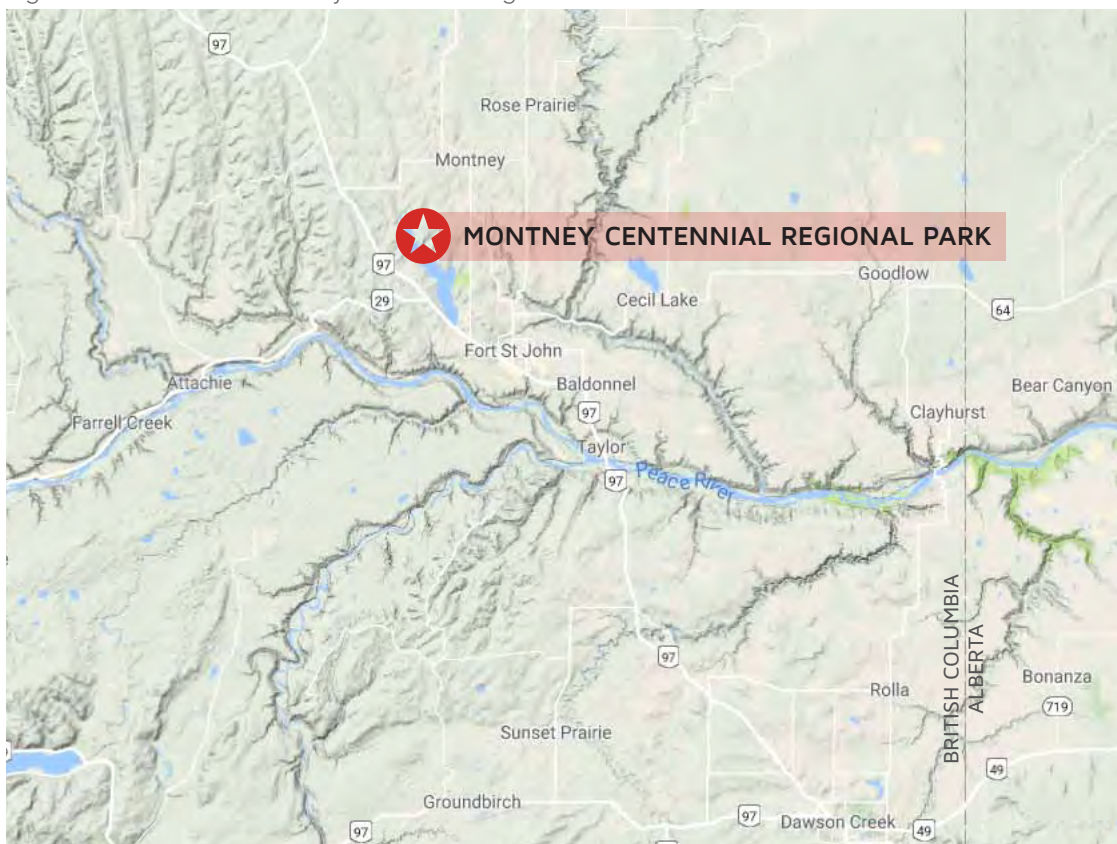


Understanding the physical and historical context of Montney Centennial Regional Park provides a starting point for planning for the park's future.

2.1 PARK LOCATION

Montney Centennial Regional Park is situated on the northeast side of Charlie Lake approximately 35 km northwest of Fort St. John and 15 km southwest of the rural community of Montney. Surrounding lands are mainly rural agricultural areas along with some residential areas surrounding Charlie Lake.

Figure 2: Location of Montney Centennial Regional Park



Montney Centennial Regional Park is one of the PRRD's five regional parks.

In the PRRD, a regional park is defined as a "set-aside" property or area that is significant to all people within the entire regional district in both urban and rural areas. Furthermore, a regional park within the PRRD provides opportunities for a variety of outdoor recreation activities – including camping (where appropriate) – and plays a role, where possible, in environmental and heritage preservation.

2.2 PARK CONTEXT

THE REGION

The PRRD is comprised of seven incorporated municipalities and four rural electoral districts and covers approximately 117,387 km². According to BC Stats, the 2016 population for the PRRD was 62,942 with about two-thirds of residents residing in municipalities and the remaining one-third in rural areas. Regional Parks play a key role in providing access to outdoor recreation, especially as more residents choose to live in urban areas.

The region saw a 4.8% increase in population from 2011 to 2016, adding to a 3.1% increase between 2006 to 2011, indicating moderate, sustained growth in the PRRD. Census data shows that people living in the PRRD are younger than elsewhere in BC, with the average age of the population at 35.9, compared to BC's average at 42.3.

LEGAL & LAND USE

LEGAL DESCRIPTION

Blocks D, E & F and that portion of Block C of Section 23 together with those portions of the SE ¼, Section 23 and all of Township 85, Range 20

The park is secured through a Crown Lease of Occupation (No. 811645), tenured originally by the Montney Recreation Commission to develop the site as a Canada Centennial Project in 1967 and assumed by the Regional District in 1988.

Montney Centennial Regional Park is designated in PRRD's Rural Official Community Plan (Bylaw No. 1940, 2011) as Park and Natural Environment. The objectives of this designation are to support community groups and other organizations in identifying and protecting culturally and ecologically valuable features and to help provide recreational destinations.

CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT

Montney Centennial Regional Park is 22.8 ha in size and situated on the northeast shore of Charlie Lake. The location is within the Boreal Plains Ecoprovince, which is part of the Alberta Plateau, and is within the Peace Lowland Ecosection that includes the Peace River and its main tributaries. The area consists of plateaus, prairies, and lowlands with deep riverbeds. Lands are used primarily for farming, oil and natural gas exploration, and some forestry. The area is characterized by the Boreal White and Black Spruce biogeoclimatic zone and moist warm subzone (BWBSmwl) (Demarchi, 2011).

The region has cold, snowy winters, and spring and fall temperatures can be cool, potentially affecting park use during the shoulder seasons. Summer is the main camping season and tends to be dry and warm during the day, but can cool substantially in the evenings (to below 10°C).

Montney Centennial Regional Park is located on the northeast side of Charlie Lake with prevailing winds that blow towards the park. Reports suggest prevailing winds can affect boat launching or other lakeshore activities. The park has a western aspect that invites late afternoon and evening sun from across Charlie Lake, creating a potentially pleasant evening climate.

The park is situated in a wooded area mainly composed of poplar and aspen trees as well as birch, spruce, and shrubby undergrowth. The park's treed lakefront setting provides a rich habitat for nesting bird populations and Charlie Lake is home to walleye, pike, and perch (PRRD, 2000). This wooded character is one of Montney's best assets, providing potential for future expansion of recreational uses.

TOPOGRAPHY & HYDROLOGY

Montney Centennial Regional Park slopes from east to west towards Charlie Lake with averaged slopes ranging from 8% to 14%. Contours show plateaus in the vicinity of the existing campsites and Northland Trailblazers clubhouse site, bounded by steeper grades. Additional plateaus appear to exist in the central and west parts of the park (to be confirmed by more detailed grading information), which may be the most viable areas for any additional development in the park. .

Lake access is limited to the northern parts of the park as the shoreline steepens significantly in the southern half.

ACCESS

The park is on Centennial Park Road / 279 Road which is accessed via a series of rural roads from the south (from Fort St. John) or the north (from Montney). The routes are unpaved and in fair condition.

Within the park, a single gravel-topped road provides access to the campsites, lake, and Northland Trailblazers clubhouse site. Road grades are steep and there are portions of road in poor condition.

The park does not have an existing trail network.



Figure 3: Montney Centennial Regional Park Context

RELEVANT DOCUMENTS

The following documents provide guidance when planning for Montney Centennial Regional Park:

Rural Official Community Plan Bylaw 1940

Montney Centennial Regional Park will adhere to guidelines outlined in the Rural OCP. The Rural OCP outlines goals to support the establishment of parks and recreational facilities with the recreational use of Crown land to enhance lifestyle opportunities.

Key policies for lands designated Park and Natural Environments include:

- ▶ Principle uses of land should include, but not be limited to, outdoor recreation, campgrounds, agriculture, ecological reserves, work that supports ecological protection, conservation, or restoration, and interpretive structures.
- ▶ Collaboration with the public, not-for-profits, government agencies, or other organizations to identify and protect environmentally-sensitive areas is encouraged.
- ▶ Collaboration should be undertaken with the Province, stakeholders, and agencies to address "all terrain recreational vehicle (ATV) use" and discourage ATV damage.

Parks Regulation Bylaw 860

Bylaw 860 provides regulation and use of community and regional parks.

The bylaw outlines regulations for camping and special park use permits. At present, a permit for camping or other activities is not required for Montney Centennial Regional Park and the PRRD does not have a reservation system to administer permits. The bylaw also includes rules and regulations for use of parks.

Regional Parks and Trails Master Plan

PRRD's Regional Parks and Trails Master Plan (2014) outlines recommendations for Montney Centennial Regional Park, primarily:

- ▶ Design and construct additional camping area and sites including additional pit toilets.
- ▶ Improved amenities such as playground elements, a fishing dock, and trails.

Peace River Regional District Lakeshore Development Guidelines

In 2000, the PRRD developed Lakeshore Development Guidelines to help guide environmentally-responsible development on lands in proximity to lakes in the Peace River Regional District. The guidelines apply to private lands situated within 300 metres of the natural boundary of lakes within the PRRD.

While Montney Centennial Regional Park is public land, where possible, future development should adhere to the guidelines to help manage development on lakeshore lands for the benefit of the environment and the community. The guidelines provide direction on siting, design, access, vegetation management, and construction materials for development in the lakeshore area.

*Enhancing recreation opportunities at Montney Centennial Regional Park
was suggested during the Regional Parks and Trails Master Plan in 2014*



2.3 EXISTING PARK ELEMENTS

Montney Centennial Regional Park is a day-use park and campground. Figure 4 documents the existing park features and initial observations about their current function. The numbers on Figure 4 correspond with descriptions below and on subsequent pages.

1 PARK ENTRY

ABOUT: There is one park access to Montney Centennial Regional Park from 279 Road. A heritage sign marks the park entrance.

KEY OBSERVATIONS:

- ▶ A common issue raised is difficulty finding and accessing the park, as well as limited information about amenities available at the park.
- ▶ Directional signs were installed on the route from Fort St. John in 2017, improving navigation to the park.
- ▶ The existing park sign has a strong heritage character, but its deterioration and set-back make it difficult to see from the road.



The existing park sign has a heritage character, but is set back into vegetation making it difficult to see.

2 ACCESS ROADS

ABOUT: The entry road leads to a crossroads in the centre of the park. At the crossroad, visitors can turn left (south) to the campsite area, right (north) to a gated access to the Northland Trailblazers Club, or stay straight (west) down to Charlie Lake.

KEY OBSERVATIONS:

- ▶ Sections of the road (campsite area, lake access) are much wider than needed for vehicle travel which is a limitation to creating an intimate, campground-like character.
- ▶ There is a steep section of roadway at the park access road where erosion and mud can present challenges for people towing trailers.
- ▶ There is no designated parking. Users typically park along the sides of the road where space permits.



The campsite access road is substantially wider than needed for access. It is up to 14 m wide in some locations; two-way access roads are typically 6 to 7 m wide.



A gated access road leads to the lease area.

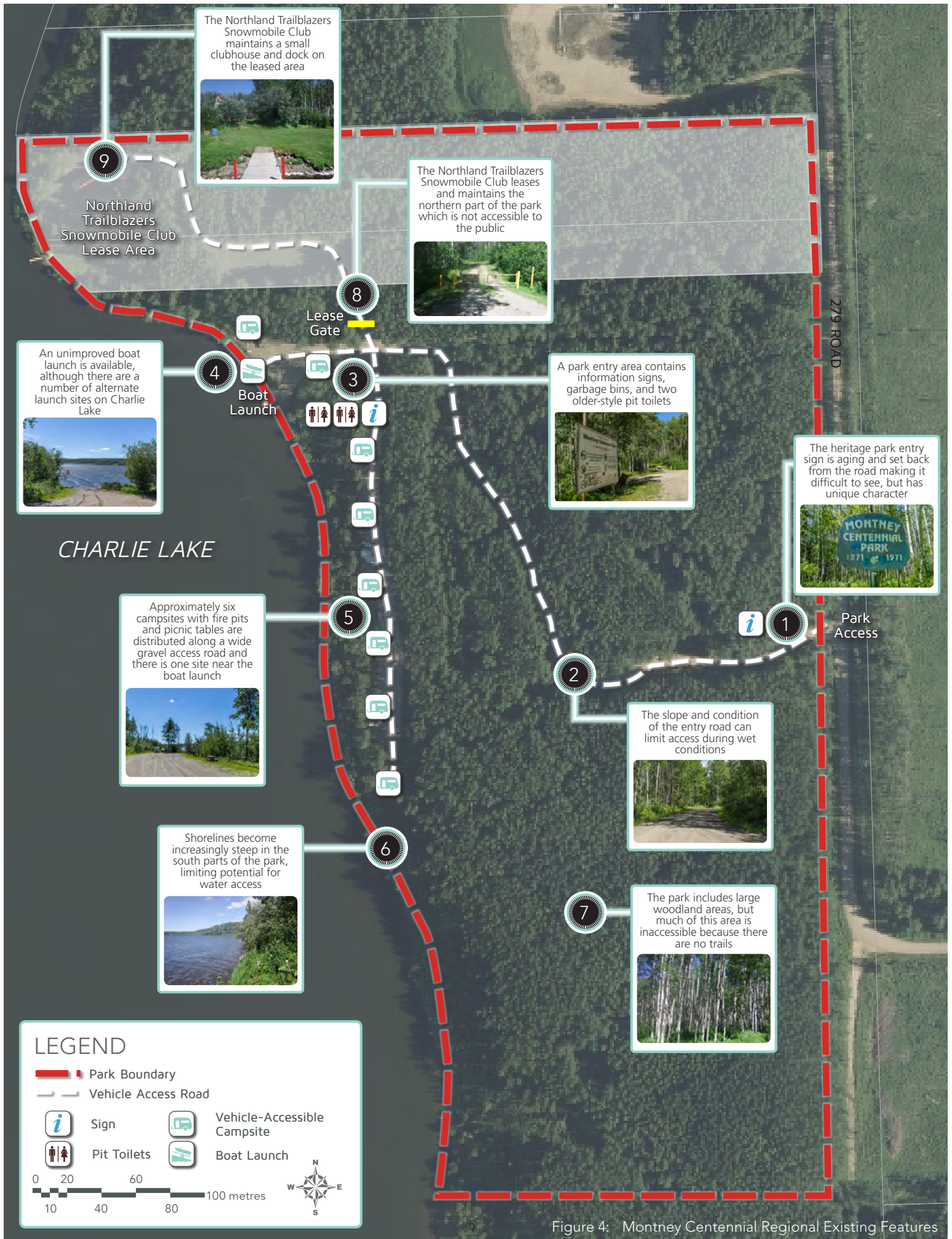


Figure 4: Montney Centennial Regional Existing Features

3 PARK ENTRY AREA

ABOUT: The entry area includes a sign with park rules and regulations, garbage receptacles, a small information kiosk, and two pit toilets.

KEY OBSERVATIONS:

- ▶ The toilets are aging and replacement will soon be necessary.
- ▶ The existing toilets are not in an easily accessible location from the road; users must descend a slope to reach them.
- ▶ The furthest campsite is about 225 m from the toilets.
- ▶ There are signs of vandalism in the area including graffiti and bullet damage to the signs and garbage receptacles.

4 BOAT LAUNCH AREA

ABOUT: At the lake edge, there is a small area that is used for motorized and non-motorized boat launching, as well as a single campsite.

KEY OBSERVATIONS:

- ▶ The boat launch does not have a ramp or other improvements and the area can get muddy during wet weather.
- ▶ The launch area is the only location (outside the lease area) where there is access to Charlie Lake.
- ▶ Prevailing winds blow to the east on Charlie Lake, so a significant amount of debris, reeds, and flotsam accumulate in the area.
- ▶ Much of this area is open gravel area used for turning boat trailers and a single campsite.
- ▶ Space is an issue for the launch area – there is little space for parking boat trailers in a way that they do not affect launching manoeuvres.



The existing pit toilets are an older concrete-style and will require replacement in the near future.



The entry area could be enhanced to include additional information about camping and space for day-use parking.



Water currents deposit debris near the existing boat launch area.

5 VEHICLE CAMPSITES

ABOUT: There are approximately seven vehicle campsites in the park – six along the access road and one at the lakeshore. Campsites are generally marked with a picnic table and fire ring.

KEY OBSERVATIONS:

- ▶ The campsites are road pull-offs, with little definition, privacy, or shade.
- ▶ The single camping at the lakeshore includes lake views, but when it is occupied by a camper, this area is generally not available to other visitors.
- ▶ Vandalism of campsite amenities has been an issue.



Typical campsites are a pull-off from the access road marked by a picnic table and fire ring.

6 LAKE SHORELINE

ABOUT: The park borders Charlie Lake; however much of the park has steep slopes, limiting lake access opportunities.

KEY OBSERVATIONS:

- ▶ The north part of the park has flatter shoreline grades and the lake is accessible at the boat launch area and within the lease area.
- ▶ In the south part of the park, steeper shorelines are likely not suitable for lake access.



The shoreline in the south part of the park has steeper slopes and heavy vegetation, making it less suitable for lake access.

7 WOODED AREA

ABOUT: Most of the park (about 90% to 95%) is wooded area, comprised mainly of aspen trees with heavy undergrowth.

KEY OBSERVATIONS:

- ▶ Most of this area is inaccessible as there are no park trails.
- ▶ There are steep grades throughout the wooded areas, at times exceeding 20%.
- ▶ Opportunities may exist to expand recreation amenities in these areas.



Vegetation in the park is largely aspen tree canopy with a herbaceous understory.

8 LEASE AREA

ABOUT: The Northland Trailblazers Snowmobile Club leases approximately 4 ha of the northern part of the park for a clubhouse and meeting area.

KEY OBSERVATIONS:

- ▶ This portion of the park includes some of the flatter grades within Montney Centennial.
- ▶ Access is limited to club members; a gate restricts vehicle access at the main crossroad.
- ▶ The snowmobile club has helped with snow plowing to support access during the winter months.

9 NORTHLAND TRAILBLAZERS CLUBHOUSE & DOCK

ABOUT: The club has built a small clubhouse and deck, along with a dock on Charlie Lake. There are also pit toilets and parking.

KEY OBSERVATIONS:

- ▶ The club maintains the park area within the lease boundary.
- ▶ Strategic clearing has been completed to provide space for club events.
- ▶ Club members have reported that boats accessing the park have previously landed at their dock.



The lease area is maintained by the club.



The club has developed a small clubhouse building on the lease area.



There is a small dock on Charlie Lake where shoreline slopes are gentle.

2.4 KEY PARK CHALLENGES

Key challenges to be considered in the planning process for Montney Centennial Regional Park include:

- ▶ **Location:** The park's remote location on the northeast shore of Charlie Lake, means people must be purposeful in choosing to visit.
 - ▶ **Awareness:** There is limited awareness and information available about the park, amenities, and location. In 2017, park direction signs were posted along the route from Fort St. John to help people navigate the rural road network to the park.
 - ▶ **Alternative Camping Options:** Charlie Lake has a large number of potential camping sites, including two well-developed Provincial Parks (Beatton and Charlie Lake) and two private campgrounds (Rotary RV Park and Charlie Lake RV and Leisure Park). Between these campgrounds, there are over 200 campsites (some unserviced, some serviced), three boat launches, and numerous trails and amenities. Finding a niche for Montney Centennial within this already well-serviced area is a challenge.
 - ▶ **Safety:** Observations and maintenance crew reports suggest there are issues with disruptive behaviour in the park, including firearm activity, drug use, partying, noise, etc. This may be in part due to the park's low level of use – there is little passive surveillance or reporting discourage these activities. In addition, the park's remote location makes it difficult to effectively police.
 - ▶ **Lack of Services:** The park has no potable water, sanitary, or electricity and its rural location would make it costly to extend services, in turn limiting options for serviced camping or a full-time park attendant. The remote location means access to nearby goods and services are also limited.
 - ▶ **Quality of Campsites:** The existing campsites are located along a wide access road and have little separation or privacy. This limits the attractiveness of the park to people seeking camping in a park-like setting.
 - ▶ **No Recreational Amenities:** Aside from camping areas and boat launch, the park offers no additional recreation amenities such as trails or play areas.
 - ▶ **Limited Boat Access:** The existing boat launch provides access to Charlie Lake, but has minimal improvements. There are other launches on Charlie Lake that are developed to a higher standard (e.g., Beatton Provincial Park, Charline Lake Provincial Park, Rotary Park).
- While there are limitations for Montney Centennial Regional Park, its location on Charlie Lake and the quiet, peaceful atmosphere can provide value to residents.



2.5 PARK USERS AND ACTIVITIES

Montney Centennial Regional Park's natural assets provide outdoor recreation opportunities. Participants in the Study identified the following activities occurring in Montney Centennial Regional Park:

- ▶ Picnicking
- ▶ Nature appreciation and learning
- ▶ Camping (RV or trailer)
- ▶ Camping (tent)
- ▶ Birdwatching
- ▶ Motorized sports (snowmobiling)
- ▶ Boating (motorized)
- ▶ Boating (non-motorized)
- ▶ Fishing

As part of planning for Montney Centennial Regional Park, it is important consider the types of campers using the park and the types that may be accommodated in the future.

As the camping experience has evolved, so too have the people participating in camping. Brooker and Meyer (2013) categorize types of campers in their article *"Trends in camping and outdoor hospitality - An international review."* Table 1 summarizes camper categories and provides commentary on whether they are likely / desired audiences for camping at Montney Centennial Regional Park.

Table 1: Types of Campers¹

Camper	Description	Anticipated Use of Montney Centennial Regional Park
Full-time Campers: Mobile	People who live year-round in a motorhome or trailer, but move from location to location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Low ▶ Potential for some mobile users to visit during summer months
Full-time Campers: Stationary	People who live year-round in a motorhome or trailer in one location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ None ▶ Not suitable for long-term camping
Long-term Campers: Seasonal	People who park their motorhome or trailer on a particular site for use on vacations or weekends during the camping season	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ None ▶ Not permitted at park ▶ No hookups or amenities available in foreseeable future
Long-term Campers: Workers	People who are employed in local industries and live temporarily in campgrounds during the work season	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ None ▶ Park location is likely too remote ▶ No hookups or amenities available in foreseeable future
Long-term Campers: Work Campers	People who are employed part-time by the campground for maintenance and administration in exchange for a site and access to amenities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ None ▶ No on-site position anticipated in foreseeable future

¹ Adapted from "Trends in camping and outdoor hospitality - An international review," Brooker and Meyer, 2013.

Camper	Description	Anticipated Use of Montney Centennial Regional Park
Short-term Campers: Families	Families that consider camping an affordable travel option and an opportunity for quality time and access to outdoor leisure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► High ► Additional amenities would attract more families to use the park
Short-term Campers: Partier	People who view camping as an opportunity to have fun, hang-out with friends, and relax	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► High ► Potential challenges due to limiting monitoring at the park
Short-term Campers: Soft-rugged	Mature campers who use motorhomes and RVs to increase the comfort of camping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Moderate ► Park planning could consider a range of vehicle types ► Access road grades may be a challenge for some larger vehicles
Short-term Campers: Extreme	Adventurers who seek out primitive, intense, and challenging wilderness experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Low ► Park does not provide access to "extreme" adventure
Short-term Campers: Average	People who participate in more "traditional" camping including the outdoors, campfires, a tent, and socializing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Moderate ► Enhancing amenities, adding a tenting area, and naturalizing existing sites may attract this group
Short-term Campers: Group	Collection of people who travel and camp together	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Moderate ► A variety of sites could encourage both individual and group opportunities

Figure 5: The Camping Spectrum



2.6 TREND ANALYSIS

Trends – local, regional, national, and international – affect how people use and enjoy parks. Trends evolve alongside community interests and pursuits over time. Current trends that may influence Montney Centennial Regional Park include:

Age Demographics:

The median age in Canada has been increasing through the past decade and the future proportion of senior citizens is anticipated to grow. Segments of this population pursue camping for leisure, but most often seek out amenities that make camping more comfortable and convenient.

At the other end of the spectrum, KOA's 2017 *North American Camping Report* shows an increasing number of Millennials participating in camping to "get away" from the busyness of daily life (KOA, 2017). Younger campers have shown a demand for group camping and experiences they can enjoy with their friends and family (KOA, 2017).

Camping Preferences:

Participation in camping continues to rise, attributable to factors such as the perceived value of natural experiences, increased variety of camping options, increased quality of products and amenities, and desire to escape the stress of daily life (Brooker & Joppe). KOA's 2017 *North American Camping Report* indicates that in 2016 approximately 66% of Canadians reported camping at least occasionally (KOA, 2017).

Public preferences for camping continues to evolve. In previous decades tents and small campers were the norm; however, today, many campers prefer large recreational vehicles and trailers equipped with a range of comforts including power, water, and sanitary. Campgrounds are evolving to accommodate the servicing and manoeuvring requirements of these vehicles. In Montney, physical challenges may limit potential for accommodating some sizes of campers.

Technology:

Today's campers expect more access to technology than before. A KOA study completed in 2015 indicated that over half (51%) of campers claim to go online at least once a day when camping and 41% say that having free Wi-Fi influences their decision to stay at a campground (KOA, 2015). Montney Centennial Regional Park does have cellular reception, but Wi-Fi is not anticipated.

Environment:

As the local climate changes, there may be warmer, wetter summers or colder, drier winters. In PRRD, climate-related issues such as wildfires, pest infestation, vegetation management, and lake water quality may affect Montney Centennial Regional Park. Careful consideration of potential environmental or climate challenges when planning capital investments and management will be important.



Image: Chemise Mountain, Bureau of Land Management, California

In recent years, camping is increasing in popularity as a way to escape the stress of daily living and reconnect with nature, family, and ourselves.

2.7 DEMAND ANALYSIS

Within the Peace River Regional District, there are four other regional parks; 35 Provincial Parks and Protected Areas; 21 Recreation Sites, and numerous private campgrounds. Understanding the other types of campgrounds within the local area assists when considering the type of facilities and services that may be desirable in Montney Centennial Regional Park. Identifying a niche will be important to encouraging use of the park.

There are four other publicly-owned campgrounds within 50 km of Montney Centennial Regional Park and five privately-owned campgrounds. Table 2 on the following page summarizes each of these. Four of the campgrounds are also on Charlie Lake providing over 200 potential campsites on the lake. Given the number of available sites in close proximity to Montney, and with all of these more easily accessed from population centres, demand for additional campsites at the park will likely remain relatively low.

Figure 6: Campsites in Close Proximity to Montney Centennial Regional Park

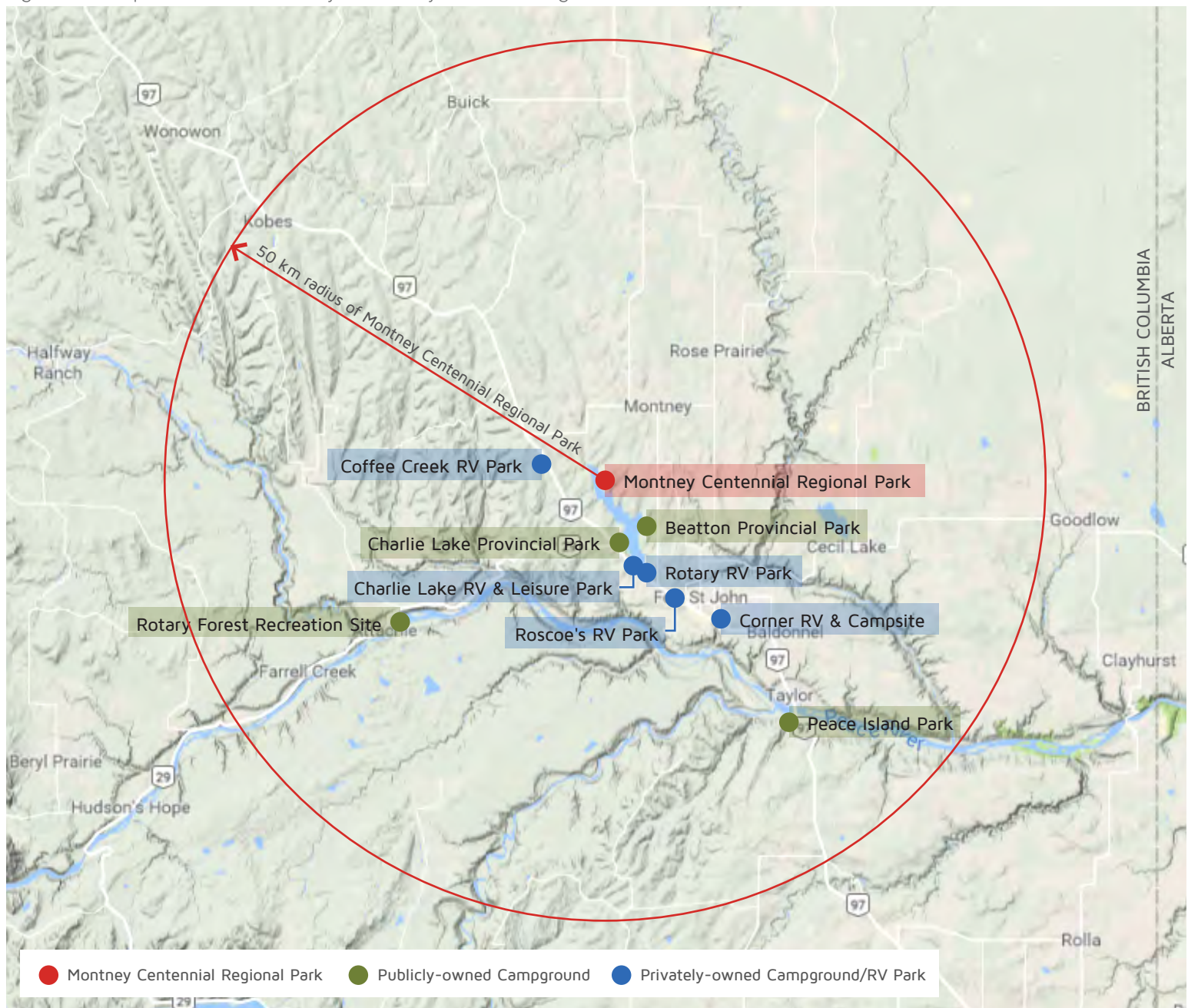


Table 2: Campsites within a 50 km Radius of Montney Centennial Regional Park

Campsite	Km to Park (driving)	Ownership	Description	Cost
Beatton Provincial Park 248 Road, Charlie Lake, BC	24	Province	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 18 unserviced vehicle campsites ▶ Amenities: pit toilets, drinking water taps ▶ Recreation amenities: boat launch, day-use area, lake access, picnic shelter, ball diamond, adventure playground, trails, cross-country ski trails, snowshoe trails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ \$20/vehicle site ▶ \$35/picnic shelter
Coffee Creek RV Park Coffee Creek Rd. South (Hwy 97 N), Charlie Lake, BC	24	Private	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 53 full service sites (50 amp power, water, sewer) ▶ Long-term rates ▶ Amenities: Wi-Fi, flush toilets, showers, coin laundry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ \$40/vehicle site ▶ \$850/month
Ross H. Maclean Rotary RV Park Lakeshore Drive, Charlie Lake, BC	30	Private	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 10 full service sites (30 amp power, water, sewer) ▶ 44 water + power sites ▶ 14 power sites ▶ Tent sites ▶ Amenities: Wi-Fi, showers, laundry, sales, sani-dump ▶ Recreation amenities: lake access, playground, playing field, horseshoe pits, nature trails, boat launch, fishing dock, interpretive information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ \$38/vehicle site (power, water, sewer) ▶ \$33/vehicle site (power, water) ▶ \$29/vehicle site (power) ▶ \$19/tent site ▶ \$10/firewood
Roscoe's RV Park Alder Crescent, Charlie Lake, BC	32	Private	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 82 full service sites (50 amp power, water, sewer) ▶ Long-term rates ▶ Amenities: flush toilets, showers, Wi-Fi, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ \$40/vehicle site
Charlie Lake RV & Leisure Park Nielson Ave, Mile 52, Alaska Hwy, BC	33	Private	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 65 full-service sites (35 amp power, water, sewer) ▶ Tent sites ▶ Amenities: flush toilets, showers, laundry, Wi-Fi, sani-dump ▶ Recreation amenities: lake access, playground, playing field, horseshoe pits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ \$20-\$35/site

Campsite	Km to Park (driving)	Ownership	Description	Cost
Charlie Lake Provincial Park <i>Alaska Hwy, Charlie Lake, BC</i>	37	Province	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 57 unserviced vehicle campsites ▶ Amenities: pit toilets, drinking water, sani-dump ▶ Recreation amenities: boat launch, playground, grass field, picnic shelter, horseshoe pits 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ \$20/vehicle site ▶ \$35/picnic shelter ▶ \$5/sani-dump discharge
Corner RV & Campsite <i>Alaska Rd, Fort St. John, BC</i>	37	Private	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 40 full service sites (35 amp power, water, sewer) ▶ Long-term rates ▶ Amenities: full-time park attendant, flush toilets, showers, laundry ▶ Recreation amenities: open lawn area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ \$43/vehicle site ▶ \$777/month
Peace Island Park <i>Mile 35 Alaska Hwy, Taylor, BC</i>	90	District of Taylor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ 39 unserviced vehicle sites ▶ 60 full service vehicle sites ▶ 18 group sites ▶ Amenities: flush toilets, showers (off site), sani-dump (off site) ▶ Recreation amenities: picnic shelters, walking trails, horseshoe pits, historic display, playgrounds, shelter with cook-house, water pump, firewood, boat launch, cross-country ski/snowshoe trails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ \$20/vehicle site ▶ \$25/vehicle site (power) ▶ \$40/vehicle site (full service) ▶ \$80/group site
Rotary Forest Recreation Site, <i>Peace River E, BC</i>	66	Province	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ User-maintained tent campsite ▶ Boat access only ▶ Amenities: Picnic tables, pit toilet, fire ring 	▶ No fee



Considering ways to increase opportunities for play and activity in Montney Centennial Regional Park could continue to build its use

3 | WHAT WE HEARD



An integral component of the Regional Park Design Study was understanding the values and concerns of community members and stakeholders so that the resulting plan for Montney Centennial Regional Park is comprehensive and publicly supported.

3.1 ENGAGEMENT PROCESS OVERVIEW

The process included two rounds of engagement:

► **PUBLIC INPUT #1: GATHERING IDEAS**

Public Input #1 focused on gathering information and perspectives about the park today and hearing ideas for future improvements. Engagement included public outreach, an interactive community event on Saturday, July 29, 2017 at Montney Centennial Regional Park, and a public questionnaire.

► **PUBLIC INPUT #2: REVIEW OF DRAFT CONCEPTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Public Input #2 focused on defining a realistic and supported concept and framework for the park based on two illustrated concepts. Engagement included outreach, public displays at the U17 World Hockey Tournament in Fort St. John and Dawson Creek, and a response form to gather opinions on preferred directions.

Audiences involved included:

- Park Users
- Residents of the PRRD
- Identified Stakeholders
- PRRD Staff
- PRRD Regional Parks Committee
- PRRD Regional Board

Key outcomes from each round of engagement are summarized on the subsequent pages.

3.2 PUBLIC INPUT #1: GATHERING IDEAS

Input suggested that Montney Centennial Regional Park is valued by those who use it; however, there is limited knowledge about the park and its amenities. Park visitors expressed concerns about limited recreation assets in the park, as well as undesirable or unlawful activities that have been reported to occur. These concerns are a limitation to park use.

DEMOGRAPHICS

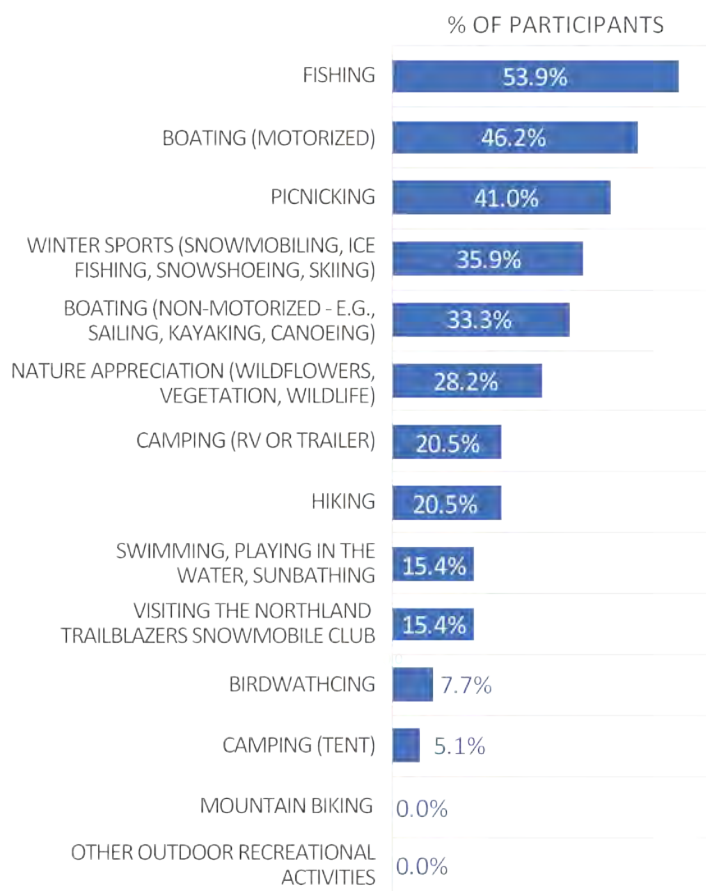
67% of participants visit Montney Centennial Regional Park at least once per year

- ▶ Over half of survey participants reside in either Dawson Creek or Fort St. John
- ▶ About three-quarters of participants were between the ages of 30 and 59

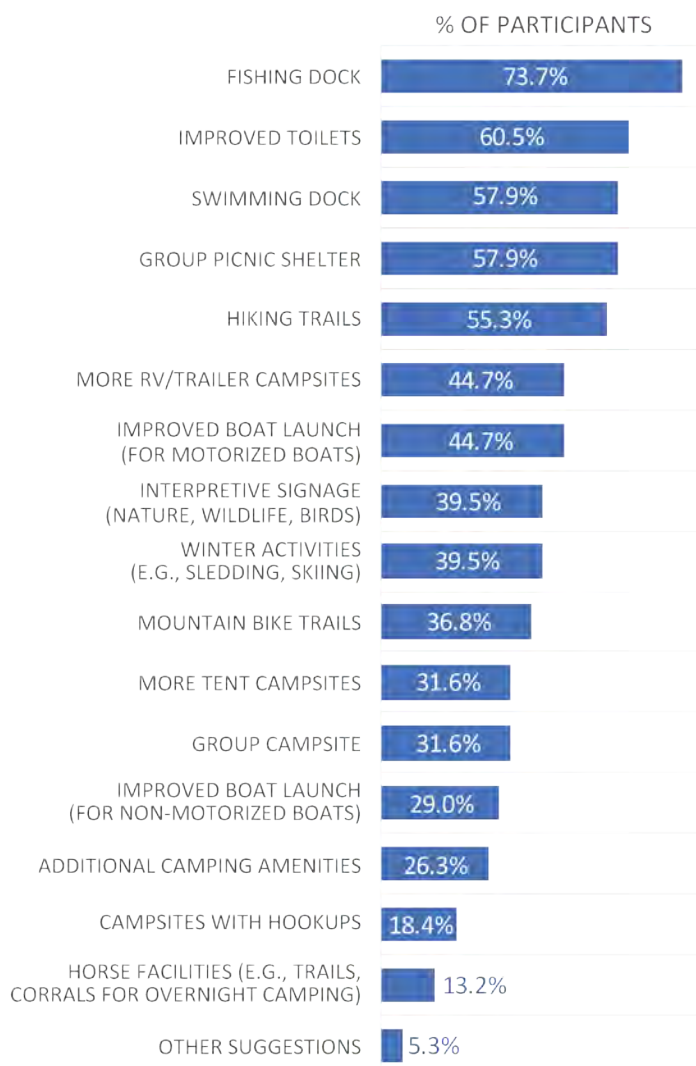
PUBLIC INPUT #1 DETAILS

- ▶ Initial input was invited during Park Day at the Montney on July 29, 2017, 1 pm to 5 pm
- ▶ A comprehensive outreach program was undertaken between July 14 and August 18, 2017
- ▶ Approximately **70** people attended the event at the park
- ▶ **84** questionnaires were received

ACTIVITIES THAT PEOPLE DO AT THE PARK

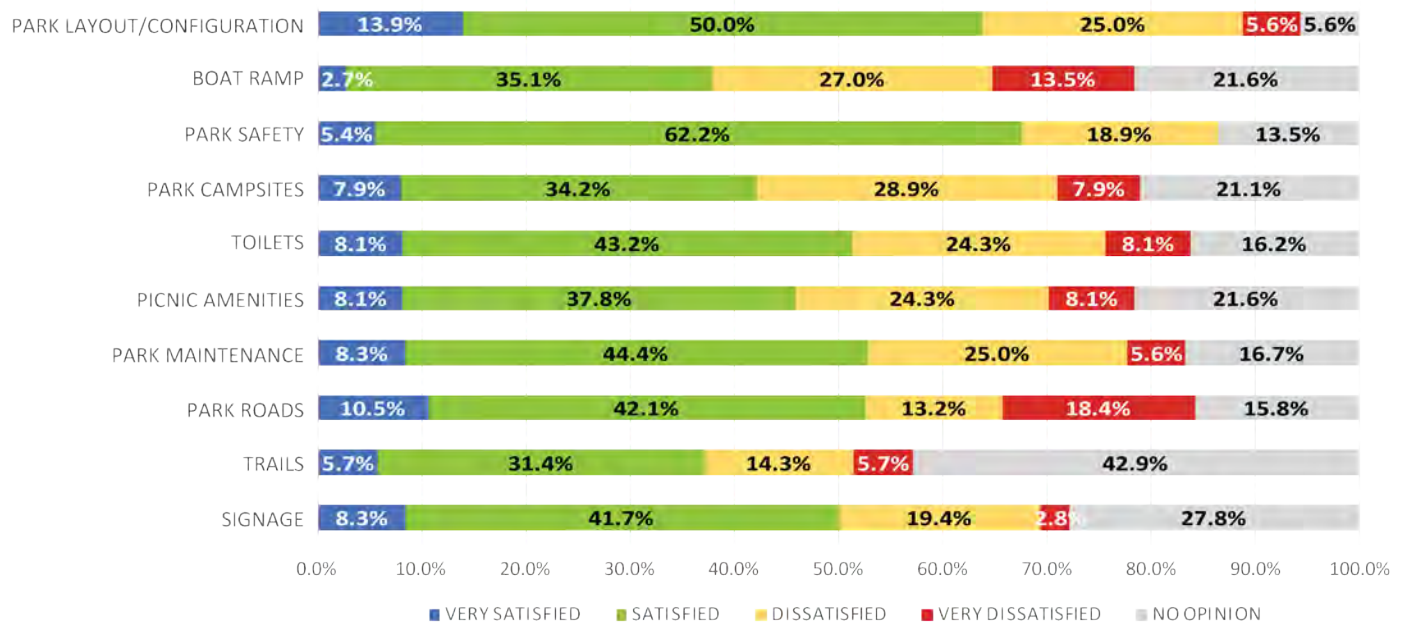


MOST DESIRED AMENITIES



SATISFACTION WITH PARK ELEMENTS

The elements that people were least satisfied with included the boat ramp, campsites, toilets, and picnic amenities.



ISSUES OR CONCERNS

- ▶ Poor road conditions (muddy, dusty)
- ▶ Difficult to find due to lack of signage to get to park from highway (recently upgraded)
- ▶ Charlie Lake is not swimmable (poor water quality, lack of shoreline or beach area)
- ▶ Open park configuration and lack of privacy (limited campsites, no private campsites)
- ▶ Lack of park monitoring for safety
- ▶ Insufficient park information
- ▶ Insufficient maintenance and upkeep (littering, dogs)
- ▶ Limited amenities including adequate boat launch and access point for fishing
- ▶ Long-term campers (staying beyond the 14-day limit)
- ▶ Not enough activities (no trails, playground, open space, or other activities)

81%

of participants would consider paid camping if amenities were added/improved

SEE APPENDIX A FOR THE FULL PUBLIC INPUT #1 SUMMARY

3.3 PUBLIC INPUT #2: REVIEW OF DRAFT CONCEPTS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Phase one public input and background analysis were used to develop preliminary options for Montney Centennial Regional Park. During Public Input #2, participants provided feedback on the draft options identifying their preferred directions.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- ▶ Three-quarters of survey participants reside in either Dawson Creek or Fort St. John
- ▶ Age of participants was well-distributed among all age groups with about one-third of participants within the 30 to 39 age range

DRAFT VISION & GOALS

91%

of participants agreed or strongly agreed with the draft vision

- ▶ Draft goals were broadly supported with feedback emphasizing addition of more activities, maintaining the rustic feel of the park, and improving basic infrastructure (roads, toilets, boat launch)

SEE APPENDIX B FOR THE CONCEPT OPTIONS DEVELOPED FOR MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

PUBLIC INPUT #2 DETAILS

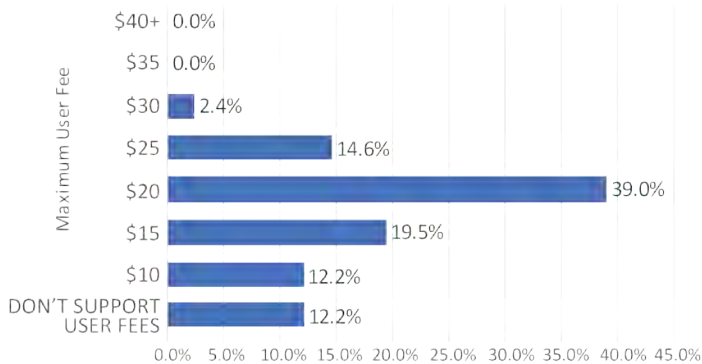
- ▶ A booth was set-up at North Peace Arena in Fort St. John and the Encana Events Centre in Dawson Creek during the U17 World Hockey Challenge November 6 to 11, 2017
- ▶ Public information displays were also available at community public meetings in Doe River and Farmington
- ▶ A comprehensive public outreach program was undertaken between October 30 and November 27, 2017
- ▶ **Hundreds** of people viewed the information at the events
- ▶ **69** response forms were received

PREFERRED DIRECTIONS FOR MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

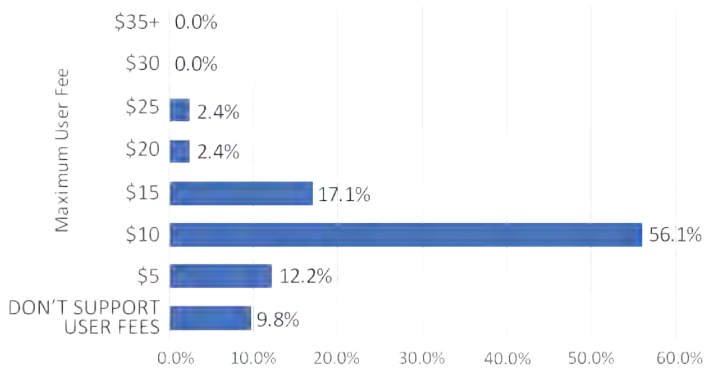
- ▶ **Vehicle Campsites:** Moderate increase in unserviced sites (+/- 19 total) with consideration for more varied camping options
- ▶ **Tent Campsites:** Group tenting area added near picnic and play facilities
- ▶ **Roads:** Existing access roads maintained with long-term consideration for new access to future camping areas
- ▶ **Trails:** Multi-use trails considered in partnership with organizations
- ▶ **Site Services:** New vault toilets for camping and recreation areas, with park remaining unserviced (no power, water, sewer)
- ▶ **Picnic & Play Areas:** New playground area adjacent to camping areas and addition of an activity staging area for the recreational trail network
- ▶ **Boat Launch:** Existing boat launch improved for motorized and non-motorized launching
- ▶ **Park Operations:** Paid camping with collections via drop box or weekend attendant and increased operations and maintenance

SUPPORT FOR USER FEES

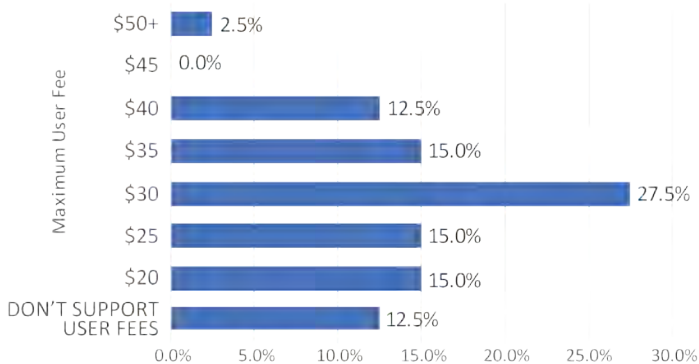
Unserviced Vehicle Campsites/Day



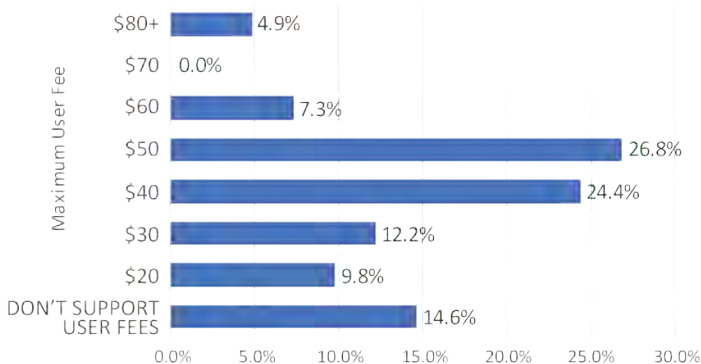
Tent Campsites/Day



Equestrian Vehicle Campsites/Day



Group Picnic Shelter Rental/Day



PRIORITIES

- 1 Amenities – Add Fishing Dock
- 2 Amenities – Improve Boat Launch
- 2 Circulation – Develop Nature Trails
- 4 Amenities – Add Picnic & Play Area
- 5 Campsites – Add New Unserviced Sites
- 6 Amenities – Improve Vault Toilets
- Amenities – Develop Recreational Network (in Partnership with Interest Clubs or Organizations)
- 6 Circulation – Improve Roads & Park Entry
- 9 Management – Improve Maintenance
- 10 Campsites – Improve Existing Unserviced Sites
- 11 Circulation – Improve Signage/Park Maps
- 12 Campsites – Add New Tenting Area
- 13 Campsites – Add New Equestrian Unserviced Sites
- 13 Other

SEE APPENDIX C FOR THE FULL
PUBLIC INPUT #2 SUMMARY



As Montney Centennial Regional Park evolves, more opportunities could be created for people to enjoy recreation in a natural setting

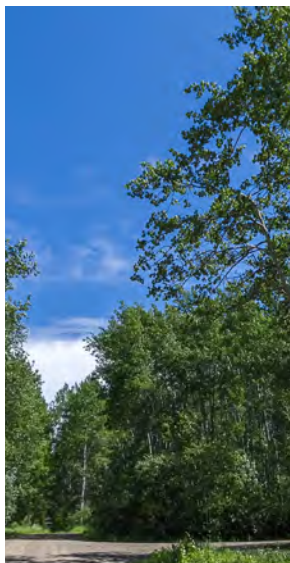
4 | VISION, GOALS & PROGRAM



4.1 VISION

A vision describes a long-term future for Montney Centennial Regional Park. It is a guiding statement and a touchstone for consideration when making decisions about changes and development. The vision for Montney Centennial Regional Park was developed based on public input, direction from previous planning efforts, background research, and input from Committee.

Montney Centennial Regional Park offers unique and rustic recreational experiences on Charlie Lake that invite people to stay for a day or for a week and enjoy leisure and relaxation in a lakefront forest. The park will become increasingly well-used as new opportunities to play are added.



4.2 GOALS

Goals support realization of the vision by providing specific guidance for future park projects. These goals act as a “checklist” for proposed park improvements; if a proposed project meets these objectives it will support the spirit and intent of the plan.

Attract a Wider Range of Visitors



- ▶ Expand potential recreational pursuits in the park to attract a broader range of park visitors
- ▶ Encourage unique experiences that are not readily available in the surrounding area
- ▶ Support partnerships with clubs and organizations to develop recreation amenities and add amenity to the park

Enhance the Lake & Camping Experience



- ▶ Seek ways to better connect park amenities with Charlie Lake, capitalizing on the lakefront setting
- ▶ Enhance existing campsites to increase the feeling of being in nature and add privacy, shade, and character to the sites
- ▶ Encourage increased park use and passive surveillance, as well as potentially enhanced monitoring, to decrease undesirable activities

Plan for Economic Sustainability



- ▶ Work to establish strategic partnerships and grants that help manage capital and park operation costs
- ▶ Maintain the park as a free or low-cost camping area in the near future
- ▶ Plan and manage improvements incrementally, minimizing maintenance and operational costs, while still providing a higher quality experience

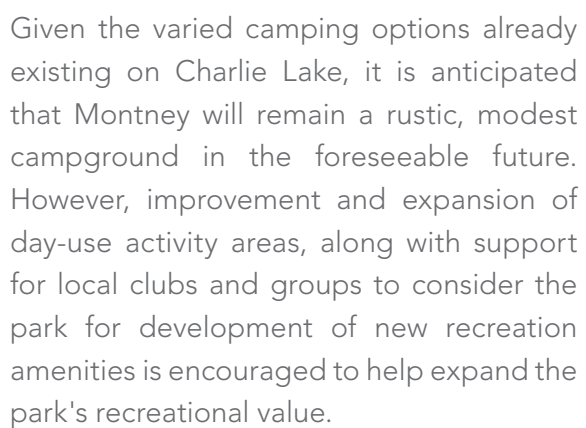


Figure 1: Map of the study area showing various land use types. The map includes a legend with color-coded areas: Park Boundary (red), Park Access Road (two-way) (black line), Walking/Hiking Pathway (grey line), Vehicle Parking Area (blue), Natural Treed Area (green), and Open Lawn Area (yellow). The map shows a network of roads and pathways, with a large green area in the center and a yellow area in the bottom right. A red line indicates the park boundary.



Note: The above concept sketch shows a general arrangement of proposed future improvements at Montney Centennial Regional Park. More detailed investigation will be required to verify actual siting of amenities based on terrain, geographical features, and existing vegetation.

5 | RECOMMENDATIONS



Eight recommendations are provided to support the implementation of the ideas and priorities generated through the planning process.

5.1 OVERVIEW

The recommendations in this section describe general planning directions. Detailed design and planning will be required to confirm design details and project costs as projects are implemented. It will be important that an adaptive management approach is used so that when new opportunities or circumstances arise, the District is prepared to make informed decisions about improvements to Montney Centennial Regional Park.

The recommendations include Class 'D' planning-level estimates based on plan-level evaluation, which brings with it inherent limitations. The budget figures are meant for project budgeting, phasing, and comparative costing only.

Notes:

- ▶ Class 'D' estimates are pre-design with an accuracy of +/- 30% at the time of the plan. Detailed design and planning is required to refine project costs.
- ▶ Estimates use unit costs and quantities based on general design assumptions and historical construction cost data from similar projects to assist with long-range budget planning.
- ▶ Costs can vary depending on site constraints, design, market forces, timing, and other variables.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS LIST

The following recommendations are described in detail in the remainder of this section.

- 1 Develop a Trail Network
- 2 Improve Existing Campsites and Consider Campsite Expansion only if Demand Increases
- 3 Take Steps to Improving Public Perceptions about Park Safety
- 4 Add New Vault Toilets at Key Locations
- 5 Upgrade Existing Roads & Add Parking
- 6 Develop a Lakefront Recreation Area
- 7 Update Wayfinding & Signage
- 8 Encourage Recreation Groups to Develop Compatible Activities in the Park

1

DEVELOP A TRAIL NETWORK

Develop a series of nature trails that support exploration and adventure including hiking loops and links between campsites and recreation destinations.

BACKGROUND:

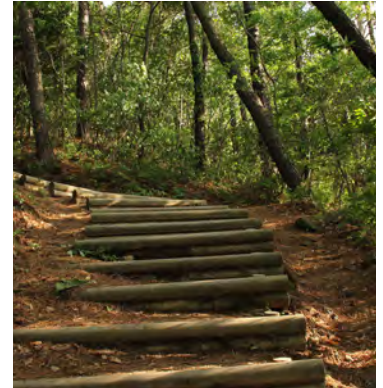
Today, there are no trails in Montney Centennial Regional Park. Trails provide activities that enhance visitor experience and well-defined routes help reduce environmental impacts by directing users' footprints.

55%

of participants in Public Input #1 identified walking/hiking trails as a priority



Low cost/low impact nature trails can be developed through clearing, levelling, and signage.



Crib stairs may be needed in some locations to manage steep grades.

PLANNING & DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

- Figure 9 on the following page suggests potential routes for trail development
- Two types of trails are suggested for the park:

Destination Trails

Destination trails should link key park destinations. Trail width is typically one to two metres with well-compacted aggregate or asphalt surface.

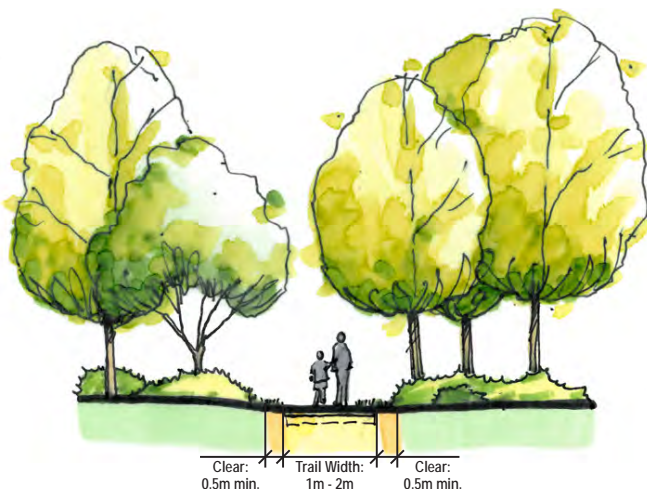


Figure 7: Typical Destination Trail

Nature Trails

Nature trails are narrower, typically with a cleared and compacted native soil surface suitable for hiking and walking.

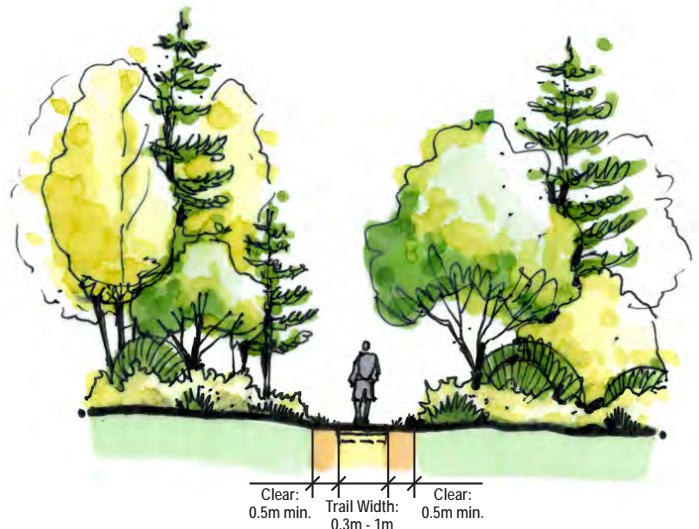


Figure 8: Typical Nature Trail

Figure 9: Potential Trail Routes



1 Large Loop Hiking Trail

Connects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Camping Area ► Lakefront Recreation Area ► Wooded Areas
Approx. Distance	1.5 km
Trail Type	Nature
Comments	Routing based on terrain Crib stairs may be required in steep areas

2 Key Connector Trails

Connects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Camping Area ► Tenting Area ► Wooded Areas
Approx. Distance	500 m
Trail Type	Nature/Destination
Comments	Accessible in key locations

3 Future Campsite Linkages

Connects	► Existing areas to future camping areas (if developed)
Approx. Distance	TBD
Trail Type	TBD
Comments	Routing determined during planning for future camping areas

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Action	Suggested Phase	Preliminary Capital Cost Allowance
1.1 Develop a large loop hiking trail (1).	A	\$21,000
1.2 Develop key connector trails (2).	B	\$7,000
1.3 Develop links to future campsite areas if developed.	n/a	TBD at time of development

2

IMPROVE EXISTING CAMPSITES AND CONSIDER CAMPSITE EXPANSION ONLY IF DEMAND INCREASES

Improve the existing campsites to enhance the quality and experience. If camping demand grows in the park, consider additional vehicle and tenting sites along the existing access road. Only consider long-term expansion of new camping areas if demand significantly increases or a user group comes forward to form a partnership.

BACKGROUND:

Currently Montney Centennial Regional Park has approximately seven campsites. Informal monitoring by the maintenance contractor suggests the campsites are modestly used; it is rare the park is fully occupied.

The park's location is a challenge for increasing campsite use. The trip to the park is lengthy, mostly on rural roads, and the Charlie Lake area is already well-served by a variety of campgrounds – including two provincial and two private campgrounds. Between Beatton Provincial Park, Charlie Lake Provincial Park, Rotary RV Park, and Charlie Lake RV & Leisure Park, there are over 200 campsites on Charlie Lake, both serviced and unserviced, as well as three boat launches and a variety of recreation amenities. Given this existing provision of camping, it is anticipated that Montney Centennial will remain a small-scale, rustic campground for the foreseeable future.

To manage capital costs, the plan recommends focusing on the existing camping area before considering any future expansion. The existing camping area is on a level site and with limited investment could be developed into a more attractive and peaceful campground experience.

PLANNING & DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

Figure 10 provides an overview of potential camping areas and the following pages provide additional detail about improvements recommended for each area.



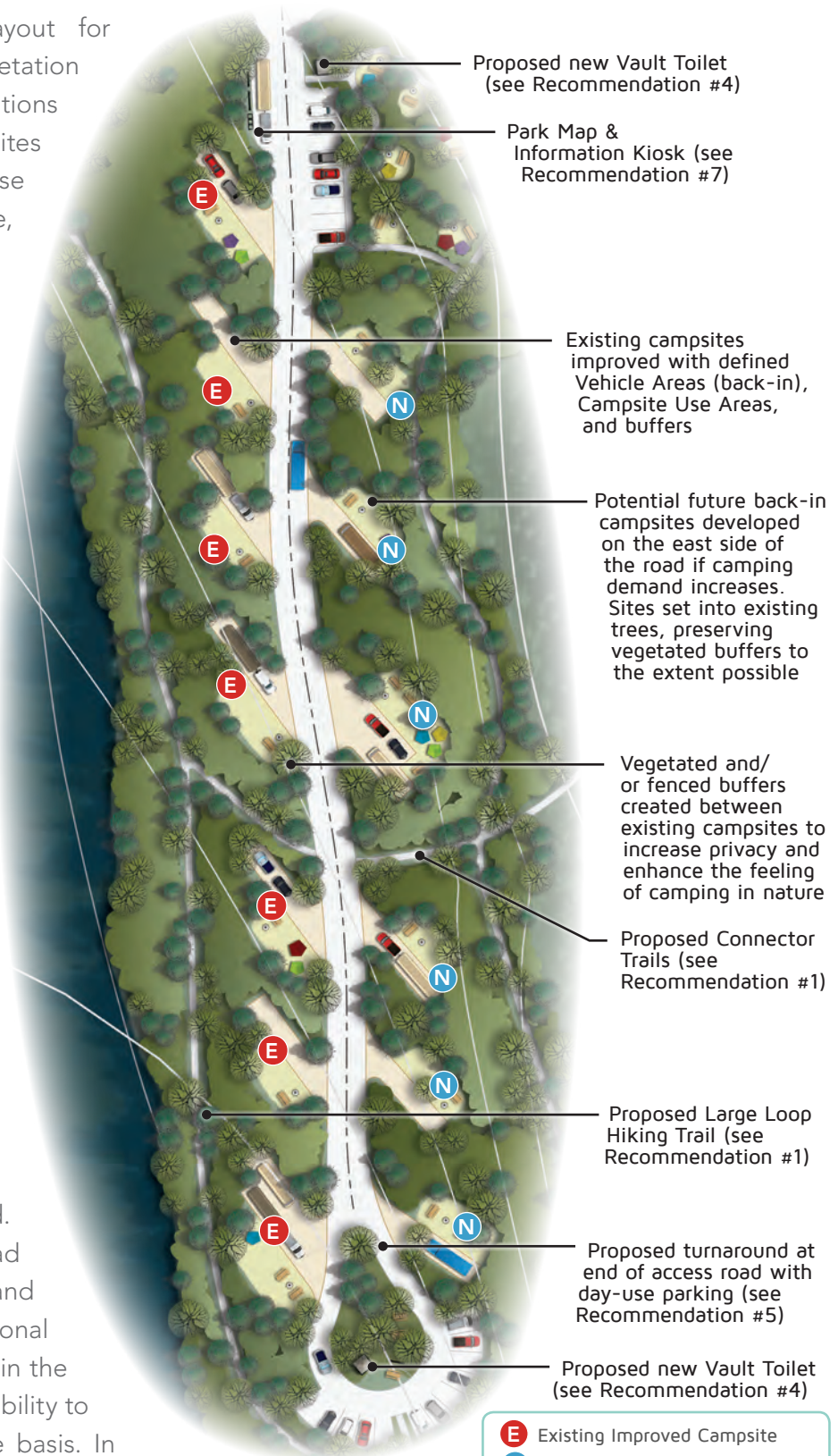
Figure 10: Recommended Campsite Improvement Phasing

Improved Vehicle Camping Sites

The plan provides a conceptual layout for campsites based on air photo interpretation and site analysis and shows general locations only. Actual location and design of campsites should be on a site-by-site basis in response to conditions such as existing trees, slope, and space available.

The existing vehicle camping area accommodates about six to seven pull-off campsites on the west side of the access road. In the short-term, it is recommended that minor investments be considered to enhance the existing sites, without further expansion. Improvements may include narrowing the existing access road and better defining the sites using vegetated buffers and/or fencing to increase privacy, shade, and the feeling of being in nature. A turnaround at the south end of the access road is recommended for manoeuvring RVs and trailers. The one existing campsite near the lake is recommended to be removed to accommodate a Lakefront Recreation Area (see Recommendation #6).

In the medium-term, if camping demand increases in the park, the PRRD could consider developing new sites on the east side of the existing road. Expansion along the existing access road would help manage development costs and could create up to six or seven additional sites, for about 13 to 14 total campsites in the park. Layout and design will require flexibility to respond to conditions on a site-by-site basis. In some cases, fill or excavation may be required.



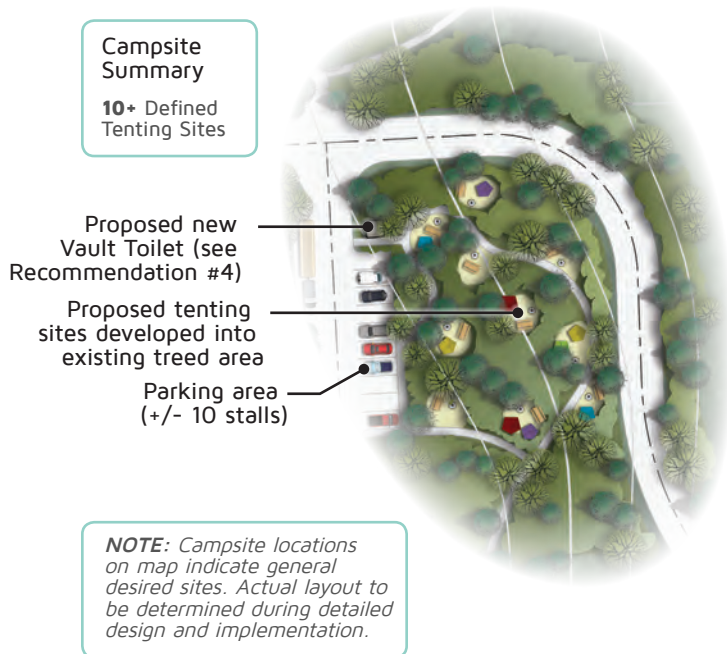
NOTE: Campsite locations on map indicate general desired sites. Actual layout to be determined during detailed design and implementation.

Proposed Tenting Area

A new tenting area may be considered at the north end of the campground near amenities like a Vault Toilet and the Lakefront Recreation Area. Tent sites should be developed in the existing trees, with minimal removal of tree canopy and vegetation buffer to maintain privacy and shade.

The area could include designated parking spots for tent campers, possibly along the existing park access road or via a one-way road with stalls sited to minimize tree removals.

The tenting area could incorporate a small group campfire and seating area.



Maintaining trees and shrubs in the tent camping area is important to creating defined sites that offer privacy and shelter.



The tenting area could incorporate a central gathering area where groups can enjoy a campfire or picnic together.

Future Campsite Expansion (Long-Term)

Beyond the improved vehicle campsites and proposed tenting area above, the plan does not recommend expansion of the campground at this time due to limited demand. However, it is recommended that potential future camping areas be identified and preserved to allow for future expansion should demand increase. Figure 10 on page 34 on indicates two areas in the central and east parts of the park that may have grades that could be suitable to future camping area development. In addition, while there is no planned change with the existing Northland Trailblazers Snowmobile Club lease at the north end of the site, should the lease end in the future, the area includes large expanses of flat area that would be suitable to campground development.

Campsite Design & Amenities

A key issue at Montney Centennial Regional Park is the openness of existing campsites. Future improvements should focus on creating a more park-like camping experience. The following directions may be considered during future campsite development:

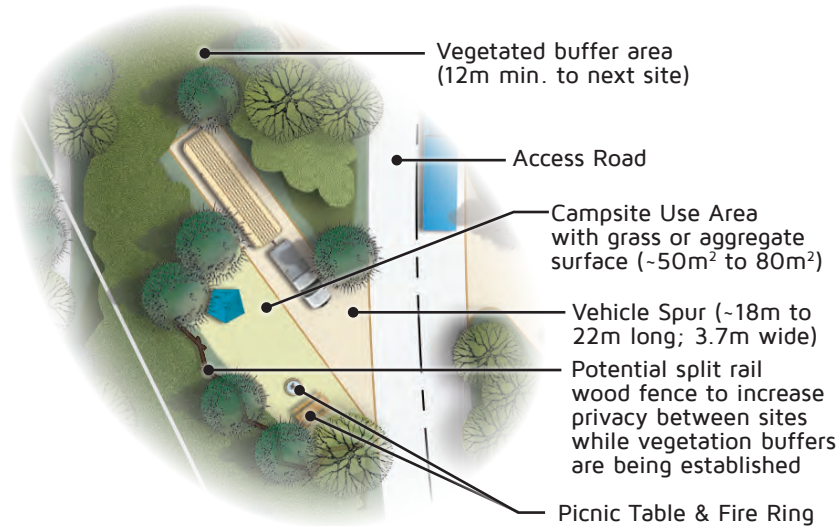
- ▶ Where possible, each campsite should accommodate modern campers and RVs (up to 14 m long), while also allowing smaller trailers or tents. Where grades create challenges, some smaller sites could be considered. Access along the main road is steep and may be a long-term limitation to accommodating large recreational vehicles in the park.
- ▶ A Vehicle Area should be defined for parking a recreational vehicle plus up to two cars. Vehicle Areas should be clearly defined by surface material (aggregate) and potentially perimeter markers (e.g., boulders, bollards, or fencing) to discourage people parking on vegetated or Campsite Use Areas.
- ▶ A Campsite Use Area should be defined for each site, large enough to accommodate tents plus a rain tarp or screened enclosure (+/- 50m² to 75m² in size). The surface of this area should be stable, flat, and well-drained with turf, aggregate, or native material surface.
- ▶ Each site should be equipped with a picnic table and campfire ring.
- ▶ Siting of new campsites should be based on terrain, with flat areas for the Vehicle and Campsite Use Areas. Where possible, cut and fill should be avoided to minimize removal of vegetation and manage costs. Where terrain challenges are encountered, sites may be terraced, with the Vehicle Area on one terrace and the Campsite Use Area on another.
- ▶ New campsites, if developed, should be sited to retain as much existing vegetation as possible to provide shade, privacy, and natural character.
- ▶ Campsites should be separated and defined to allow the natural park landscape to dominate and provide peace and privacy for park users. The objective is creating a "park-like" camping atmosphere; not an "RV Park".
- ▶ Each campsite should be designed as a discreet area, with natural boundaries marked by vegetation, rocks, or other natural-looking materials. In areas where vegetated buffers do not exist, physical screening should be considered, potentially through the use of split-rail fencing to provide immediate separation, with surrounding areas revegetated with trees and shrubs to re-establish a natural buffer over time.
- ▶ Campsites should be accessible wherever grades permit.

The graphics illustrated in Figure 11 on the next page show typical layouts and amenities for campsites.

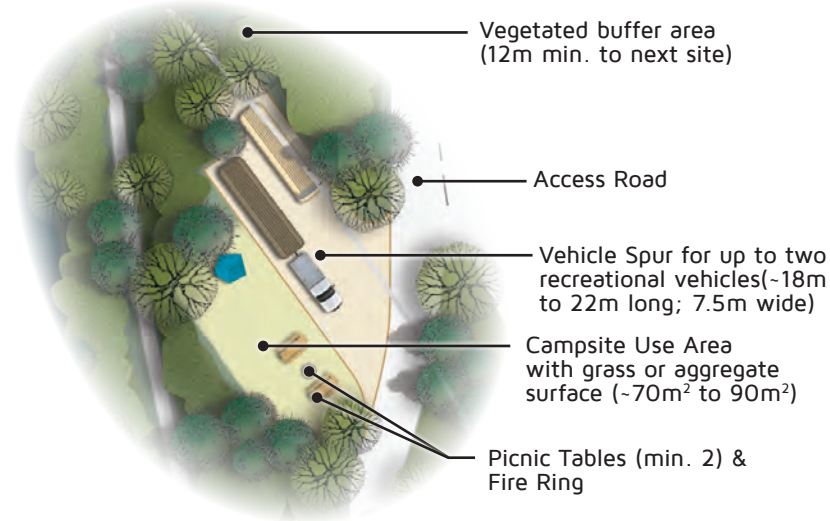


In areas that have been previously cleared, split rail fencing could be used as an initial step towards defining campsites and re-establishing vegetation.

Back-in Single Campsite



Back-in Double/Group Campsite



Sites should have defined use areas. Example of a back-campsite with an easily identifiable Vehicle Area and Campsite Use Area.



Example of wood bollards used to define the extents of a Vehicle Area where it may not be obvious based on vegetation.

Figure 11: General Campsite Layouts

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Action	Suggested Phase	Preliminary Capital Cost Allowance
2.1 Improve the existing campsites on the west side of the access road by adding buffers between sites and defining Vehicle and Campsite Use Areas.	A	\$72,000
2.2 Develop a Tent Camping Area including creation of campsites within existing treed areas and establishment of a group picnic/campfire area.	B	\$58,000
2.3 Consider addition of new campsites on the east side of the existing access road within existing treed areas.	C	\$54,000
2.4 Consider long-term future campsite areas only if demand increases or there is strong support from interest groups.	n/a	TBD at time of implementation

3

TAKE STEPS TO IMPROVING PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS ABOUT PARK SAFETY

Continue to provide weekend maintenance services at the park, while encouraging more passive and/or active surveillance.

BACKGROUND:

Public input suggests that negative activities such as parties, noise, vandalism, and drug use occur at Montney Centennial. With only a small number of campsites and limited opportunities for attracting more camping, addition of a full-time campsite attendant is unlikely.

PLANNING & DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

While full-time monitoring may not be viable, steps could be considered to increase the perception of safety in the park:

- **Increased Activity:** Increasing desirable activity in the park increases passive surveillance. Typically, crimes and undesirable activity are less likely when there are other people around. Improvements to existing campsites (see Recommendation #2), development of enhanced trails and day-use facilities (see Recommendations #1 & #6), and support to user groups for development compatible activities at the park (see Recommendation #8) all have potential to increase positive activity, lessening the attraction of the area to negative behaviours.

- **Increased Maintenance Presence:**

Adjustments could be considered to the maintenance schedule and/or duties to increase presence in the park when negative activities may be more likely to occur (e.g., weekend evenings).

- **Increased Active Surveillance:** The location of Montney Centennial makes it challenging and costly for regular monitoring. However, opportunities may exist for video monitoring or occasional patrol, helping to discourage the site being seen as an "unsupervised zone" for negative behaviours.

To help offset potential operational cost increases, a self-registration process and camping fee could be collected at a locked registration box at the main park kiosk. Maintenance personnel would be responsible for emptying the box and confirming registration of those on site. While enforcement of fee payment may be more limited, a large number of legitimate park users would be willing to pay a small fee for an enhanced campsite experience.

81%

of participants would consider paid camping if amenities were added/improved

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Action	Suggested Phase	Preliminary Capital Cost Allowance
3.1 Continue weekend maintenance for the park.	Ongoing	Operations
3.2 Consider establishing a small camping fee and add a fee collection box at the park.	B	\$2,000

4

ADD NEW VAULT TOILETS AT KEY LOCATIONS

Replace the two existing vault toilets with three new vault toilets at key locations to improve access from camping and recreation areas.

BACKGROUND:

There are two existing toilets in Montney Centennial Regional Park, both at the north end of the campground access road. This location is approximately 250 m from the campsite at the south end of the road. The existing toilets are outdated and are nearing time for replacement. Public input strongly supported enhancement of amenities within Montney Centennial Regional Park.

32%

of participants in Public Input #1 were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the existing toilets

PLANNING & DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

As there is no servicing planned for Montney Centennial Regional Park, toilets are anticipated to remain vault toilets, but upgraded to new standards.

The plan recommends the two existing vault toilets be replaced by three new vault toilets located to be within 150 m of all campsites and main activity areas. Figure 12 illustrates potential locations where vault toilets may be desirable in Montney Centennial Regional Park.

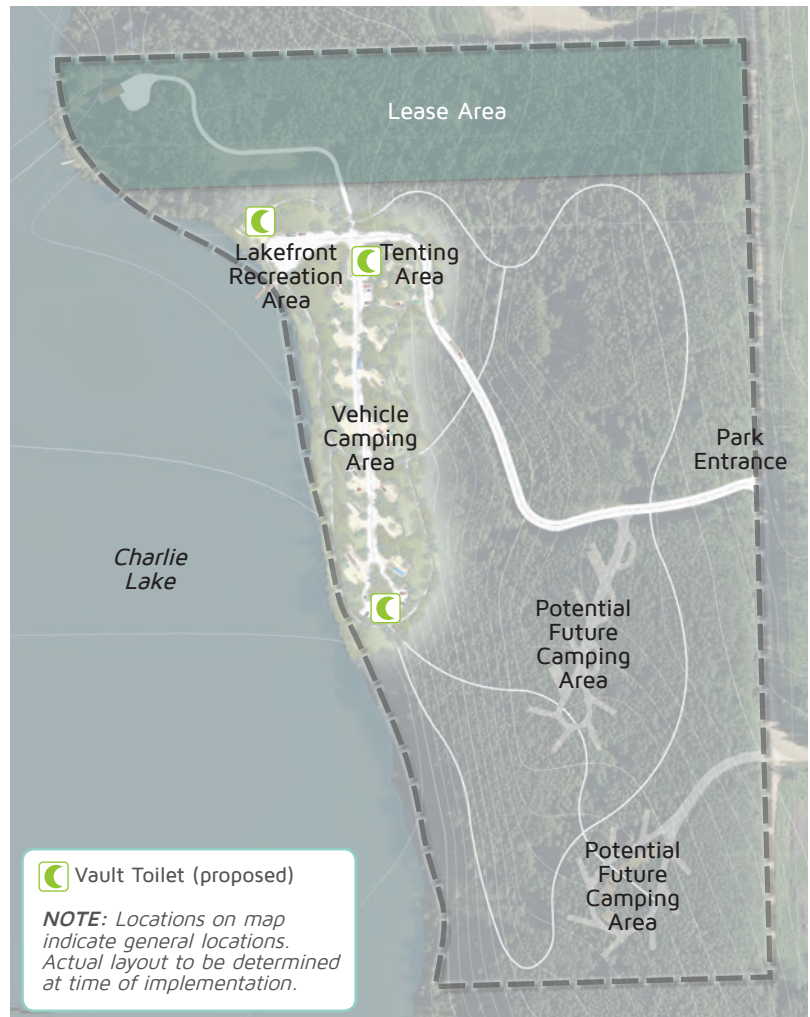


Figure 12: Preliminary Vault Toilet Locations



Image: Blackfoot Regional Park, Clayhurst

Vault toilets in the PRRD's Blackfoot Regional Park have been recently upgraded to a newer standard.



Image: Rath Trevor Provincial Park, Parksville

Example of an accessible vault toilet building in Rath Trevor Beach Provincial Park, Parksville. Where possible, all toilet buildings should be accessible.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Action	Suggested Timing	Preliminary Capital Cost Allowance
4.1 Remove the existing toilets and add a new Vault Toilet near the proposed Tenting Area (see Recommendation #2).	A	\$20,000
4.2 Add a new Vault Toilet at the south end of the campground near the car turnaround and trailhead.	B	\$17,000
4.3 Add a new Vault Toilet at the Lakefront Recreation Area (concurrent with amenity improvements, see Recommendation #6).	B	\$17,000

5

UPGRADE EXISTING ROADS & ADD PARKING

Upgrade the main park entry road and add day-use parking in key locations.

BACKGROUND:

There is one access road into Montney Centennial Regional Park, which leads down the slope to the lake and camping areas. The park terrain slopes steeply towards the water, resulting in sections of the road having steep grades. Input to the process identified that large recreational vehicles encounter challenges when accessing the park, especially during wet conditions.

Participants also indicated dissatisfaction with the width of the existing campground road, which diminishes the feeling of being in nature and provides little privacy for campsites.

32%

of participants in Public Input #1 were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the existing access roads

DESIGN & PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS:

Figure 13 illustrates potential improvements to the existing park roads:

- The existing main access road should be upgraded with minor rerouting and regrading, as well as resurfacing, to improve park access. Paving of road sections may warrant consideration to reduce issues during wet weather.

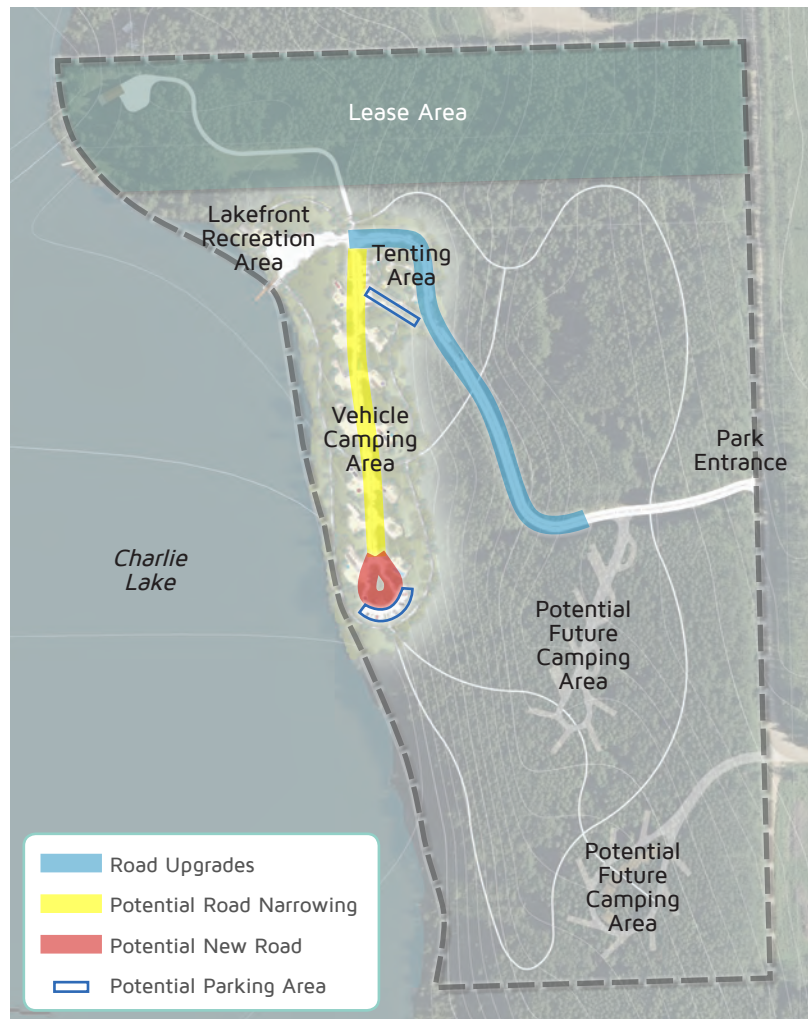


Figure 13: Recommended Road Improvements



The Campsite Access Road is currently much wider than needed, which detracts from the natural setting.



Image: Sharps Creek Recreation Site, Bureau of Land Management, Oregon Department of Forestry, Washington

Natural campgrounds often use narrow campground roads (one-way road shown) marked by wood bollards and trees.

- ▶ The existing campsite access road should be narrowed to support a more park-like setting. Narrowing would involve erecting barriers to prevent people from driving over former road areas and starting a process of revegetation.
- ▶ A turn-around loop is proposed for the south end of the access road to maintain circulation.
- ▶ Two formal parking areas are recommended – one near the proposed tenting area (see Recommendation #2) that could also be used as day-use parking for the Lakefront Recreation Area and one at the south end of the campground access road for people accessing the trails network or other recreation activities developed in the park.
- ▶ Ongoing maintenance of roads should include gravel re-topping as required.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Action	Suggested Timing	Preliminary Capital Cost Allowance
5.1 Complete alignment and surfacing improvements for the main entry road to improve eroded or damaged sections.	A	\$24,000
5.2 Undertake road narrowing and develop a turn-around at the south end of the campground access road as part of campground improvements (see Recommendation #2).	See Rec. #2	See Rec. #2
5.3 Develop day-use parking at the Tent Camping Area (concurrent with Recommendation #2).	B	\$17,000
5.4 Develop day-use parking at the south end of the campground to provide access to the trails network.	B	\$21,000
5.5 Undertake regular maintenance including gravel re-topping as required.	Ongoing	Operations

6

DEVELOP A LAKEFRONT RECREATION AREA

Develop a waterfront recreation area that provides a destination for park activities including a fishing dock, nature playground, picnic shelter, and potentially an improved boat launch.

BACKGROUND:

A key issue for Montney Centennial Regional Park is the limited number of activities or amenities available. Public participants commonly identified that there is not enough to "do" when visiting the park.

Participants in Public Input #2 identified addition of a fishing dock, an improved boat launch, and picnic and play amenities in their top 5 priorities.

PLANNING & DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

The plan recommends focusing amenity additions in a proposed Lakefront Recreation Area on Charlie Lake. The existing campsite in this location would be removed and the area redeveloped with amenities shown in Figure 14. The amenities proposed are anticipated to be modest in scale, fitting within the limited space available.

During the process, mixed feedback was received about a boat launch. While input suggested many desired an improved launch, some feedback also recognized the challenges presented by location, terrain, and space limitations to developing a high-quality launch at the park. If a boat launch is not pursued, the space could be used as expanded open area for informal recreation.

Figure 14: Suggested Amenities for the Lakefront Recreation Area

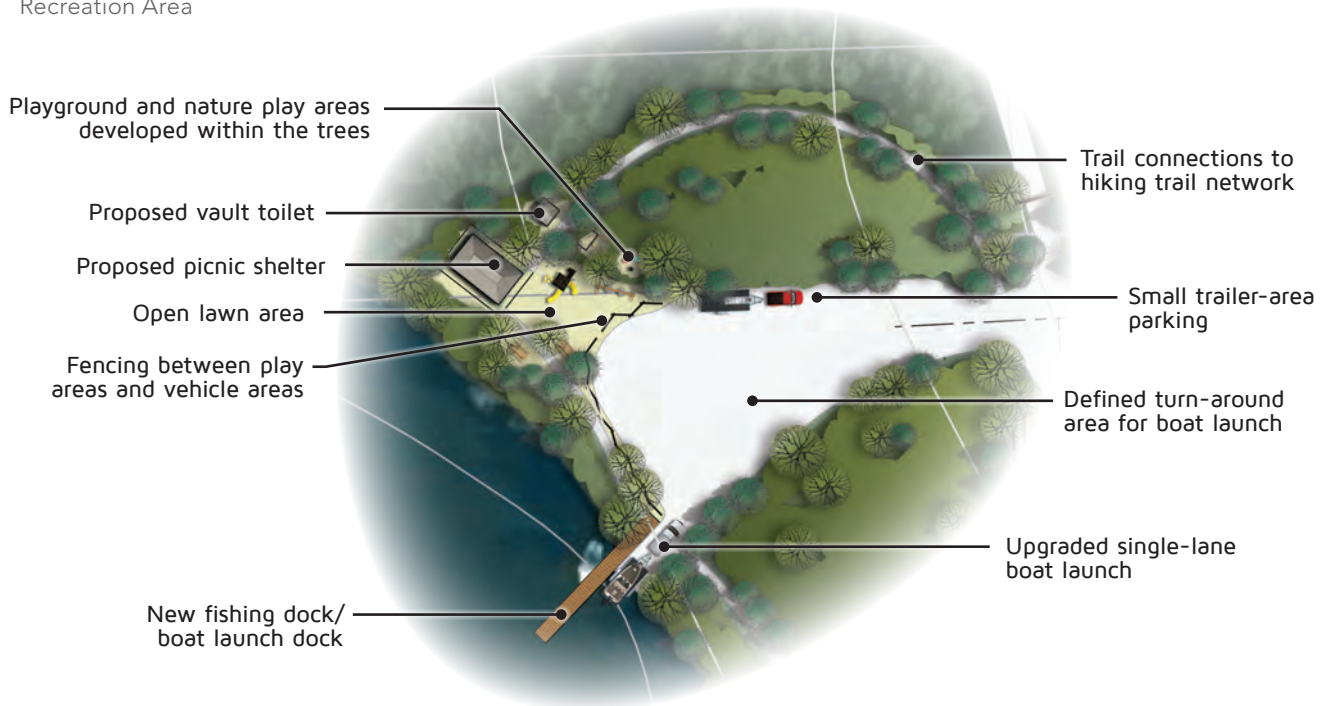




Image: Picnic Shelter, Virginia State Parks



Image: Lone Pine Campground, Bureau of Land Management

A picnic shelter would encourage social activity in the park. Shelter design can vary depending on budget available, but should be developed with the goal of complementing the park's natural lakeshore character.



Image: seabamirum



Image: manofhg

Public input supported the idea of a small fishing dock, which could also double as a swimming dock for those brave enough to jump in the lake.



Image: Leslie Science & Nature Centre

A few small-scale play elements could be developed to create a play area. Natural features and elements that blend into the park's wooded areas could provide high value for low cost.



Image: Kelso Boat Ramp

Combined with the fishing dock, a modest boat launch could be considered to provide amenity to those living in the area, although there are other existing public launch sites on Charlie Lake that may be more accessible.



Enhanced trails and open space areas can support unstructured recreation activities like bocce, soccer, or frisbee.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Action	Suggested Timing	Preliminary Capital Cost Allowance
6.1 Develop a fishing dock on Charlie Lake to improve water access and potential for fishing, as well as boat tie-up.	A	\$29,000
6.2 Develop a playground and grassy open space for recreation near the lake.	B	\$91,000
6.3 Consider an improved boat launch with a turn-around and small space for parking boat trailers. If boat launch development is not pursued, the space should be maintained as open recreation area.	C	\$78,000
6.4 Develop a picnic shelter near the playground area.	C	\$76,000

7

UPDATE WAYFINDING & SIGNAGE

Add to existing signs to improve park navigation and attractiveness.

BACKGROUND:

There are limited signs at Montney Centennial Regional Park, with the exception of the park entry sign and regulatory signs

PLANNING & DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS:

The plan recommends that the park entry sign be refurbished and a few informational signs be added as park elements are developed. Figure 15 provides suggested locations for signs and examples below illustrate proposed sign types.



It is recommended that the existing park entry sign be updated, potentially incorporating elements or components of the existing heritage sign.



Image: South Steens Campground, Bureau of Land Management, Oregon and Washington

The new park entry sign could have a unique character and style that sets the tone for the park.



Figure 15: Potential Sign Locations & Types



Two park kiosks – one at the park entry crossroads and one at the trailhead entry area at the south end of the campground access road – are proposed for posting a park and trails map, rules and regulations, potential fee collection information, and other information.



Information signs may be considered as part of a revegetation program along the main roadway.



Pedestrian-scale signs should be located at trailheads to provide direction to key locations. Distance information could be provided.



Each campsite should be marked with an assigned number to aid in wayfinding and potential for fee collection.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Action	Suggested Timing	Preliminary Capital Cost Allowance
7.1 Develop a new park entry sign, potentially incorporating refurbishment of the existing entry sign.	B	\$9,000
7.2 Develop an improved kiosk at the crossroads area that includes a park map and a new kiosk at the trailhead area at the south end of the campground access road with information about the trails network.	B	\$8,000
7.3 Add road signs and campsite markers as a component of campsite development (see Recommendation #2).	See Rec. #2	See Rec. #2
7.4 Add trail signs as a component of trail network development (see Recommendation #1).	See Rec. #1	See Rec. #1

8

ENCOURAGE RECREATION GROUPS TO DEVELOP COMPATIBLE ACTIVITIES IN THE PARK

Consider proposals from organized groups to develop compatible, low-impact recreation activities in underused portions of the park.

BACKGROUND:

The existing and proposed improvements in Montney Centennial Regional Park will not make full use of the existing park area. The unused portions of the park could provide potential for development of additional recreation activities, further supporting the goals of increasing park amenity and encouraging more visitors to the park.

The PRRD currently maintains a lease with the Northland Trailblazers Snowmobile Club for the northern 7.5 hectares of the park.

DESIGN & PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS:

Figure 16 indicates an approximate area about 11 ha in size that could be available for development of compatible recreational uses in Montney Centennial Regional Park. Input has suggested disc golf, snowshoeing, and mountain biking as potentially compatible activities, although the PRRD should be open to all potentially compatible proposals.



Figure 16: Potential Recreational Development Area



During the process, disc golf was identified as a potentially compatible recreation use for Montney Centennial Regional Park.

Key considerations would include:

- ▶ A formal agreement and/or lease should be established to clearly outline acceptable improvements, roles and responsibilities, maintenance requirements, and details to ensure each party understands their obligations.
- ▶ Improvements must be compatible with existing and potential future park functions, including the proposed hiking trail network (see Recommendation #1).
- ▶ Opportunities may exist to incorporate multiple recreation pursuits, creating a multi-use network maintained by a number of groups.

A successful partnership has potential benefits for both the PRRD – by increasing recreational potential and activity at the park – and for the recreational group – by providing space for developing their activities.



The grades in Montney Centennial Regional Park would likely accommodate mountain biking; however, available space may be a limitation.

- ▶ Site analysis and planning will be required to verify potential for development of the area without compromising the forest and lakeshore character (e.g., due to extensive tree removals or damage to natural areas). There is a limited park area, which may affect recreation uses that fit within the park.
- ▶ Investigations will need to consider the challenges of steep slopes throughout the park to determine if there is viable development space for the intended park use.
- ▶ Potential for senior government or NGO funding may exist.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Action	Suggested Timing	Preliminary Capital Cost Allowance
8.1 Invite and assess proposals from organized groups to develop recreation amenities within the park.	Ongoing	Staff Time
8.2 Consider improvements to the park area that would complement recreation activities developed in the park.	TBD	TBD

6 | IMPLEMENTATION



Implementation of the ideas and directions in the Montney Centennial Regional Park Plan will occur over time as opportunities and funds are available. This implementation summary provides a recommended phased approach to implementing actions. The PRRD should review and update implementation planning regularly to respond to changing opportunities and community needs.

6.1 OVERVIEW

The implementation summary organizes the actions identified in **Section 5** into recommended phases. The plan is a long-term outlook and it is recognized that the park and surrounding area will continue to evolve, so it will be necessary to be flexible and adapt to new opportunities and challenges that arise.

The projects recommended in this plan will need to be prioritized within the PRRD's overall planning which may affect how quickly implementation can occur.

While the PRRD Board is responsible for overseeing the plan, successful implementation will require coordination between a number of groups including, but not limited to:

- ▶ PRRD Board;
- ▶ Regional Parks Committee;
- ▶ PRRD Departments (Community Services, Environmental Services, Communications, Financial Services);
- ▶ Potential Partners;
- ▶ Stakeholders; and
- ▶ Community Members.

6.2 FUNDING STRATEGIES

Implementation of the park plan recommendations will likely be achieved through a combination of funding sources. Availability of funding will influence the extent and content of each phase of park development.

There are several possible sources of funding that could help implement the recommendations in this plan. Table 3 provides a brief description of strategies that could be employed.

Table 3: Potential Funding Sources

Action	Potential Key Recommendations
1. Capital: Property tax is the PRRD's principle source of revenue for providing park services. The 2014 Parks and Trails Master Plan recommended a modest increase in tax rate allocation (on property improvements only) to support the regional parks system.	► All recommendations
2. Government and NGO Funding: The Province of BC, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Northern Development Initiative Trust, Government of Canada, and other government and non-government organizations offer grants that provide capital or planning funds. These funds could be harnessed for both further design development or implementation of key capital projects that boost economy or increase recreation assets for the area.	► #1 - Develop a Trail Network ► #2 - Improve Existing Campsites ► #6 - Develop a Lakefront Recreation Area ► #12 - Encourage Recreation Groups to Develop Compatible Activities in the Park
3. Donations & Fundraising: Corporations, organizations, and individuals are often willing to contribute to community assets either through capital or in-kind donation of materials, equipment, or time. With an active resource sector in the PRRD, there may be a number of businesses interested in contributing to local recreation resources. An organized donation campaign helps harness these opportunities and ensures the community sees results.	► #1 - Develop a Trail Network ► #6 - Develop a Lakefront Recreation Area ► #12 - Encourage Recreation Groups to Develop Compatible Activities in the Park
4. Partnerships: Partnerships with other groups could help implement key recommendations that may be challenging for the PRRD to complete independently.	► #12 - Encourage Recreation Groups to Develop Compatible Activities in the Park
5. User Fees: User fees provide funding to assist with the costs of operating and maintaining park facilities. User fees for camping or other park uses may warrant consideration to support successful operation of the park.	► #3 - Improve Public Perceptions about Park Safety

6.3 CAPITAL COST ESTIMATES

While completing all the recommended park upgrades in one phase would provide the greatest efficiency, funding limitations will likely require phased implementation. Table 4 suggests a potential phasing and cost budget estimate summary based on priorities identified through community input and logical phasing of projects.

Phasing of improvements in Montney Centennial Regional Park has potential flexibility. Many of the proposed improvements could be implemented in a different order than indicated to respond to shifts in funding opportunities or public interest.

Costs estimates include a 30% contingency due to the pricing and quantity variables associated with this level of planning including unknowns and inflationary factors. Costs also include an add-on of 15% - 30% to account for design and engineering fees during detailed design development.

Note that even with a 30% contingency built into the estimates, annual inflationary and market conditions will always need to be taken into consideration in the intervening years up to the point of actual implementation. These allowances provide an order of magnitude +/- 30% and illustrate relative costs among components. More accurate site information and engineering is required prior to final budgeting and implementation.

Table 4: Capital Cost Estimate Phasing Summary

#	Recommendation	Preliminary Capital Cost Allowance
PHASE A		
1.1	Large Loop Hiking Trail	\$21,000
2.1	Existing Campsite Improvements (including road narrowing, turn-around, fencing, and revegetation)	\$72,000
4.1	Remove Existing and Add New Vault Toilet near Future Tenting Area	\$20,000
5.1	Improve Existing Entry Road	\$24,000
6.1	Fishing Dock	\$29,000
7.1	Refurbished Park Entry Sign	\$9,000
PHASE A TOTAL:		\$175,000
PHASE B		
1.2	Small Loop & Connection Trails	\$7,000
2.2	Tent Camping Area	\$58,000
3.1	Fee Collection Box	\$2,000
4.2	Vault Toilet in the South End of the Park	\$17,000
4.3	Vault Toilet in the Lakefront Recreation Area	\$17,000
5.3	Day-use Parking at the Tent Camping Area	\$17,000
5.4	Day-use Parking at the South End of Campground	\$21,000
6.2	Lakefront Playground & Open Space Area	\$91,000
7.2	Park Kiosks & Maps	\$8,000
PHASE B TOTAL:		\$238,000

#	Recommendation	Preliminary Capital Cost Allowance
PHASE C		
2.3	Develop 6 to 7 New Campsites along Existing Access Road	\$54,000
6.3	Upgraded Boat Launch	\$78,000
6.4	Picnic Shelter	\$76,000
PHASE C TOTAL:		\$208,000
TOTAL, ALL PHASES:		\$621,000

The above summary does not include costs for potential partnership projects or long-term expansion of campground areas. These costs could range significantly depending on agreements and circumstances. Specific recommendations that may or may not have future cost implications include:

- ▶ Long-term expansion of camping areas should demand increase (see Recommendation #2)
- ▶ Support for groups proposing to develop amenities within the park (see Recommendation #8)

6.4 OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Given the limited number of campsites in the park and potential competition from other campgrounds in the area, it is not anticipated that Montney Centennial Regional Park will generate substantial revenue in the foreseeable future. However, opportunities may exist to offset some operations and maintenance costs at the park by considering paid camping with a drop-box system (see Recommendation #3).

Table 5 summarizes a potential long-term operating scenario that includes some potential cost recover for Montney Centennial based on information from similar operations.

The following assumptions should be noted:

- Numbers are based on the full build-out of campsites along the existing access road (i.e., up to 13 campsites). Additional campsite expansion is not assumed at this time.

► Campsite booking assumptions:

- » All campsites will be available for booking between May 15 and Sept. 15 annually (124 potential days).
- » Campsites will be booked at rate of 75% on weekends and 20% on week days for a total of 45.7 days/year. This is a conservative booking estimate – higher booking rates would result in higher revenue.

Maintenance of the campground facilities will be essential to protect public investment and achieve the PRRD's goal of providing campers with a clean, safe, and enjoyable camping experience. The PRRD should regularly review and update its maintenance program to set detailed maintenance practices for new and existing campground facilities.

Table 5: High-Level Operational / Revenue Budget Summary (per Season)

#	Recommendation	Estimate
Projected Campground Operating Costs		
1	Annual Park Attendant Maintenance Contract including the following duties: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ► Regular park maintenance including cleaning, mowing, etc. ► Provision of day-to-day supplies (e.g., cleaning supplies) ► Provision of maintenance equipment and tools ► Minor repairs and upgrades ► Park patrol and reporting ► Reporting 	\$22,000
2	Optional increased park monitoring/surveillance.	TBD
3	Vault Toilet Maintenance	\$2,000
4	Annual repairs	\$4,000
5	Insurance	\$2,000
ESTIMATED CAMPGROUND OPERATIONS COSTS TOTAL:		\$30,000
Projected Campground Revenues		
1	Camping Fees (13 unserviced individual sites) @ \$20/site	\$12,796
2	Camping Fees (up to 8 tents) @ \$15/tent	\$5,484
ESTIMATED CAMPGROUND REVENUES TOTAL:		\$17,366

REFERENCES



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APPENDIX A: PUBLIC INPUT #1 SUMMARY





REGIONAL PARK DESIGN STUDY

ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT PUBLIC EVENT #1 & IDEAS QUESTIONNAIRE

OVERVIEW

The Peace River Regional District (PRRD) is undertaking a Regional Park Design and Feasibility Study for **Blackfoot Regional Park** and **Montney Centennial Regional Park**. The purpose of the Study is to develop a plan that will enhance the functionality, environmental sustainability, safety, and fiscal and operational viability of the parks.

An integral component of the process is to understand the values and issues amongst community members including park users, Peace River Regional District residents, stakeholders, PRRD staff, Regional Parks Committee, and the Regional Board.

This report provides a summary of **Public Event #1 & the Ideas Questionnaire**, which occurred as part of the first phase of the planning process (Phase 1: Understanding the Parks). This first phase focused on:

- ▶ Introducing the Regional Park Design Study to community members;
- ▶ Gathering information and perspectives about both parks from the community;
- ▶ Gathering input on a collective vision and objectives for the future of each park; and
- ▶ Generating ideas for new activities, amenities, programs, or other potential improvements.

The Regional Park Design Study began in July 2017 and is planned to be complete in November 2017. Subsequent phases of this process will focus on:

- ▶ Park Options Development (Phase 2)
- ▶ Final Park Plans Development and Review (Phase 3)

HOW INPUT WILL BE USED

Input provided during this phase will be considered, along with technical and financial information, to develop improvement options and recommendations for each park. These options will be brought back for public consideration during Phase 2.

This remainder of this summary is organized in the following sections:

Section	Description	Refer to Page:
1 Engagement Process	Provides a brief overview of the process and outreach that was undertaken during Phase 1	2
2 Overview Summary of Input:	Provides a consolidated summary of key input obtained, focusing on repeated and common comments. This section will provide the reader with a high-level overview of the input.	4
3 Detailed Summary of Ideas Questionnaire Results	Provides an expanded summary of all input received through the Ideas Questionnaire if a reader wishes to delve deeper into the information.	6
Appendix A	Verbatim Responses from the Public Events	25
Appendix B	Verbatim Responses from the Ideas Questionnaire	28
Appendix C	Input Questionnaire Form	39

1 | ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

METHODOLOGY

Between July 14, 2017 to August 20, 2017, the PRRD provided information regarding the Regional Park Design Study and sought initial input from the public through:



Two interactive community events:

- **Montney Centennial Regional Park**
14460 – 279 Road, Charlie Lake, BC
Saturday, July 29th from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
(concurrent with Parks Day)
- **Blackfoot Regional Park**
213 Blackfoot Road, Clayhurst, BC
Sunday, July 30th from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

PARTICIPATION

- ▶ 84 Completed questionnaires
- ▶ ~100 people attended two public events (~70 at Montney Centennial Regional Park Parks Day and ~30 at Blackfoot Regional Park)



Questionnaire in online format (using third-party survey software Simple Survey®) or in hard copy format available at:

- Community events
- PRRD website: www.prrd.bc.ca/engage
- PRRD's Official Facebook page: www.facebook.com/OfficialPRRD
- PRRD offices in Dawson Creek or Fort St. John, BC

Participants who submitted a completed questionnaire had the option to be entered into a draw for a chance to win a \$250 Canadian Tire Gift Card. The draw was completed August 25, 2017.



Display Boards to support the events, including the following information:

- **Welcome and Overview** – What is a Regional Park Plan? What is the Process? Design Study Objectives. How to Share Ideas.
- **About the Parks** – History, Location, Amenities, and Potential Challenges for Blackfoot Regional Park and Montney Centennial Regional Park.
- **Explore the Possibilities** – Participant ideas for what they envision in each park in the future. See **Appendix A** for comments.
- **Community Mapping Exercise** – Participant observations and ideas about each park. See **Appendix A** for comments.

NOTIFICATION

- ▶ **PRRD Website:** Communication on main page (link to Project webpage); Engage! Page (www.prrd.bc.ca/engage/regional-park-design-study); and Events Calendar.
- ▶ **PRRD Official Facebook Page:** 7 posts on www.facebook.com/OfficialPRRD from July 14 to August 11 (25 likes, 1 comment).
- ▶ **Online Advertising:** Banners on www.EnergeticCity.ca (Published July 19 – 29 resulting in 4 comments; 4 shares, 2 likes via Facebook); www.TownWall.ca (Twitter via Taylor Comm Services); Tourism Dawson Creek; Fort St. John Tourism; Moose FM event calendar; and coordination with Parks Day communications.
- ▶ **News Release:** Article in [Energetic City.ca](http://EnergeticCity.ca) (<https://energeticcity.ca/2017/07/prrd-inviting-residents-to-share-ideas-for-regional-park-design-study/>) published on July 27, 2017 to announce the public events (14 shares).
- ▶ **Postcard Mailout:** 6,000 postcards distributed to rural addresses within the PRRD the week of July 17.
- ▶ **Poster / Large-Format and Directional Signage:** Displayed in key locations including PRRD solid waste transfer stations; three community bulletin boards in Dawson Creek; both Regional District offices (Dawson Creek and Fort St. John); on the PRRD website; Charlie Lake Fire Station.
- ▶ **Radio Advertising:** Aired on local radio station Moose FM between July 17 and July 29 (twice daily); Peace FM between July 17 and July 29 (twice daily); and Bell Media July 24 to July 29.
- ▶ **Board Highlights:** One newspaper notification was published in *Board Highlights* on July 6.
- ▶ **Email Communication:** Notification of public events and email reminder to identified stakeholders.



2 | OVERVIEW SUMMARY OF INPUT

The following summary outlines key themes in the input received. This information is detailed further under **Section Error!**
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KEY THEMES

Generally, comments received were positive and participants appreciated the opportunity to learn more about the parks and provide input. The following key themes were observed:

- Participants were mainly residents of Dawson Creek and Fort St. John between 30 and 60 years of age.
- A total of **55%** of questionnaire participants have visited Blackfoot Regional Park and **44%** have visited Montney Centennial Regional Park. Most visit the parks occasionally, typically a few times a year.
- The main limitations for park use include: lack of facilities and amenities that suit people's needs, concerns about unsanctioned activities (parties, ATV use), park accessibility / location, and limited maintenance / upkeep.
- While many appreciate that the parks provide no fee camping, a large percentage of questionnaire participants (43% for Blackfoot and 57% for Montney Centennial) indicated that they would consider paid camping if there were improved/additional amenities.

BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

- Park users appreciate the relaxed, natural, and rustic feel of the park. Many appreciate that the park offers a peaceful, quiet place to enjoy nature, camping, or picnics.
- The current park configuration and amenities could be functionally improved. Desirable amenities include more campsites, water supply, improved/more washrooms, improved boat launch, trails, and an enhanced day-use area.
- A key challenge is the uncertainty about camping availability due to a lack of reservation system and limited number campsites.
- Many park users desire more supervision and management for safety, particularly for unsanctioned activities and ATV use in family areas, as well as general maintenance.



Figure 1: Blackfoot Regional Park

MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

- Many participants appreciate that the park is quiet and secluded with rustic features as opposed to an extensively developed park with fees.
- Some comments indicated that camping preferences can conflict, notably the noise generated by generators and motorized activities affecting quieter outdoor pursuits. Improvements could include division of RV camping and tent camping, as well as considering elimination of motorized activities from some parks/park areas.
- Park users enjoy the park simplicity, but would like to see the park better maintained for safety, camping, and families.
- The park draws users to mainly fish, boat, or enjoy picnics. A lack of activities was a significant factor in park use. Participants suggested that the park should offer more family friendly activities and amenities including boat access.
- Park accessibility is a key factor in park use as the road leading to the park has slopes / surface that can be compromised by adverse weather conditions.
- Ideas were suggested to make the park more multi-functional, including establishment of a multi-use trail / activity network that could accommodate hiking, mountain biking, disc golf, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, etc.



Figure 2: Montney Centennial Regional Park

ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES

Table I lists key comments related to issues and opportunities in each park recorded during the Public Event and Ideas Questionnaire.

Table I: Summary of Issues and Opportunities for Both Parks

	ISSUES	OPPORTUNITIES / IDEAS
BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of park management and regulation for safety, vandalism, control of parties, ATV use • Confusing campground configuration • Limited number of campsites and no hook ups • No information if campsites are booked • Lack of information or awareness of park • Limited activities and programming for families • Park location and remoteness • Road conditions can be impassable at times • Lack of adequate boat access, seasonal challenges for creating a launch on the Peace River • Lack of marked trails for hiking and walking • Inadequate washroom facilities • Lack of fresh drinking water supply • Concerns about steep slopes and safety • Limited maintenance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park attendant for monitoring and regulation of park user activity (e.g. garbage, vandalism, parties, emergencies) • Additional, expanded campsites with some hook-ups • Reservation system • Improved day-use area, parking, and activities including a larger playground, central cook station • Small store selling supplies (associated with attendant position) • Park promotion and programming (e.g. Bike Day, Dog Day, Geocaching Day, Teddy Bear Picnic, educational sessions, astronomy camp-outs) • Clear, directional signage and maps (including proximity to major centres) • Improvement of road conditions to park • Improved boat launch • Marked trails (hiking, biking, and horse riding in summer and cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in winter, ATV-specific trails) • Clean toilets; fresh drinking water supply • Grassy areas for play and picnics and enhanced tree planting by the river • Remove/manage danger trees
MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Poor road conditions (muddy, dusty) • Difficult to find due to lack of signage to get to park from highway (recently upgraded) • Charlie Lake is not swimmable (poor water quality, lack of shoreline or beach area) • Open park configuration and lack of privacy (limited campsites, no private campsites) • Lack of park monitoring for safety • Insufficient maintenance and upkeep (littering, dogs) • Limited amenities including adequate boat launch and access point for deep water fishing • Need to address long-term campers • Limited park information • Not enough activities (lack of trails, other activities) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve road conditions to park • Provide directional signage, maps, and park information (e.g. interpretive for environmental impact, bird species, other species) • Provide sandy beach and clean up lake • Reconfigure campground with designated campsites to improve privacy • Provide park monitoring and enforcement • Provide maintenance; removal of dead trees • Provide amenities (e.g. playground/play area for kids, additional walking/hiking trails, designated fire pits, day use parking, boat launch with aggregate or dock with benches, upgraded washroom facilities, ATV trails, disc golf) • Enforce maximum for park stay duration (14 days) • Day use area with grassy areas for picnics and playing, picnic tables, gazebos, covered area

3 | DETAILED SUMMARY OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS

The following section provides a more detailed summary of the results of each question in the Ideas Questionnaire. The Ideas Questionnaire gathering input in four parts:

- ▶ Part 1: Demographics of potential park users
- ▶ Part 2: Blackfoot Regional Park – Current and Future Park Use
- ▶ Part 3: Montney Centennial Regional Park – Current and Future Park Use
- ▶ Part 4: Ideas & Experiences and General Comments

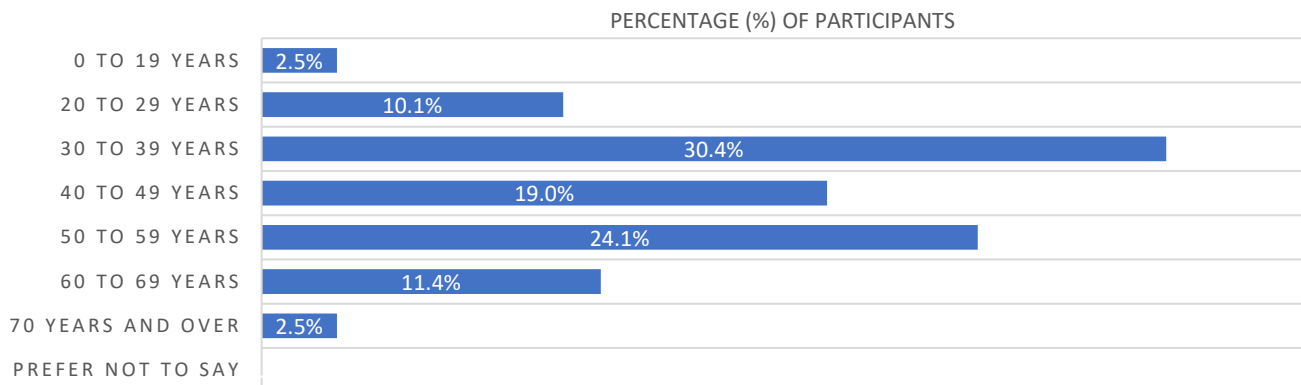
A full record of verbatim comments from the questionnaire input is in **Appendix B**.

PART 1: PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

To understand park users and demographics, participants were asked to answer the following six questions.

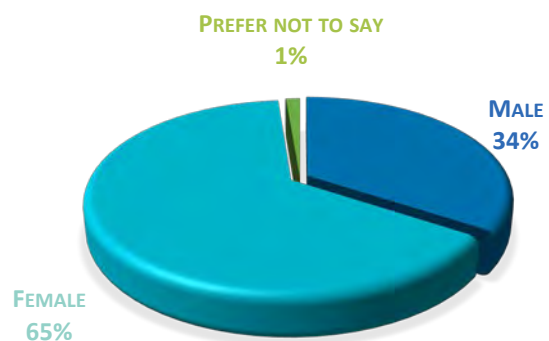
QUESTION 1: IN WHICH AGE GROUP ARE YOU?

- ▶ Most participants were between the ages of 30 to 59 years old (73.5% combined).
- ▶ There was limited participation from individuals under the age of 29 (12.6%) or over the age of 60 (13.9%).



QUESTION 2: WHAT IS YOUR GENDER?

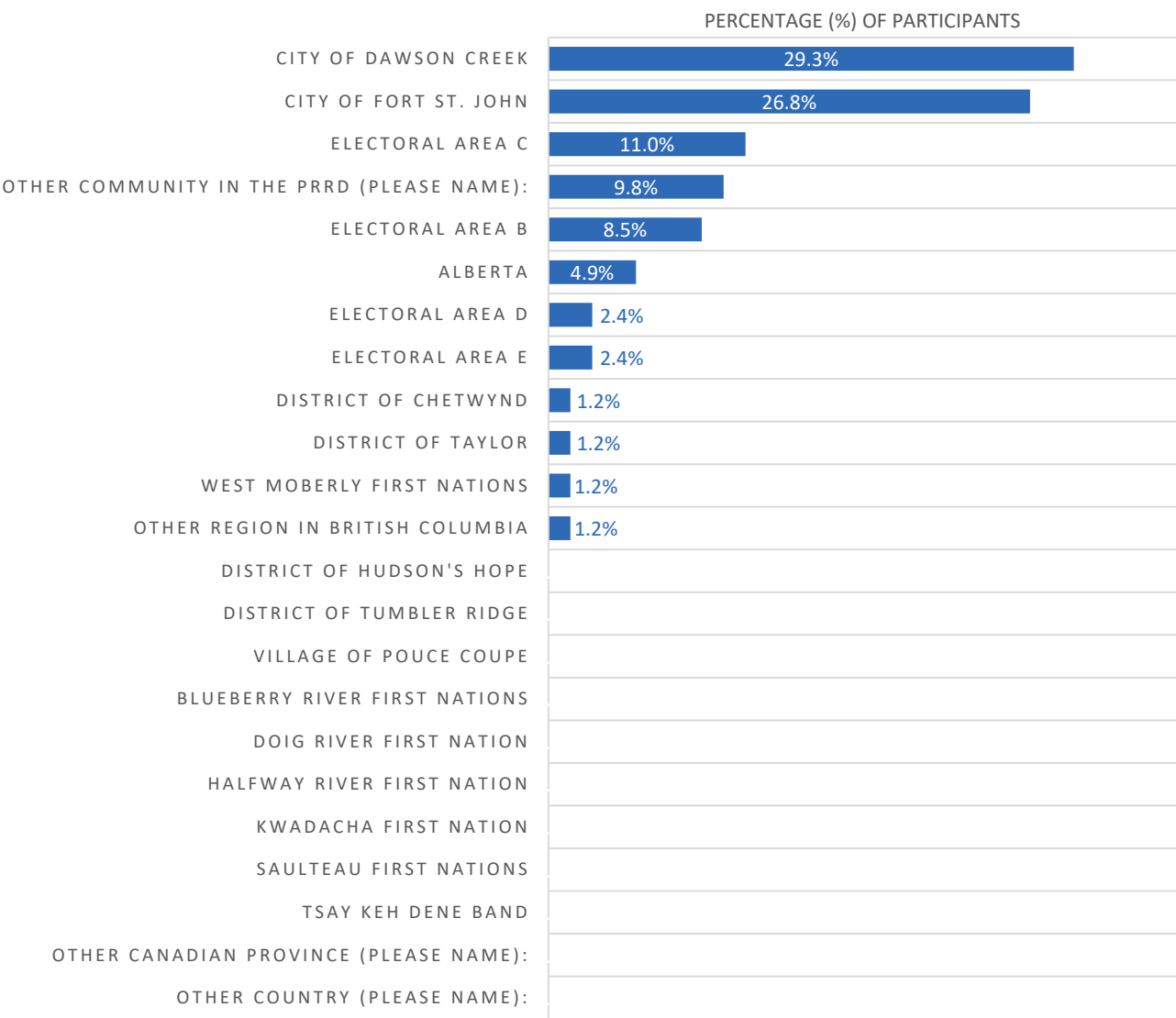
- ▶ More females (64.5%) than males (34.2%) participated in the questionnaire.



QUESTION 3: WHERE DO YOU LIVE?

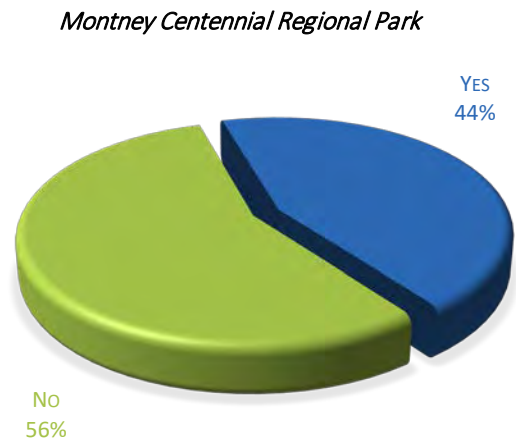
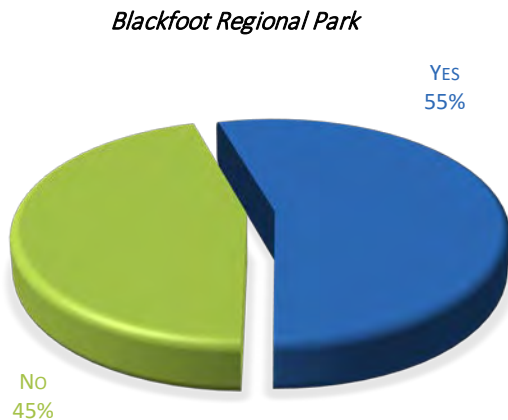
Participants were asked to identify where they lived:

- ▶ The largest percentage of participants reside in either the City of Dawson Creek (29.3%) or the City of Fort St. John (26.8%).
- ▶ Several other participants reside in Electoral Area C (11%) and Electoral Area B (8.5%), or identified living in an other specific community in the PRRD (9.8%).
- ▶ Other communities where participants identified as residing included Rolla, Diamond Willow Sub, Doe River, Farmington, Winnowing, Cecil Lake, and Charlie Lake.
- ▶ Almost 5% of participants reside in Alberta.



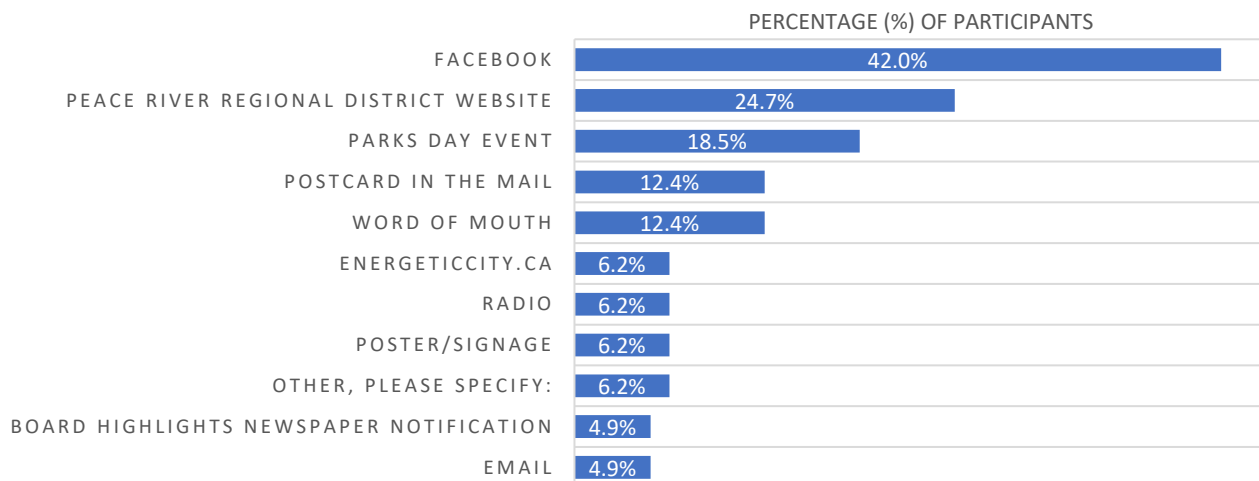
QUESTION 4: DO YOU CURRENTLY USE EITHER OF THE PARKS?

- ▶ 55% of participants identified using Blackfoot Regional Park.
- ▶ 44% identified using Montney Centennial Regional Park.



QUESTION 5: HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS QUESTIONNAIRE?

- ▶ A large percentage of participants heard about the questionnaire through Facebook (42%).
- ▶ The Peace River Regional District website (24.7%) and the Parks Day event at Montney Centennial Park (18.5%) also informed a number of participants.



QUESTION 6: I WISH TO PROVIDE INPUT ON:

- ▶ Both Parks (37%)
- ▶ Only Blackfoot Regional Park (32%)
- ▶ Only Montney Centennial Regional Park (31%)

PART 2: BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

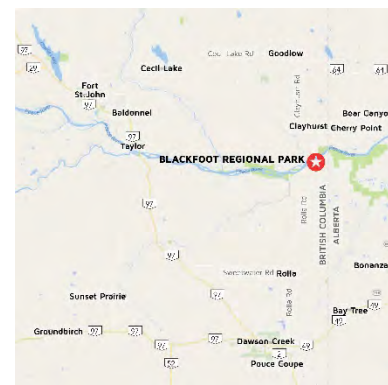
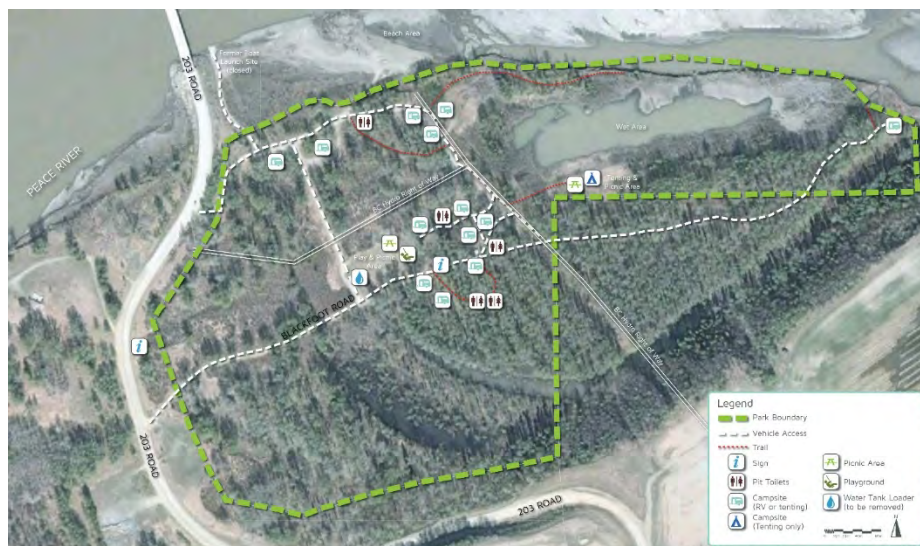
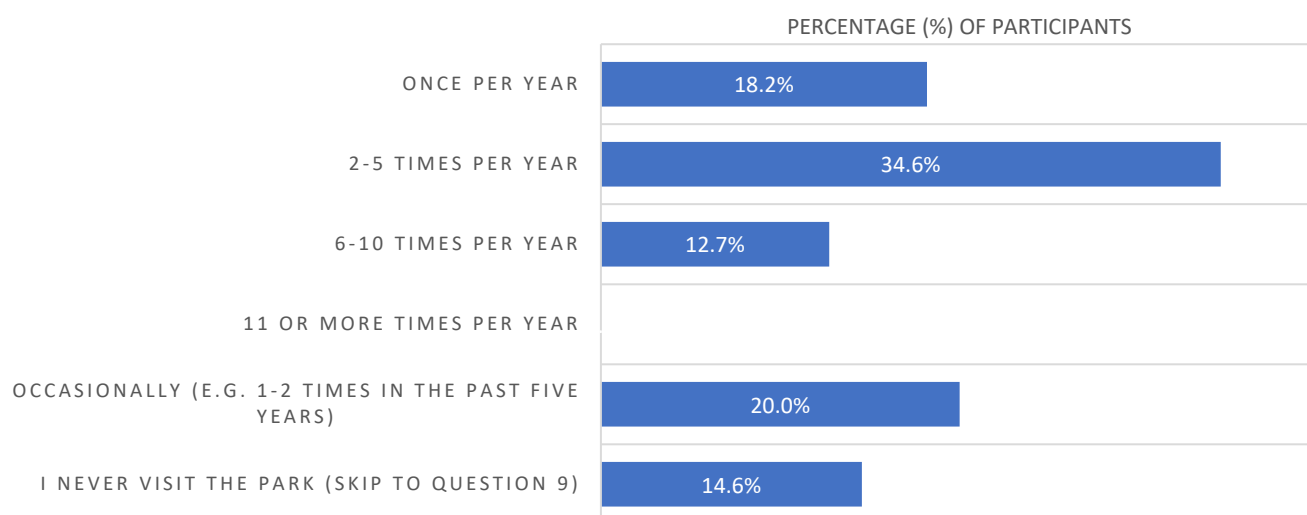


Figure 3: Blackfoot Regional Park Site Map (above) and park location (above right).

CURRENT PARK USE

To understand how visitors currently use Blackfoot Regional Park, participants answered the following five questions.

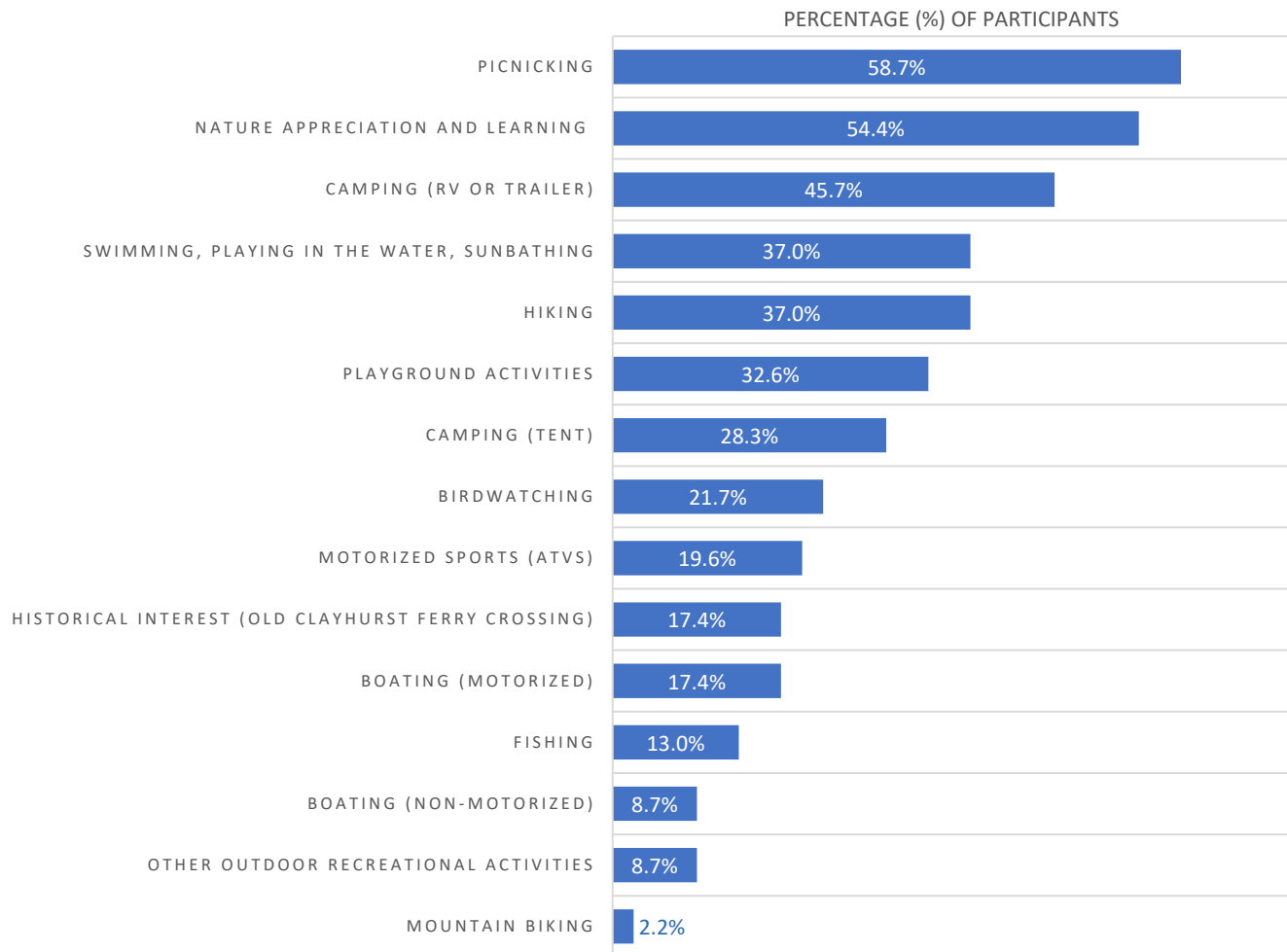
QUESTION 7: HOW FREQUENTLY WOULD YOU SAY YOU VISIT THE PARK?



QUESTION 8: WHAT ACTIVITIES HAVE YOU PARTICIPATED IN AT BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK?

Top three activities:

1. Picnicking
2. Nature appreciation and learning (e.g. wildflowers, vegetation, wildlife)
3. Camping (RV or trailer)



“Other” identified activities included:

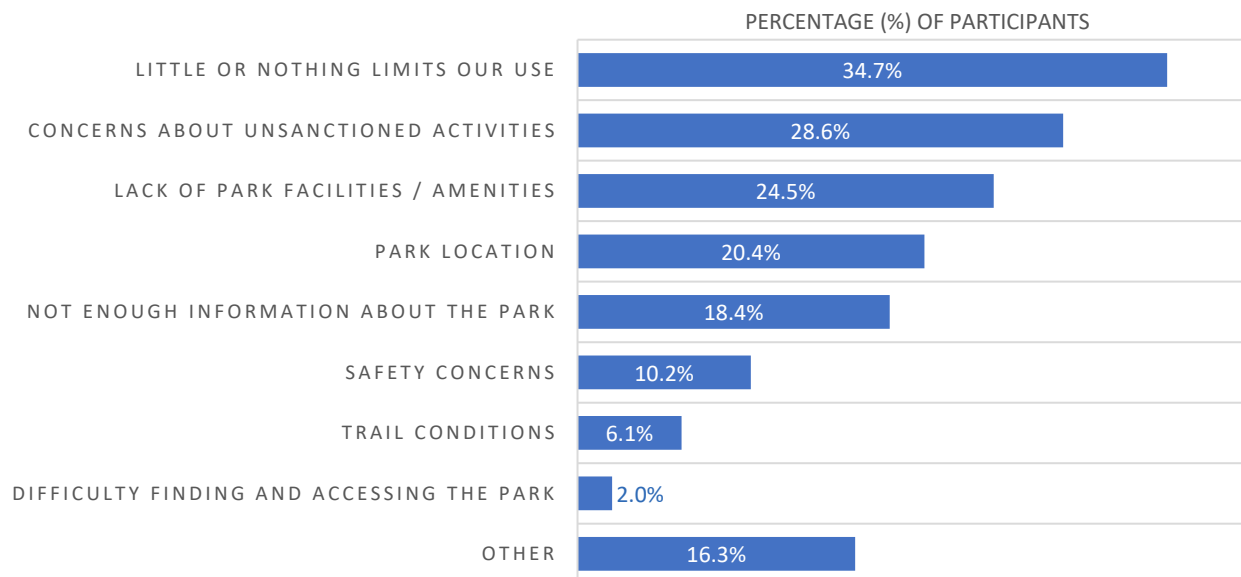
- ▶ Sandcastle building
- ▶ Dog walking
- ▶ Tobogganing

QUESTION 9: WHAT, IF ANYTHING, LIMITS YOUR USE OF BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK?

A large percentage of participants (34.7%) indicated that little or nothing limits their use of the park.

The top three limitations:

1. Concerns about unsanctioned activities (parties, vandalism)
2. Lack of facilities and amenities
3. Park location

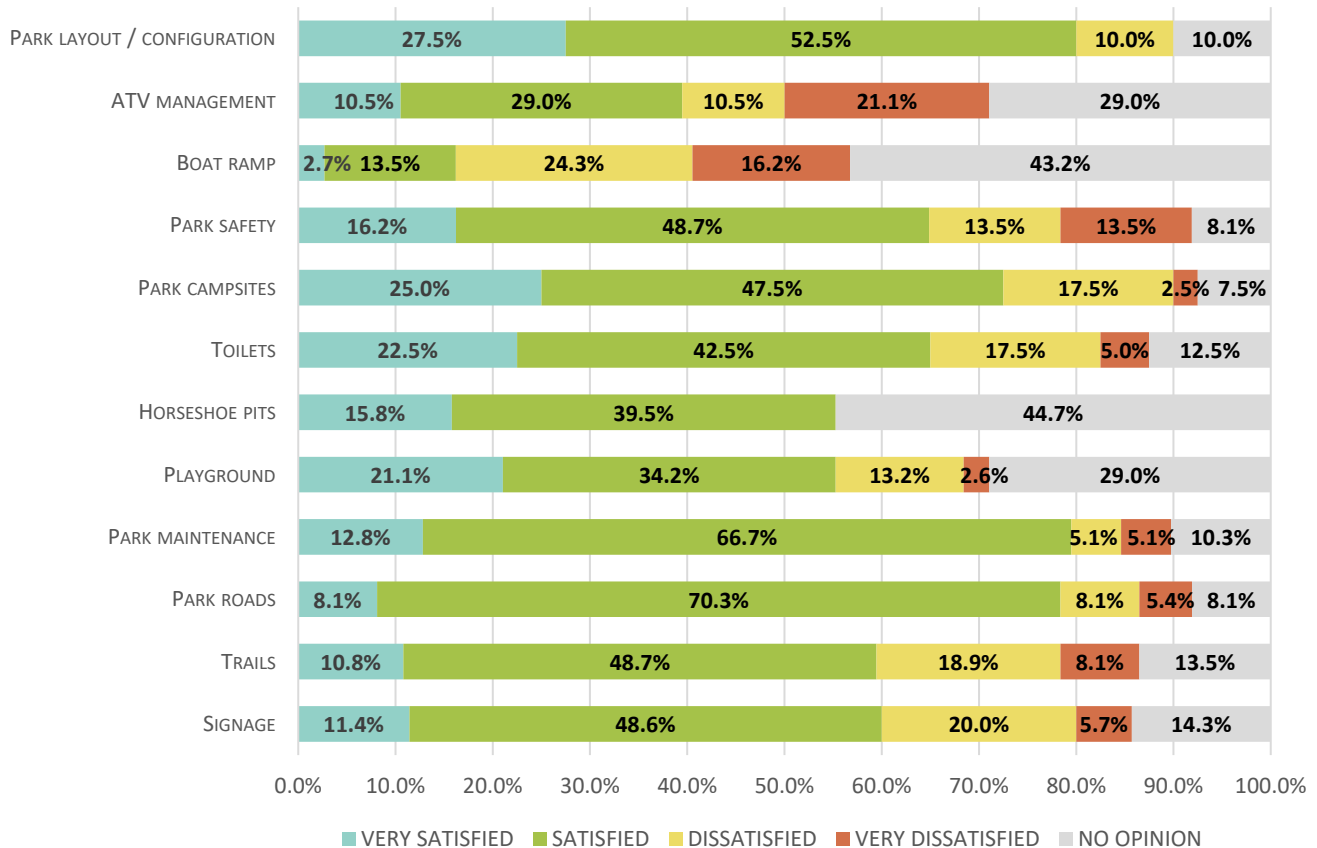


“Other” limitations for park use besides the reasons listed included:

- ▶ Lack of well-maintained trails
- ▶ Lack of control of park user activity such as parties
- ▶ Distance (to travel)
- ▶ No hiking and mountain biking trails
- ▶ No RV hook-ups
- ▶ Unmaintained boat launch and difficult river access
- ▶ Conflicts with motorbike or quad use (lack of management, speed, misuse)
- ▶ Lack of a reservation system

QUESTION 10: IF YOU'VE VISITED BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK, WHAT IS YOUR LEVEL OF SATISFACTION WITH THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS?

- ▶ In general, participants noted that they were satisfied with most park elements.
- ▶ Participants indicated that they were most “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” with the boat ramp (40.5%) and ATV management (31.6%).



Other comments concerning park aspects for Blackfoot Regional Park included:

- ▶ Love of the park based on relaxed camping setting, beauty, and that it is a no fee campsite.
- ▶ Desire for improved maintenance (feels neglected).
- ▶ Desire for improved management (concerns about ATV noise, ATV use, and bush parties).
- ▶ Desire for improved amenities including more trails, larger playground, better signage, boat launch for access to the river (which can be seasonally challenging depending on silt and woody debris deposition), more campsites, improved toilets, and day use parking.
- ▶ Easier access to the tenting area – remove big logs blocking the entrance.

QUESTION 11: WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE ARE THE BIGGEST ISSUES OR CHALLENGES IN BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK?

- ▶ Lack of park management (park attendant for monitoring of park user activity including garbage and vandalism) and regulation (for safety due to remoteness, control of parties, and ATV management)
- ▶ Campground configuration
- ▶ Limited campsites and no hook-ups
- ▶ No information if campsites are booked
- ▶ Lack of day-use area
- ▶ Lack of activities for families
- ▶ Limited park knowledge – suggested park promotion to increase awareness
- ▶ Lack of programming (suggested programming included Bike Day, Dog Day, Geocaching Day, Teddy Bear Picnic, educational sessions, astronomy camp-outs)
- ▶ Park location (suggestion to provide clear directional signage including proximity to major centres)
- ▶ Park road conditions can be impassable at times
- ▶ Inadequate boat access to river
- ▶ Lack of marked trails (suggestion to develop trails specifically for hiking, biking, and horse riding in summer and cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in winter as well as ATV-specific trails)
- ▶ Lack of clean toilets
- ▶ Lack of fresh drinking water supply

FUTURE PARK USE

To identify potential improvements in Blackfoot Regional Park, participants were asked to provide input on future park use.

QUESTION 12: IF YOU COULD DESCRIBE IN ONE WORD OR SHORT PHRASE YOUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Words generated:

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Safe | • Picnic by the river |
| • Family friendly fun | • Keep natural |
| • Easy going | • Explore the natural beauty of the Peace River |
| • More campsites | • Hidden gem |
| • Better playground | • Free |
| • More supervision | • Green oasis on banks of Peace River |
| • Peaceful and quiet place to relax and enjoy nature | • Well-maintained, clearly marked trails for hiking/biking |
| • Maintain rustic feel | • Cater to larger RV's with hook-ups |
| • Usable | • Boater destination |
| • Functional | • Less vandalism and partying |
| • Responsible quad use | • Beautiful, quiet park to enjoy with family and friends |

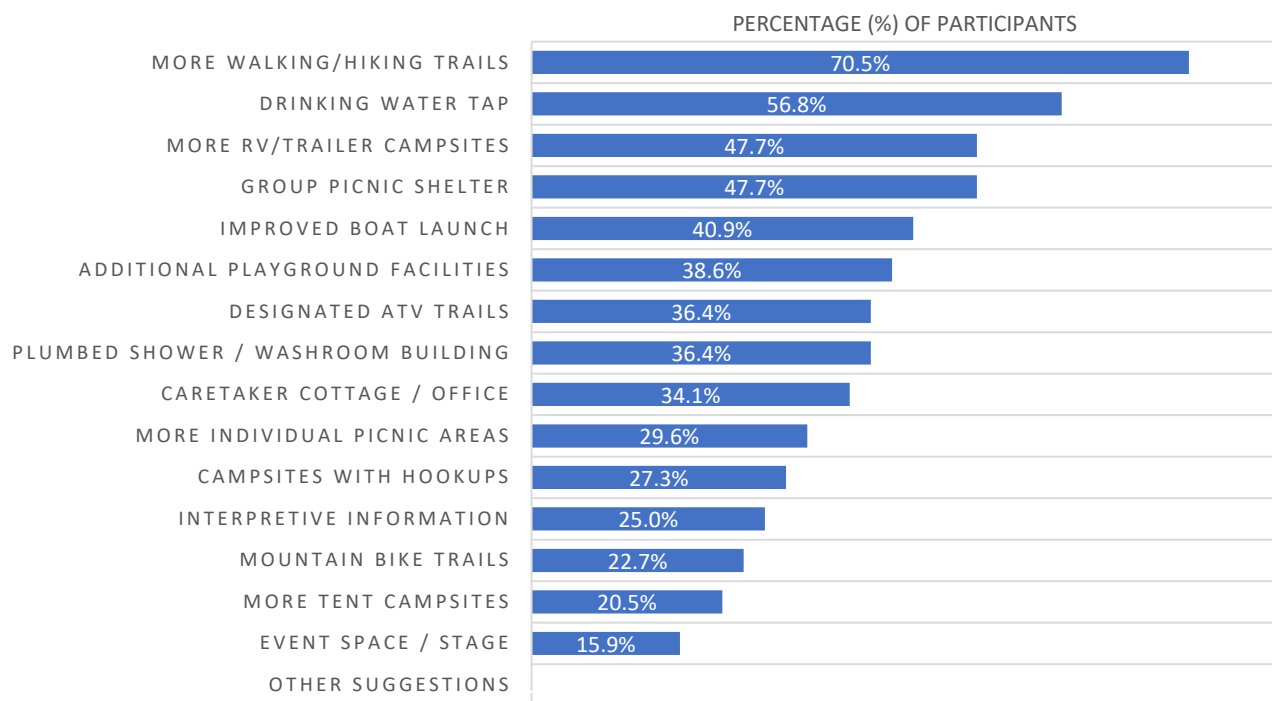
PRELIMINARY DRAFT VISION FOR BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

Blackfoot Regional Park invites people to explore the natural splendor of the Peace River in a rustic, quiet, and family-friendly forest space, becoming the starting point to many great adventures and memories.

QUESTION 13: WHAT AMENITIES DO YOU THINK MIGHT WARRANT CONSIDERATION IN BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK?

The top three amenities that participants felt might warrant consideration for Blackfoot Regional Park included:

1. More Walking/Hiking Trails
2. Drinking Water Tap
3. More RV/Trailer Campsites (tie)
3. Group Picnic Shelter (tie)

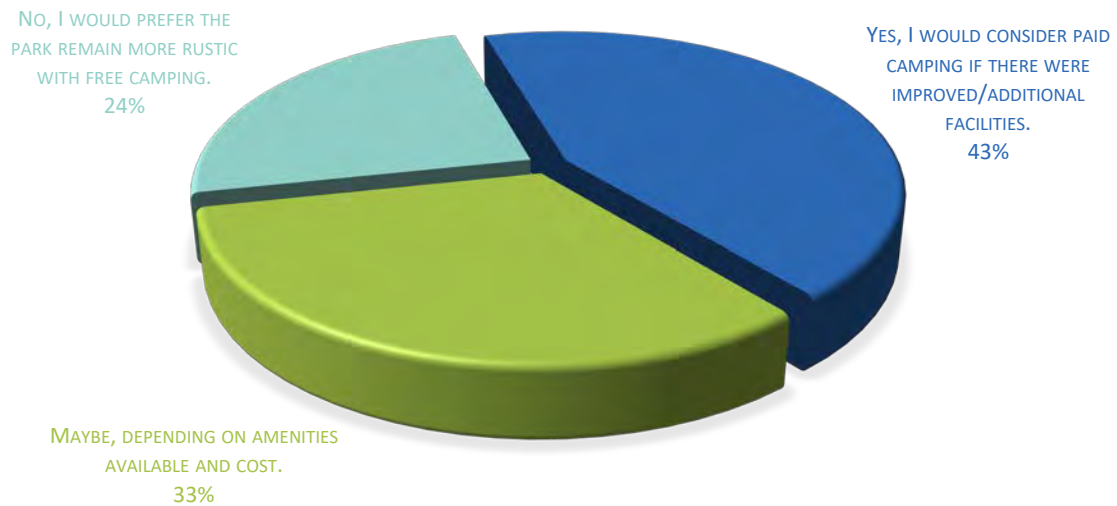


Other suggestions included:

- ▶ Plant new trees to replace the old trees
- ▶ Water (even non-potable water for dishes and putting out campfires)
- ▶ Day use parking
- ▶ Well-maintained washroom facilities
- ▶ Centre cook station with picnic tables and camp wood stove
- ▶ ATV management

QUESTION 14: IF BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK WAS ENHANCED TO INCLUDE IMPROVED/ADDITIONAL FACILITIES, WOULD YOU CONSIDER PAYING FOR CAMPING IN THE PARK?

- ▶ Many participants (43%) indicated that they would support paid camping if it meant that there were improved or additional facilities in the park.
- ▶ About one-quarter (24%) indicated a preference that the park remain more rustic with free camping.



PART 3: MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

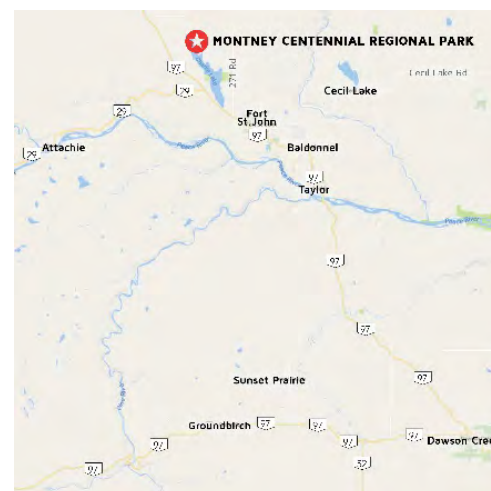
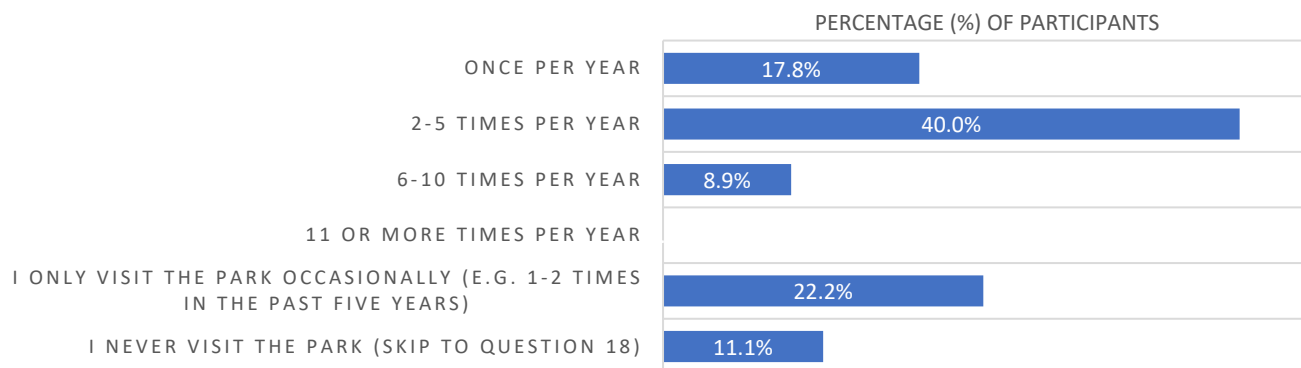


Figure 4: Montney Centennial Regional Park Site Map (above) and park location (above right).

CURRENT PARK USE

To understand how visitors currently use Montney Centennial Regional Park, participants answered the following five questions.

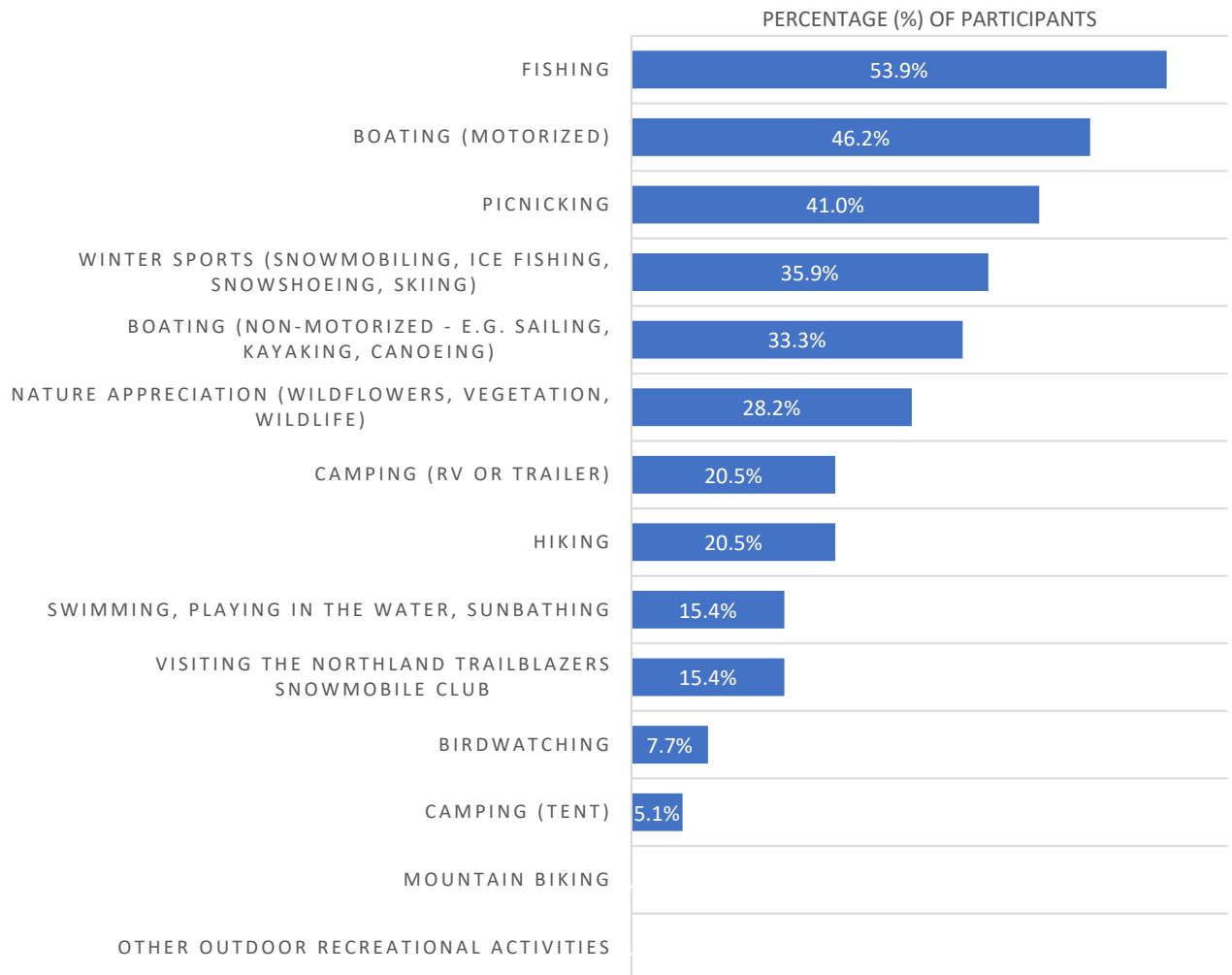
QUESTION 15: HOW FREQUENTLY WOULD YOU SAY YOU VISIT THE PARK?



QUESTION 16: WHAT ACTIVITIES HAVE YOU PARTICIPATED IN AT MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK?

Top three activities:

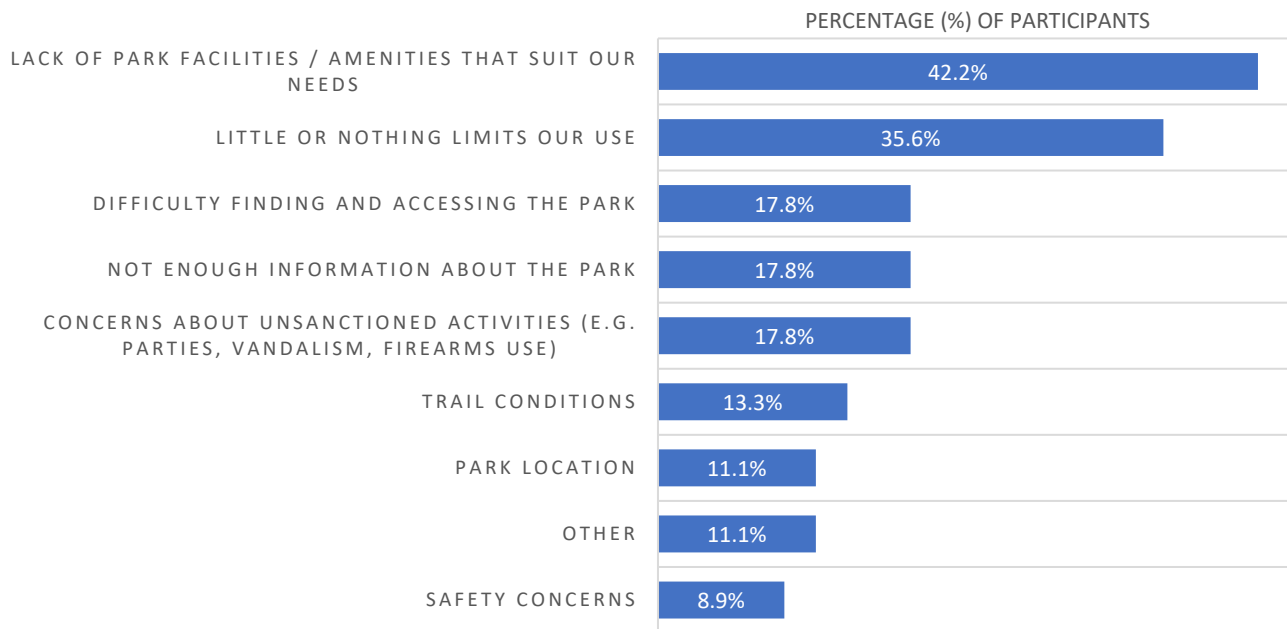
1. Fishing
2. Boating (motorized)
3. Picnicking



Participants did not identify any other activities that they participate in at Montney Centennial Regional Park.

QUESTION 17: WHAT, IF ANYTHING, LIMITS YOUR USE OF MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK?

- ▶ The main reason people do not visit Montney Centennial Regional Park is lack of park facilities/amenities that suit their needs (42.2%).
- ▶ Park accessibility, lack of park information, and concerns about unsanctioned activities were also identified as limitations (each 17.8%).

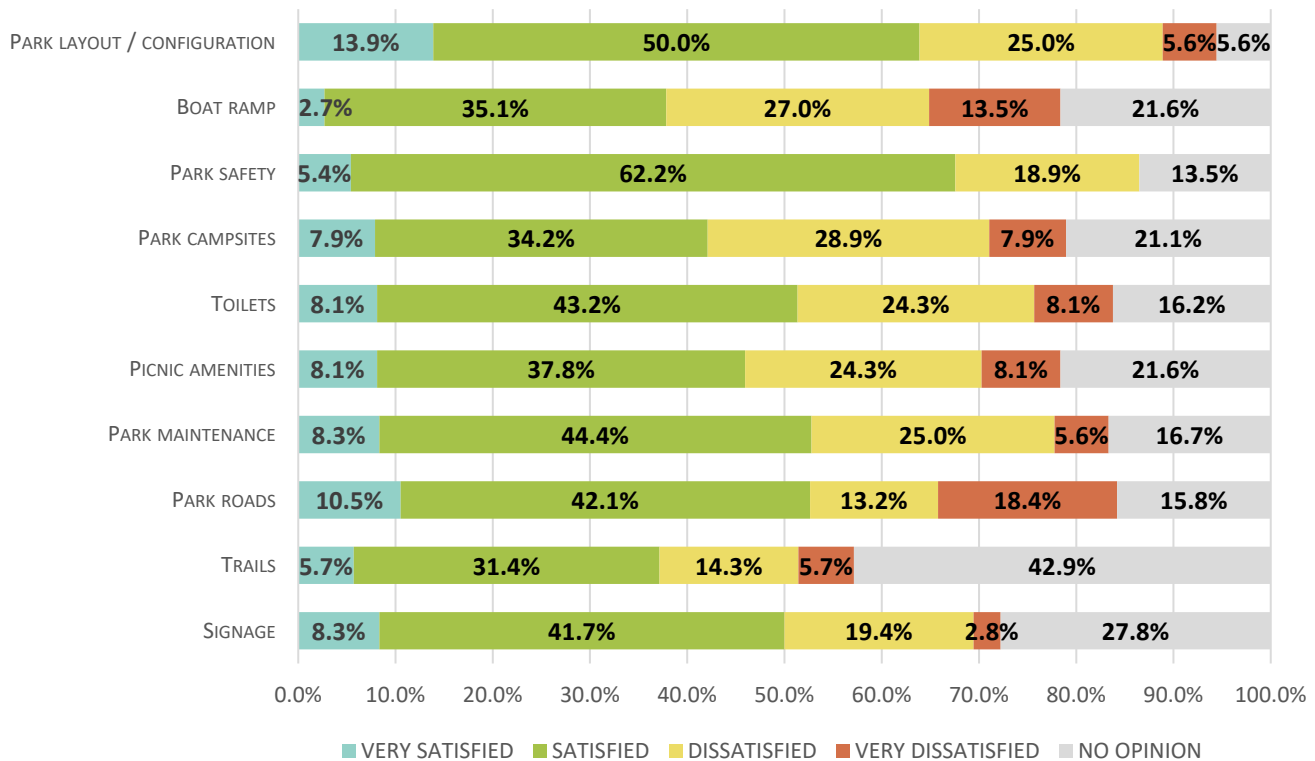


“Other” limitations for park use aside from reasons listed included:

- ▶ Road leading into the park (rough and dusty)
- ▶ Lack of signage
- ▶ Limited day use area
- ▶ Limited available campsites (issues with long-term campers occupying sites for long periods)
- ▶ No campsites with hook-ups
- ▶ Charlie Lake water quality (conditions of the lake water)
- ▶ Lack of a “family” feel
- ▶ Lack of activities

QUESTION 18: IF YOU'VE VISITED MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK, WHAT IS YOUR LEVEL OF SATISFACTION WITH THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS?

- ▶ Generally, many were satisfied with the park elements at Montney Centennial Regional Park.
- ▶ Participants indicated that they were most “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied” with the boat ramp (40.5%), park campsites (36.8%), and park toilets and picnic amenities (32.4% each).



QUESTION 19: WHAT DO YOU BELIEVE ARE THE BIGGEST ISSUES OR CHALLENGES IN MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK?

- ▶ Poor road conditions (muddy conditions when it rains, dusty conditions)
- ▶ Difficult to find due to lack of signage to get to park from highway recently upgraded
- ▶ Charlie Lake is not swimmable (due to poor water quality, lack of shoreline or beach area)
- ▶ Poor park configuration and lack of privacy (limited campsites, no private campsites)
- ▶ Lack of park monitoring for safety
- ▶ Lack of maintenance and upkeep
- ▶ Limited amenities (e.g. play area for kids, additional walking/hiking trails, designated fire pits, day use parking, boat launch or dock, and upgraded/additional washroom facilities)
- ▶ Need to address long-term campers

FUTURE PARK USE

To understand participant needs and wants for potential improvements for Montney Centennial Regional Park, participants were asked to provide input on future park use.

QUESTION 20: IF YOU COULD DESCRIBE IN ONE WORD OR SHORT PHRASE YOUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE OF MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

Respondents were asked to provide in one word or a short phrase their vision for the future of the park. Common words and phrases were:

- Leave as is
- Close enough to home but far enough away for a holiday
- Accessible for all campers
- Multi-use area that attracts people
- Day use activities (hiking on designated trails, viewpoints for lake and wildlife)
- Clean water in Charlie Lake
- Quiet, peaceful
- Secret treasure in Peace Country
- Hidden gem
- Better upkeep
- Nicer camping facility
- Fishing or boating dock
- Picnic
- Family friendly campsite
- RV friendly
- Safe
- Upgraded
- Quiet
- Larger
- Rustic
- One with nature
- Safe environment

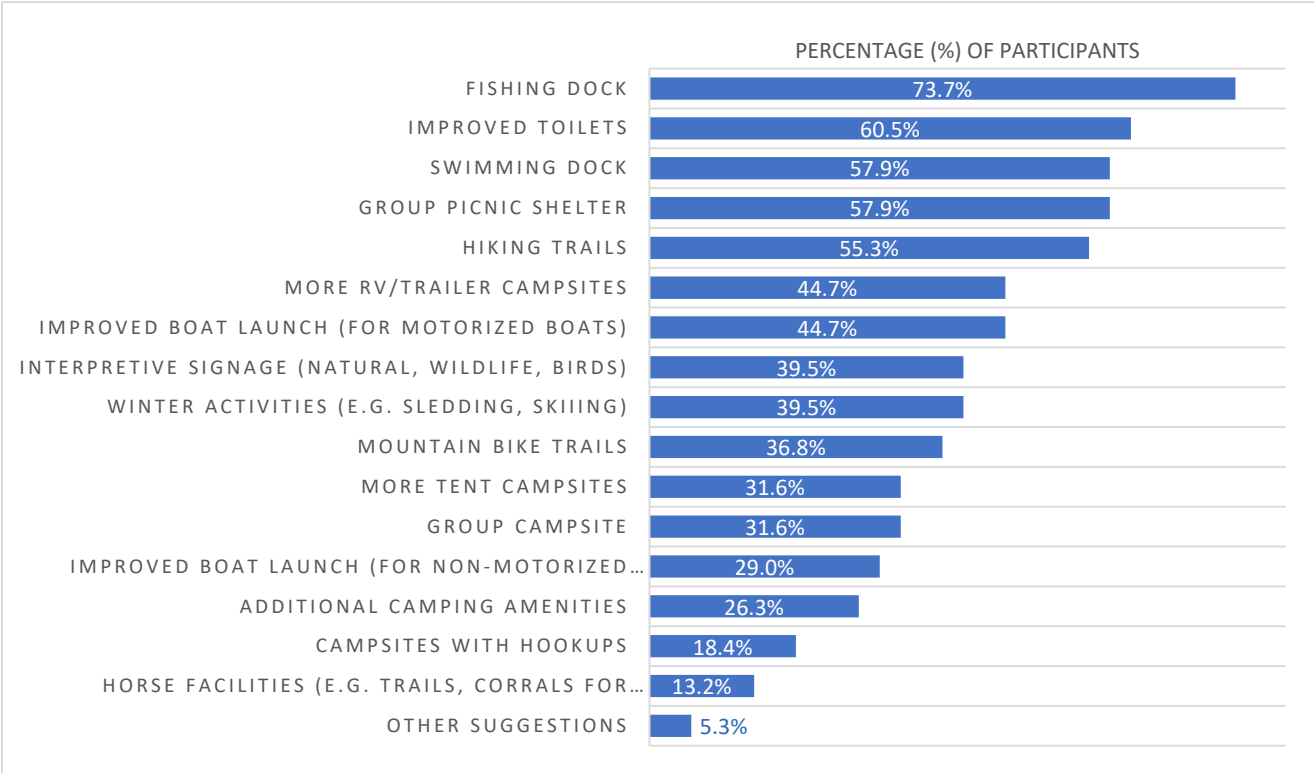
PRELIMINARY DRAFT VISION MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

Montney Centennial Regional Park offers unique, remote recreational experiences on Charlie Lake that invite people to stay for a day or for a week and enjoy solitude and peace in a lakefront forest.

QUESTION 21: WHAT AMENITIES DO YOU THINK MIGHT WARRANT CONSIDERATION IN MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK?

Top three amenities:

1. Fishing Dock
2. Improved Toilets
3. Swimming Dock (tie)
3. Group Picnic Shelter (tie)

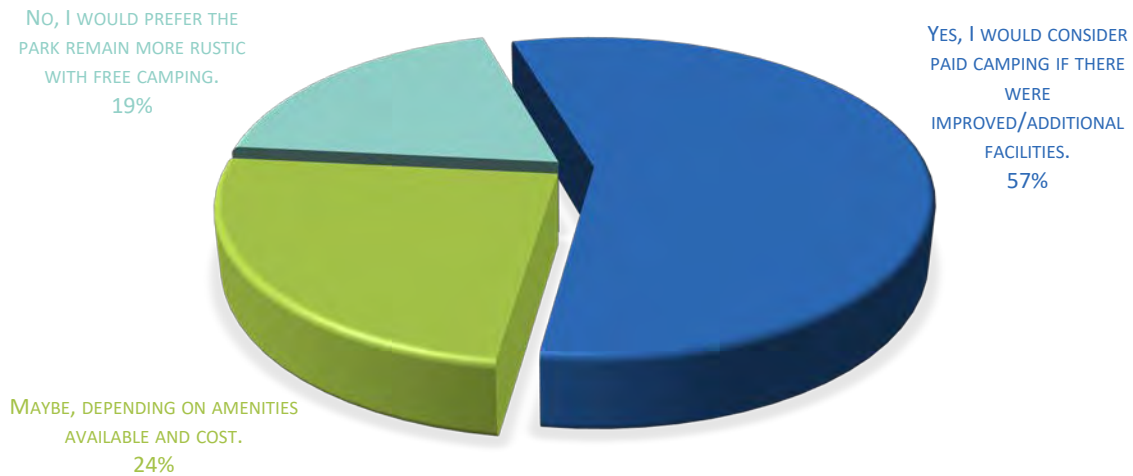


Other suggestions included:

- ▶ Disc golf (positive effects, blends well with other park activities such as skiing and mountain biking, and there is a local club that could support planning / fundraising – Fort St. John Disc Sports Club)
- ▶ Dog management (waste bags)
- ▶ Improved washrooms (handrail)
- ▶ Sandy beach
- ▶ Fishing dock
- ▶ Playground
- ▶ Tent sites (few places in the area to go for quiet tent camping while there are many options for RVs)
- ▶ Trails around the lake
- ▶ Motor-free to leave space for quiet outdoor pursuits

QUESTION 14: IF MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK WAS ENHANCED TO INCLUDE IMPROVED/ADDITIONAL FACILITIES, WOULD YOU CONSIDER PAYING FOR CAMPING IN THE PARK?

- ▶ The majority of participants (57%) indicated they would support paid camping if there were additional / improved facilities.



PART 4: GENERAL QUESTIONS

QUESTION 23. HAVE YOU VISITED A PROVINCIAL, REGIONAL, OR OTHER TYPE OF BACKCOUNTRY PARK AND HAD A GREAT EXPERIENCE? IF YES, PLEASE TELL US THE NAME OF THE PARK AND WHAT MADE IT GREAT.

- **Swan Lake Provincial Park (south of Dawson Creek)** – family friendly, boat launch, dock, green areas (but fee)
- **Heart Lake (Pine Le Moray Provincial Park)** – beautiful, rustic, water-side sites, free camping
- **Liard Hot Springs Provincial Park (Alaska Hwy)**
- **Kiskatinaw Provincial Park (Alaska Hwy)**
- **Mile 54 Campground at Charlie Lake (Charlie Lake Provincial Park)** – cleanliness, paths, and very clean outhouse facilities, tidy campsites, ability to reserve
- **William Lake** – well water supply, paved roads, good park attendants
- **Stewart Lake**
- **Galloping Goose Trail (Capital Regional District)** – management of motorized uses
- **Beaton Provincial Park (Charlie Lake)** – paved but natural, good snow shoe trails, good camping facilities, day use area for swimming and picnicking
- **Peace Island Park (Taylor)**
- **Campbell Valley Regional Park (Langley)** – variety of trails, group picnic shelters, parking, wheelchair accessibility, camping, off leash dog areas)
- **Aldergrove Regional Park (Aldergrove)** – variety of trails, group picnic shelters, parking, and educational sessions
- **Tumbler Ridge (Lions Flatbed Creek Campground, Monkman Cascades Trail)** – many great backcountry campgrounds and hiking areas including Monkman Cascades (fire rings, tent sites, and simple but clean pit toilets) and Lions Campground (large play area and creek)
- **One Island Lake Provincial Park (south of Dawson Creek)** – nice campground
- **Juniper Beach Provincial Park (Cache Creek)** – along the Thompson river to explore, great swimming area, good fishing spots, full hook-up sites, grassy tent area, pay showers, play area for children to play and ride bikes
- **Moonshine Lake (Hwy 49, west of Spirit River, AB)** – common area for BBQs, open but treed for privacy
- **Jones Lake Recreation Area (Chilliwack)** – beautiful lake with swimming, variety of campsites for both families and other groups, very rustic, pay shower, secluded (no cell service) but close enough for a weekend getaway, park warden, free camping
- **Desolation Sound Marine Provincial Park** – marine park but good amenities in the park
- **Provincial Parks (e.g. Fintry Park, Christina Lake, Lakelse Lake)** – reservation system so confirmed spot, shower facilities, outdoor kitchen sinks
- **Blackfoot Regional Park** – nostalgic, free to camp, seems well cared for
- **Meziadin Lake Provincial Park (Hwy 37)** – good park operator, well maintained, lakefront sites
- **Southern Interior Campgrounds** – lots of amenities, maintain water resource
- **Whistlers Campground (Jasper)** – wash basins outside of washrooms, fire permit for fee (free wood)
- **Pacific Rim National Park (Tofino)**
- **Carp Lake Provincial Park (near McLeod Lake)** – peaceful solitude, quiet, beautiful, fish cleaning station at boat launch, free firewood
- **Cotillion Park (west of Spirit River, AB)** – shower/washroom facility, but fee
- **Alberta Parks** – many have group picnic shelter, plumbed shower and washroom facility (paid by oil companies working in the area that have profits that can pay for facilities)
- **Oles Lake Provincial Recreation Area (Hwy 2, north of Grande Prairie, AB)** – trail around the lake, sandy beach, and playground
- **Mount Revelstoke National Park** – hiking trails, clean, well maintained
- **Moberly Lake Provincial Park** – natural beauty, clean toilets, regulations on park use (issues in 2017 are due to lack of enforcement on rules at night and hours of generator use)

QUESTION 24: DO YOU HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, CONCERNS, OR IDEAS ABOUT EITHER PARK THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE AT THIS TIME?

PAID CAMPING / NO-FEE CAMPING

- ▶ Some park users appreciate the no fee option to camp and are satisfied with limited services and the rustic aspect as it allows them to camp more during the summer.
- ▶ A reservation system would be beneficial, as both parks are remote and can be busy and full during the summer months.
- ▶ Some park users suggested that if there is a fee with a park attendant, park users would respect the park more and there would be less misuse.

CAMPING PREFERENCES

- ▶ There are a variety of park users including those who seek out parks for quiet, rustic, and natural settings and those who prefer motorized activities (RVs, quads, ski-doo's, power boats, generators). This can impact those park users who prefer a quieter style of camping (tenting, canoeing, snow shoeing) or family recreation.

"The large RV campers do not notice the impact they have on those seeking a different style of camping; their noise trumps the silence of nature. Having a mere buffer of trees does not eliminate the noise or nuisance caused by other types of campers and takes away from the natural serenity."

PARK MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE

- ▶ Local community members may not use the parks due to limited management of ATVs, noise, unsanctioned activities, and garbage.
- ▶ Desire for clean, well maintained parks.
- ▶ Desire for an on-site park attendant.
- ▶ Maintenance of roadway trees (to accommodate larger RVs).
- ▶ Improve maintenance of Road 277 to Montney Centennial Regional Park to account for additional traffic during summer.

ENVIRONMENT

- ▶ Take steps to improve the water quality of Charlie Lake.
- ▶ Enhance parks as natural areas.
- ▶ Blackfoot Regional Park has unique presence of fireflies.

AMENITIES

- ▶ Install a water pump at Blackfoot or install signage to use unpotable water at own risk.

GENERAL

- ▶ Need for a Regional Park that is closer to the City of Dawson Creek (suggestion for PRRD take over the Nordic Ski Hill on Bear Mountain and manage it in the summer and winter seasons).



APPENDIX A: COMMUNITY EVENT FEEDBACK

"EXPLORE IT, ENVISION IT" RESULTS

During the community events, participants were asked to help explore the possibilities for Blackfoot and Montney Centennial Regional Parks by writing down words about what they envision for the two parks.

VISION FOR THE PARKS	
BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less vandalism and partying
MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boat launch dock/wharf Interpretive signage (environmental impact) Reduce littering and smoking Grassy areas for picnics and playing Lake "clean-up" Dock with benches (currently snowmobile club dock is used) Access to point for deep water fishing Park signage, maps, and park promotion Playground Improved boat launch (better aggregate)

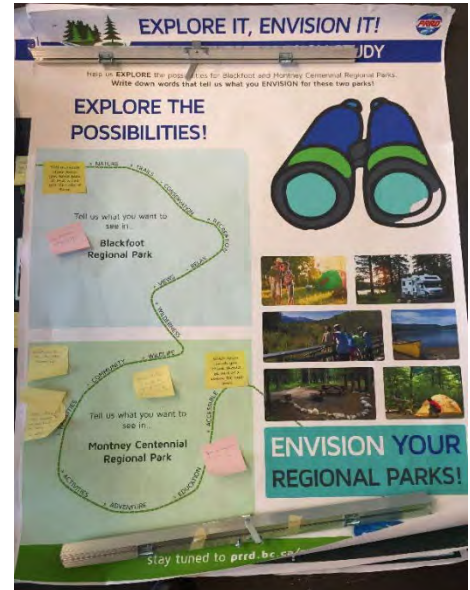


Figure 5: "Envision it, Explore it" Activity

COMMUNITY MAPPING RESULTS

During the community events, participants were asked to record their observations and ideas for each park by adding a sticky note to the park maps.



Figure 7: Community Mapping Exercise for Blackfoot Regional Park

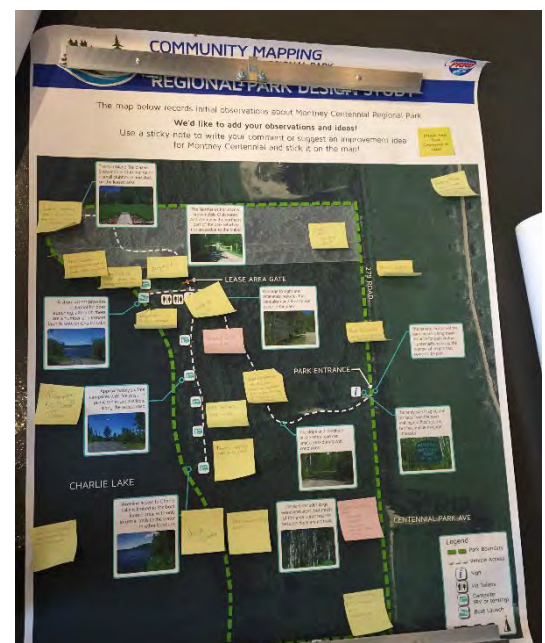


Figure 6: Community Mapping Exercise for Montney Centennial Regional Park.

SUGGESTED PARK IMPROVEMENTS

BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

- Park management and enforcement potentially with fee (security, emergencies)
- Improved walking trails (to beach, dog walking)
- Consider steep slopes due to safety and liability issues
- Interpretive signage, park maps, and directional signage to park
- ATV management and regulation in park and beach area/sand dune area
- Garbage cans
- Improvements to boat launch for safety
- Enhanced tree planting by river
- Grassy areas for play and picnics
- Paved route to improve campsite accessibility

MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

- Dock with benches (currently snowmobile club dock is used)
- Access to point for deep water fishing
- Park signage, maps, and park promotion
- Playground
- Boat launch (better aggregate)
- Improve road maintenance to park to alleviate issues with rain and dust
- Day use or picnic areas including gazebo, picnic tables, or covered areas
- Walking trails
- Designated campsites (improve privacy)
- Remove dead trees
- Enforcement/patrols
- Limitations for park stay duration (14 days maximum)
- Interpretive signage on unique bird species
- Improve multi-use aspects of park (disc golf, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, mountain bike trails)

WHAT PEOPLE LIKE

Blackfoot Regional Park

- ▶ Large, private campsites
- ▶ Group camping (large areas)
- ▶ Shallow swimming area that is ideal for families
- ▶ Trees
- ▶ Relaxed setting
- ▶ No fee campsite

Montney Centennial Regional Park

- ▶ Secluded park with rustic features
- ▶ Quaint, peaceful park on Charlie Lake
- ▶ No fee campsite



APPENDIX B: IDEAS QUESTIONNAIRE VERBATIM RESPONSES

BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

CURRENT PARK USE

QUESTION 9: PARK USE LIMITATIONS

- ▶ Love this park.
- ▶ Safety. Lack of well-maintained trails to walk on.
- ▶ Distance to get there.
- ▶ Lack of additional hiking and/or mountain biking.
- ▶ We live on lake shore property at Swan Lake - it is park like every day!
- ▶ My experience with these types of parks is that it is hard to get a campsite as reservations cannot be made.
- ▶ Busy farming.
- ▶ Would like to see services inside the park such as hook-ups.
- ▶ Unmaintained boat launch; difficult river access for boat launching due to silt deposits from recent flood events.
- ▶ No boat launch.
- ▶ Sometimes parties get out of hand (usually grad parties).
- ▶ Motor bikes and four-wheelers running around camping area at fast speeds.
- ▶ Too many people misusing the park for parting and driving their quads in the park.

QUESTION 10: SATISFACTION WITH PARK ELEMENTS

- ▶ Don't appreciate the ATV noise. Don't use the boat ramp or horseshoe pits. No problem with park safety. Need more trails. Larger playground would be nice.
- ▶ Boat launch not in service but people still use it; signage is minimal.
- ▶ We have been going to Blackfoot for over 25 years and we like the relaxed camping setting. It is beautiful down there, and we like the fact that it is a no-fee campsite.
- ▶ Lack of day use parking.
- ▶ Like it.
- ▶ Maintenance could be better.
- ▶ Boat access to river.
- ▶ It feels neglected. Bush parties and quads are ruining the outdoors in the Peace.
- ▶ Existing boat launch not maintained and river access is seasonally difficult depending on silt and woody debris deposition.
- ▶ Could use a few more camp sites. I am a respectful ATV rider. Boat ramp is gone. Could have more trails for ATV & walking.
- ▶ Should be more camping spots and should have more toilets.
- ▶ There are not enough toilets.
- ▶ Love this park.

QUESTION 11: BIGGEST ISSUES OR CHALLENGES

- ▶ The control of parties and ATV use.
- ▶ ATV use and partying.
- ▶ Vandalism.
- ▶ More campsites would be nice.
- ▶ Lack of attractions for day use.
- ▶ Awareness of location, awareness of proximity to Fort St. John and Dawson Creek.
- ▶ Not enough campsites.
- ▶ Signage has always been confusing.
- ▶ Monitoring the park. Unregulated, I am concerned about camping with partiers.
- ▶ Party spot and feelings of unsafe.
- ▶ Vandalism and lack of things to do.
- ▶ Controlling unsanctioned events (parties) and vandalism.
- ▶ Not enough camping spots.
- ▶ Road condition going down the hill from industrial activity, heavy haulers, etc.
- ▶ Boat access to river.
- ▶ People partying and leaving garbage.
- ▶ Hiking trails
- ▶ Fairly remote - hard to police, maintain.
- ▶ Boat launch.
- ▶ Keep grad parties contained.
- ▶ Need water supply for campers.
- ▶ No boat launch.
- ▶ Needs an attendant to oversee stuff regularly.
- ▶ Park roads make it impassable in some areas.
- ▶ The last time I was there a few year ago it was mainly teenagers partying. Makes me hesitate to take my kids now.
- ▶ ATV's in the park and driving out into the main road, someone will get hurt or killed.
- ▶ Provide safety for park users from others park users.
- ▶ Not knowing if sites are booked.
- ▶ More variety of trails for walking, bicycle, and horses in the summer. Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing in the winter.
- ▶ No day use area.
- ▶ Highway directions to get there from main roads.
- ▶ Broken glass.
- ▶ ATV use.
- ▶ Lack of fresh water supply.

- ▶ Garbage from inconsiderate campers.
- ▶ Three of camp sites.
- ▶ It feels neglected.
- ▶ Size - more area should be in the park to be utilized for hiking, etc.
- ▶ Lack of advertising - haven't heard much about it.
- ▶ Find ways to expand & increase campsites.
- ▶ Question: Are you going to replace the water supply being removed?
- ▶ Park campsite.
- ▶ A boat launch.
- ▶ Sometimes, depending on who camped there last, the sites can be in a state of disrepair.
- ▶ I don't think it has enough to do for my kids.
- ▶ Need a park attendant to cut the parties down and misuse of the park/ lots of garbage left behind on the road and park.
- ▶ Provide safe camping spots.
- ▶ More weekend activities. Bicycle day at the park. Dog day at the park. Geocaching day. Teddy bears picnic. More educational sessions. Camp-out under the skies with telescopes.
- ▶ No hook-ups.
- ▶ Minimal winter time use.
- ▶ Campground layout.
- ▶ Need more camp spots.
- ▶ Better marked and more developed / distinguished trails.
- ▶ A bit tired looking.
- ▶ Not sure.
- ▶ Increase trails - walking trails & ATV trails.
- ▶ ATV management.
- ▶ Need to expand number of campsites.
- ▶ Lack of signs on hiking trails.
- ▶ People driving ripping up the Goleta Creek Hill and Clay Hurst Hill with quads, side by side, and vehicles.
- ▶ Provide clean toilets and drinking water.

FUTURE PARK USE

QUESTION 12: VISION

- ▶ Safe family fun.
- ▶ More campsites.
- ▶ Large playground, more supervision.

- ▶ Peaceful and quiet.
- ▶ Rustic and usable.
- ▶ Just a nice family park with option to quad responsibility.
- ▶ Some improvements, but please keep it the rustic campsite it is.
- ▶ A place to relax and enjoy nature.
- ▶ Picnic by the river.
- ▶ Overnight and day use campsite.
- ▶ Keep natural.
- ▶ Safe and family friendly.
- ▶ Explore the natural beauty of the Peace River.
- ▶ Family friendly and easy going.
- ▶ Great camping near the Peace River.
- ▶ Hidden gem.
- ▶ Make more sites.
- ▶ Peaceful.
- ▶ Free.
- ▶ Green oasis on banks of river with well-maintained and clearly marked trails both for hiking and biking.
- ▶ More campsites, and more to cater to larger RV's.
- ▶ Boater destination.
- ▶ Family friendly, fun park.
- ▶ Functional.
- ▶ Actual hiking trails in the area would be nice.
- ▶ Family friendly.
- ▶ Better playground, hook-ups.
- ▶ Beautiful, quiet park for people to enjoy with friends and family.
- ▶ Safe place.

QUESTION 13: POSSIBLE AMENITIES

- ▶ Plant new trees to replace the old ones. Have water available to campers - even non-potable water for dishes and putting out campfires.
- ▶ Day use parking.
- ▶ Washroom facilities (whatever they are) need to be well-maintained.
- ▶ Maybe have a Centre Cook Section for people to have use of. With a couple of picnic tables and camp wood stove.
- ▶ I think ATV's should not be allowed in or around the park. The road going by the park is too busy to allow this.

MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

CURRENT PARK USE

QUESTION 17: PARK USE LIMITATIONS

- ▶ Rough and dusty road.
- ▶ Lack of signage.
- ▶ Limited day use area for when campsites are full or limited spots to tent.
- ▶ Water quality.
- ▶ More campsites with RV hookups would be nice.
- ▶ Lack of available sites, long term campers occupy campsite for long periods.
- ▶ Condition of the lake waters.
- ▶ Very few campsites.
- ▶ More campsites are needed as there are few to no RV parks in the area.
- ▶ It would be nice if there was a play area for children (park, sand/beach, tables by lake) or quadding trails. Not much to do at this campsite. Last time we camped here there were "squatters". Not much of a "family" feel.

QUESTION 18: SATISFACTION WITH PARK ELEMENTS

- ▶ Need private tucked campsites and better signage.
- ▶ Park monitoring.
- ▶ Signage needs to be more accurate.
- ▶ Don't camp; no trails; much better signage in 2017.
- ▶ The people camping had obviously been there for weeks. It looked like a squatter's camp.
- ▶ Glad to see the new signs on the highway :).

QUESTION 19: BIGGEST ISSUES OR CHALLENGES

- ▶ Muddy road when it rains
- ▶ Need designated fire pits, just so they know exactly where the fire should be.
- ▶ Improved roads, dust control.
- ▶ Poor access.
- ▶ Lack of walking trails.
- ▶ Charlie Lake water is not clean (wouldn't swim).
- ▶ Lack of shore line - beach gone.
- ▶ Lack of walking trails.
- ▶ More parking spaces.
- ▶ Poor layout.
- ▶ Difficult to find.

- ▶ Location.
- ▶ Access roads.
- ▶ Signage to get to the park from highway.
- ▶ No swimming.
- ▶ Need more outhouses. Should have a little more gravel for less dust.
- ▶ Campsites could be more private.
- ▶ Poor monitoring of the park.
- ▶ Boat launch.
- ▶ Better road access.
- ▶ Poor access/signage to get there.
- ▶ Upkeep.
- ▶ Not enough campsites.
- ▶ Lack of boat access.
- ▶ Information available in Regional Visitor Centre teaching me about what's available.
- ▶ Do not want fees.
- ▶ Do not want fees and require more outhouses.
- ▶ Cleaner water.
- ▶ Season long campers on site are tying up the boat launch area.
- ▶ No proper boat launch or dock.
- ▶ Play area for kids.
- ▶ Boat launch.
- ▶ Not enough amenities.
- ▶ Beach area developed and more private campsites.
- ▶ Bathrooms are disgusting.

FUTURE PARK USE

QUESTION 20: VISION

- ▶ Leave it as is.
- ▶ Close enough to home but far enough away for a holiday.
- ▶ Accessible.
- ▶ Create more of a multi-use area to attract people.
- ▶ Day use opportunities for hiking on designated trails, dock for viewing lake/wildlife.
- ▶ Would love to see water in Charlie Lake cleaned up.
- ▶ Quiet, peaceful; secret treasure in the Peace country.
- ▶ Create more of a multi-user area to attract people.

- ▶ I would like to see it kept up a bit better. I didn't actually know it had toilets at all. It seems pretty forgotten! We kayak so the boat launch is okay but a bit of gravel or something would be great (to avoid the muck). People are always fishing there so I think some sort of dock for them would be great.
- ▶ Picnic.
- ▶ Family campsite.
- ▶ More RV friendly / family friendly.

QUESTION 21: POSSIBLE AMENITIES

- ▶ Add disc golf to the park! There are many positive effects and there is a local club. It also blends really well with other activities in the park (i.e., skiing, mountain biking).
- ▶ Handrail to washrooms; baggies for cleaning up after dogs.
- ▶ It is a pretty minimal park. I think the people who go there are trying to avoid the larger parks. It would be great if there were some tent sites and perhaps some trails to explore but overall, I think it should be kept simple, just cleaned up.
- ▶ I want Montney Park to be a quaint, peaceful park along Charlie Lake. There are many options for those who haul large RVs and the similar camping styles that accompany it. For those seeking for a quiet campout in a tent, there are few places to go.
- ▶ Keep it motor-free. Too many motorized activities are taking over. Leave space for quiet outdoor pursuits.
- ▶ A sandy beach with a playground!

GENERAL

QUESTION 23: OTHER SUCCESSFUL PROVINCIAL, REGIONAL, OR BACKCOUNTRY PARKS

- ▶ Swan Lake and Heart Lake.
- ▶ Liard Hot Springs.
- ▶ Swan Lake - very kid friendly. Heart Lake - beautiful area/rustic.
- ▶ Mile 54 Campground at Charlie Lake - I love the cleanliness of it. I love the paths and the outhouse facilities are phenomenal. Very clean!
- ▶ William Lake has a well set up in the park, paved roads, good park attendants, and water supply.
- ▶ Stewart Lake.
- ▶ Beaton Provincial Park. It is paved but still has nature in it.
- ▶ Yes, Beaton Park - good snow shoe trails, good camping facilities and day use (swimming, picnicking).
- ▶ Peace Island.
- ▶ We were on the committee that had the land given for a park.
- ▶ Campbell Valley Regional Park - Awesome park with a variety of trails, group picnic shelters, parking, wheelchair access, camping, dog off-leash areas, etc. <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/parks/parks-greenways-reserves/campbell-valley-regional-park> and Aldergrove Regional Park - Awesome park with a variety of trails, group picnic shelters, parking, and wonderful educational sessions <http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/parks/parks-greenways-reserves/aldergrove-regional-park>

- ▶ Tumbler Ridge has many great backcountry campgrounds. We hiked to the Monkman Cascades this summer and stayed in four of them. They tended to have a fire ring with some logs around it, a tent site, and a pit toilet somewhere nearby. Simple but clean. One Island Lake also was a nice campground (but I don't know if it qualifies as backcountry).
- ▶ Juniper Beach Provincial Park (Cache Creek) - right along the Thompson river, great swimming area, good fishing spots, full hook-up sites, grassy tent area, pay showers, spot for kids to play and ride bikes around, cool areas along the river to explore
- ▶ Jones Lake (Chilliwack) - beautiful lake, very rustic, pay showers (I think), awesome for a close weekend getaway as it's very secluded (no cell service/hard to find), good swimming, lots of different campsites - area for families and then another side where the more rowdy groups go, free camping but has a park warden (not sure how that works).
- ▶ Heart Lake park - signage sucked though
- ▶ Desolation Sound - although it's a marine park and not applicable, but the informational available on it is nice.
- ▶ I like most provincial parks because you can make a reservation so you know you will have a spot when you get there and there are usually nice shower houses and I like the outdoor kitchen sinks they are putting in. Fintry Park was nice by Kelowna and so was Christina Lake and Lakelse Lake.
- ▶ So many parks up here feel neglected and look tired. Too many trailers, quads, ski-doo's, and power boats. We need to leave space for quiet, family recreation. So many people would love to see spaces for tenting, canoeing and snowshoeing.
- ▶ Yes, Blackfoot is nostalgic to me and I spent a lot of time there. It is nice to have free places to camp and have always enjoyed that. The place as always seemed well cared for when I have been there.
- ▶ Meziadin Lake - awesome park operator, one of the best maintained provincial parks I've seen in years. Really appreciated all of the lakefront sites.
- ▶ The campsites in the Southern Interior are very nice. Lots of amenities and they seem to upkeep the water resource.
- ▶ Jasper, too expensive.
- ▶ Pacific Rim National Park, perfect.
- ▶ Carp Lake - LOVE the peaceful solitude. The fish cleaning station at the boat launch is very well appreciated and was well thought out. Free firewood.
- ▶ Whistlers in Jasper - the wash basins on the outside of the washrooms, keeps the food smell not right in the campsites. Pay for a fire permit, but the wood is free.
- ▶ Yes, Charlie Lake Provincial Park. Tidy campsite and the ability to reserve a campsite made it great.
- ▶ Swan Lake - Nice boat launch, dock, green areas, but they charge.
- ▶ Heart Lake - Few spots near the water, others up the hill, free camping.
- ▶ Cotillion Park - Nice shower/bathroom facility but they charge to camp.
- ▶ In Alberta so many parks have a group picnic shelter and plumbed shower and washroom facility that are paid for by the oil companies working in the area. They have huge profits and should pay for these facilities.
- ▶ Lions campground in Tumbler Ridge. Large play area and creek to play in.
- ▶ We love Oles lake. The walking trail around the lake is wonderful, as is the sandy beach & playground. I believe if there were a playground, and more important a sandy beach with fishing dock it would draw more attention to the park. Walking trail could be made along the lake for families to enjoy.
- ▶ Revelstoke National Park. Lots of hiking trails clean and well looked after.

- ▶ We went to Moonshine Lake for a BBQ at the common area and really enjoyed it. The area itself was wide open, but still surrounded by trees, so the group had privacy.
- ▶ Carp Lake is one of my favorite campsites - quiet and beautiful, Tumbler Ridge's hiking trails are awesome.
- ▶ Moberly Lake Provincial Park - Great because of natural beauty, clean toilets, regulations on park use. Problems in 2017 include lack of enforcement of rules - noise at night and hours of generator use.

QUESTION 24: ADDITIONAL COMMENTS, CONCERNS, OR IDEAS ABOUT EITHER PARK

- ▶ Would really like the park to stay free to use or if paying then be able to reserve.
- ▶ Clean park, clean lake.
- ▶ Please consider leaving the park and camp as a no service park. The rustic aspect is received well in the North.
- ▶ Roadway trees cut back for larger RV trailers.
- ▶ The disc golf club is the Fort St. John Disc Sports Club. They know how to put in a course and have done so already in town.
- ▶ Appreciate opportunity learn more through Parks Day.
- ▶ PRRD staff very helpful and informative. Enjoyed seeing critters in Charlie Lake visuals and information.
- ▶ We would like to see a boat launch and more parking spaces.
- ▶ We need a Regional Park that is closer to the City of Dawson Creek. Love to see the PRRD take over the Nordic Ski Hill on Bear Mountain and manage it in the summer and winter seasons.
- ▶ Not all park users seek the same thing. And unfortunately, those who seek out parks for their calm, quiet, rustic nature setting are almost always interrupted by different styles of campers with large RVs, generators, motorized boats, and motorized items in general. The large RV campers do not notice the impact they have on those seeking a different style of camping; their noise trumps the silence of nature. Having a mere buffer of trees does not eliminate the noise or nuisance caused by other types of campers and takes away from the natural serenity. Montney Park has an opportunity to create a non-motorized park: no generators, no motor boats, no large RVs. A campsite that is tailored to day use and tenting. This would be a gem that people seek out. Traditional zoning practices don't place industry next to playgrounds or residential homes. And not all campgrounds should lump RV camping and tent camping together. Take this opportunity to be bold and keep one park natural and quiet.
- ▶ Keep it open! P.S. this is an amazing survey format to get feedback - good work!
- ▶ I think the PRRD would get more tourists if we had better campsites to offer to RV travelers.
- ▶ My family and I enjoy that park. We would like it to stay free as it allows us to camp more frequently during the summer. If we go to paid sites, we are limited to how many times we can take the family camping.
- ▶ We live on the 277 road and would love to see better maintenance of this road to account for the extra traffic that is on the road during the summer.
- ▶ On-site attendants.
- ▶ I feel it could have more hiking available. And a larger area included in the park.
- ▶ In the 47 years I have lived here, Blackfoot Regional Park is the only place in Northeast BC I have seen fireflies. Kind of regionally significant.
- ▶ It would be nice for both campsites (if you had to pay for use) if you could reserve a site just like you can with the Hudson's Hope sites (like Cameron Lake, Dinosaur Lake, etc.). Both parks are a little out of the way and Montney Park can be very busy and full in the summer.

- ▶ Would like to keep it rustic and free. Love the ability to use ATVs. Could use more trails. Would like to see a water hand pump area and maybe a few more camp sites.
- ▶ I think that people should have to pay for staying at the park with a park attendee and then maybe the park will not get misused. The community close to the park rarely uses the park because of all the ATV's and people getting out of hand with their parting. The garbage left behind along the roads from these people is sickening. The ATV's ripping out of the park onto the main road is scary: adults, kids, teens without helmets, doubled up, driving around is not safe, someone will get killed and I hope that my husband isn't the one driving his gravel truck and hit one of these idiots! I love the park but wishes people would use respect. Also, would like the water system to stay as is just put a sign up stating: USE AT OWN RISK! This water is good.



APPENDIX C: QUESTIONNAIRE FORM



REGIONAL PARK DESIGN STUDY

IDEAS QUESTIONNAIRE

Help us plan an exciting future for **Montney Centennial Regional Park** and **Blackfoot Regional Park** – two important outdoor parks in our region!

The PRRD is undertaking a Regional Park Design Study for these parks to understand what improvements could make the parks more enjoyable for visitors now and in the future.

The Regional Park Design Study began in July 2017 and is planned to be complete in November 2017. During this time, the PRRD will be requesting your input for each park to guide future activities, development, and management.

Share Your Ideas for a Chance to Win

Please share your ideas and insights about these two parks by completing this questionnaire. It should take about **10-15 minutes**. Your input will help inform concepts and recommendations for the parks.

Participants who submit a completed questionnaire will have the option to be entered into a draw for a chance to win a **\$250 Canadian Tire Gift Card**. To be entered, please check the contest entry box at the end of the questionnaire and provide your contact details. Contact information is confidential and will only be used to contact the draw winner.

You can submit your questionnaire any time between:
Saturday, July 29 and Monday, August 14, 2017

Would you Prefer to Complete this Questionnaire Online?

Visit prrd.bc.ca/engage and click on the **Regional Park Design Study** link.

Pass it On!

Know someone who might be interested in sharing their ideas for Montney Centennial or Blackfoot Regional Parks? Please let them know about this questionnaire. Don't forget to mention the chance to win a Canadian Tire Gift Card!

Questions?

» Please contact Bryna Casey, Parks and Rural Recreation Coordinator:
T: 250-748-3200 E: bryna.casey@prrd.bc.ca

What is a Regional Park Plan?

A Regional Park Plan that is a strategic, long-term document that the region can use to plan, prioritize, and budget for park improvements over time.

The plan establishes a guiding vision and principles and provides a concept plan and recommendations for development, operations, and management.

How to Submit Your Questionnaire:

In Person:

» July 29 or 30 at a Park Event

Drop-off to:

» PRRD Offices in Dawson Creek or Fort St. John
Attn: Bryna Casey

Mail to:

» Peace River
Regional District
Box 810, 1981 Alaska Hwy
Dawson Creek, BC
V1G 4H8

Scan and Email to:

» bryna.casey@prrd.bc.ca

Complete it online:

» prrd.bc.ca/engage



PART 1: ABOUT YOU

To help us understand who responds to this questionnaire, please answer the following questions.

1. In which age group are you?

- ☐ 0 to 19 years
- ☐ 20 to 29 years
- ☐ 30 to 39 years
- ☐ 40 to 49 years
- ☐ 50 to 59 years
- ☐ 60 to 69 years
- ☐ 70 years and over
- ☐ Prefer not to say

2. What is your gender?

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Prefer not to say

3. Where do you live?

In the Peace River Regional District (please select location):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blueberry River First Nations | <input type="checkbox"/> Saulteau First Nations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City of Dawson Creek | <input type="checkbox"/> Tsay Keh Dene Band |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City of Fort St. John | <input type="checkbox"/> Village of Pouce Coupe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District of Chetwynd | <input type="checkbox"/> West Moberly First Nations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District of Hudson's Hope | <input type="checkbox"/> Electoral Area B |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District of Taylor | <input type="checkbox"/> Electoral Area C |
| <input type="checkbox"/> District of Tumbler Ridge | <input type="checkbox"/> Electoral Area D |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doig River First Nation | <input type="checkbox"/> Electoral Area E |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Halfway River First Nation | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Community, please name: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kwadacha First Nation | |

Outside the Peace River Regional District (please select location):

- ☐ Other region in British Columbia
- ☐ Alberta
- ☐ Other Canadian Province (please name): _____
- ☐ Other Country (please name): _____

ABOUT YOU

4. Do you currently use either of the Parks?

Blackfoot Regional Park?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Montney Centennial Regional Park?

☐ Yes

☐ No

5. How did you hear about this questionnaire?

☐ PRRD Website

☐ Facebook

☐ Energeticcity.ca

☐ Radio

☐ Poster/signage

☐ Board Highlights Newspaper Notification

☐ Postcard in the Mail

☐ Email

☐ Parks Day Event at Montney Centennial Regional Park

☐ Word of Mouth

☐ Other (please specify):

6. I wish to provide input on:

☐ Both Parks (Go to Page 4)

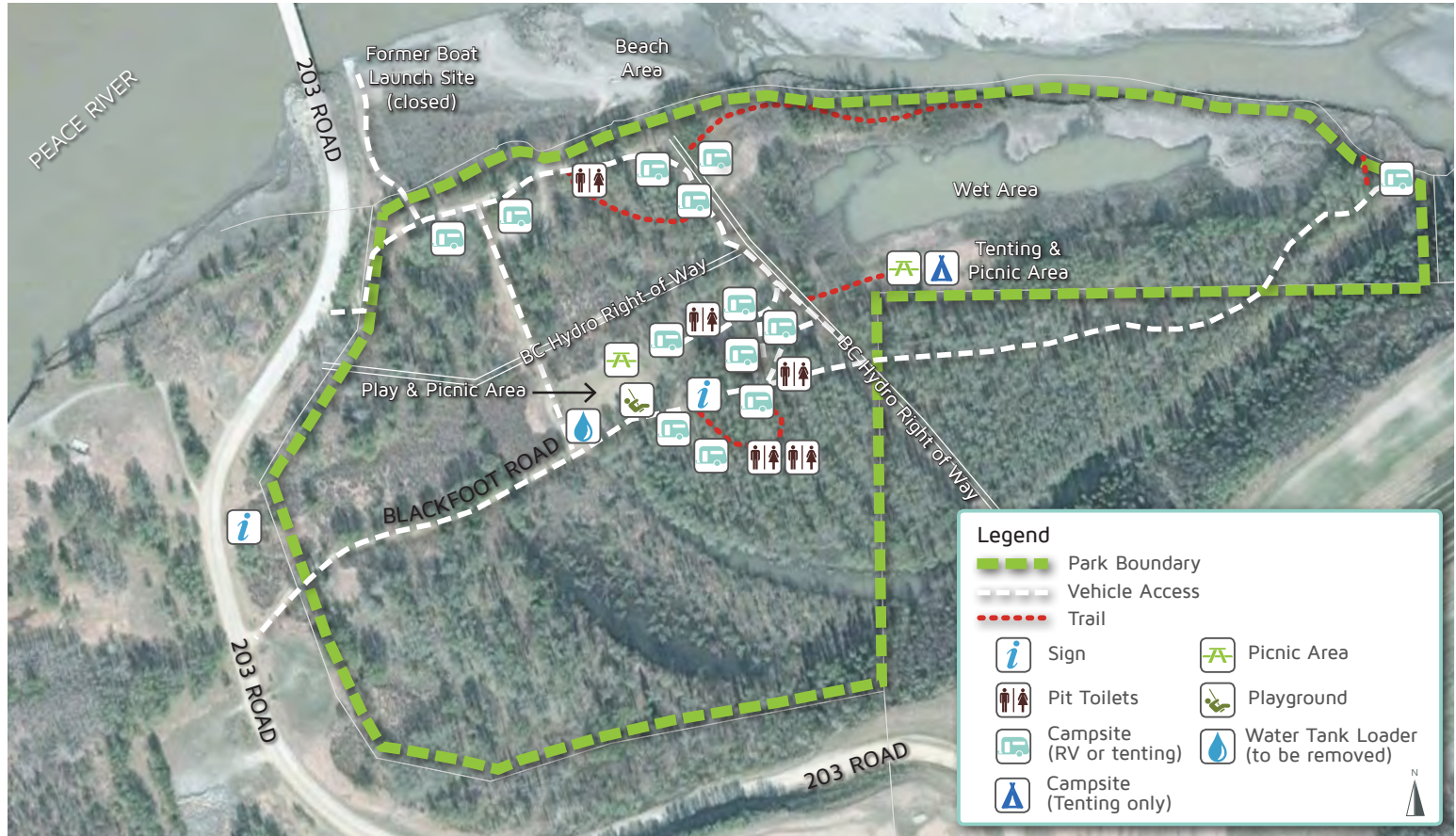
☐ Only Blackfoot Regional Park (Go to Page 4)

☐ Only Montney Centennial Regional Park (Go to Page 8)

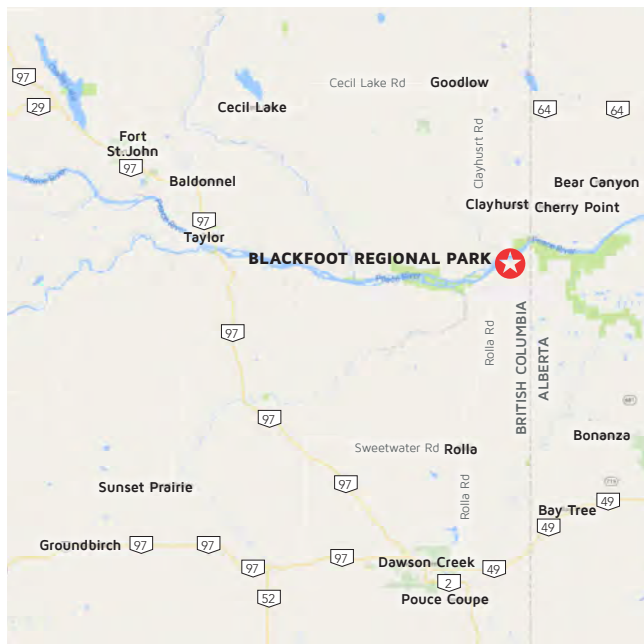


PART 2: BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

Park Overview



Park Site Map



Park Location Map

HISTORY

Before the Don Phillips bridge was built over the Peace River, people crossed on the Old Clayhurst Ferry. Blackfoot Regional Park commemorates the ferry crossing site, providing access to the Peace River and recreation opportunities in a forest area.

AMENITIES & ACTIVITIES

- » 13 rustic free campsites (no hookups)
- » 1 tent camping area
- » Picnic tables
- » Pit toilets
- » Playground
- » Horseshoe pits
- » Open lawn area
- » River access
- » Former boat launch (now closed)
- » Bird and wildlife habitat
- » Water tank loader (to be removed)

BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

CURRENT PARK USE

To help us understand how visitors currently use Blackfoot Regional Park, please answer the following questions.

7. How frequently would you say you visit the park?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Once per year | <input type="checkbox"/> Only occasionally
(e.g. 1-2 times in the past five years) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2-5 times per year | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 times per year | <input type="checkbox"/> I never visit the park (skip to Question 9) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11 or more times per year | |

8. What activities have you participated in at Blackfoot Regional Park? Please check all that apply:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bird watching | <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain biking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating (motorized) | <input type="checkbox"/> Nature appreciation
(wildflowers, vegetation, wildlife) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating (non-motorized - e.g., kayaking,
canoeing) | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping (RV or Trailer) | <input type="checkbox"/> Playground activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping (Tent) | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming, playing in the water, sunbathing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking | <input type="checkbox"/> Other outdoor activities (please describe):

_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historical interest (Old Clayhurst Ferry
Crossing Site) | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Motorized sports (ATVs) | |

9. What, if anything, limits your use of Blackfoot Regional Park? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Little or nothing limits our use
- ☐ Park location
- ☐ Difficulty finding and accessing the park
- ☐ Not enough information about the park
- ☐ Trail conditions
- ☐ Lack of park facilities / amenities that suit our needs
- ☐ Safety concerns
- ☐ Concerns about unsanctioned activities (e.g. parties, vandalism)
- ☐ Other, please describe: _____

BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

10. If you've visited Blackfoot Regional Park, what is your level of satisfaction with the following aspects?

Please check one box for each category. If you haven't visited the park, skip to the next question.

Park Aspect	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	No Opinion	Comments?
Park layout/ configuration						
ATV management						
Boat ramp						
Park safety						
Park campsites						
Toilets						
Horseshoe pits						
Playground						
Park maintenance						
Park roads						
Trails						
Signage						
Other (please describe) <div></div>						
Other (please describe) <div></div>						

11. What do you believe are the biggest issues or challenges in Blackfoot Regional Park?
(Please describe up to three)

1.	
2.	
3.	

BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

FUTURE PARK USE

The Regional Park Study will consider potential improvements for Blackfoot Regional Park.

12. If you could describe in one word or short phrase your vision for the future of Blackfoot Regional Park, what would it be? (We will use these words and phrases to create a draft vision.)

13. What amenities do you think might warrant consideration in Blackfoot Regional Park?
Check all that apply.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> More walking/hiking trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Interpretive information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain bike trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Improved boat launch |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Designated ATV trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Additional playground facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More RV/Trailer campsites | <input type="checkbox"/> Event space / stage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More tent campsites | <input type="checkbox"/> Caretaker cottage / office |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Campsites with hookups | <input type="checkbox"/> Plumbed shower / washroom building |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More individual picnic areas | <input type="checkbox"/> Drinking water tap |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Group picnic shelter | |

Other suggestions – your ideas could be big or small – we want to hear them all!

14. If Blackfoot Regional Park was enhanced to include improved/additional facilities, would you consider paying for camping in the park?

- ☐ Yes, I would consider paid camping if there were improved/additional facilities
- ☐ Maybe, depending on amenities available and cost
- ☐ No, I would prefer the park remain more rustic with free camping

To provide input on Montney Centennial Park → please go to the next page

To complete your questionnaire without providing
input on Montney Centennial Regional Park → please go to page 11



PART 3: MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

Park Overview



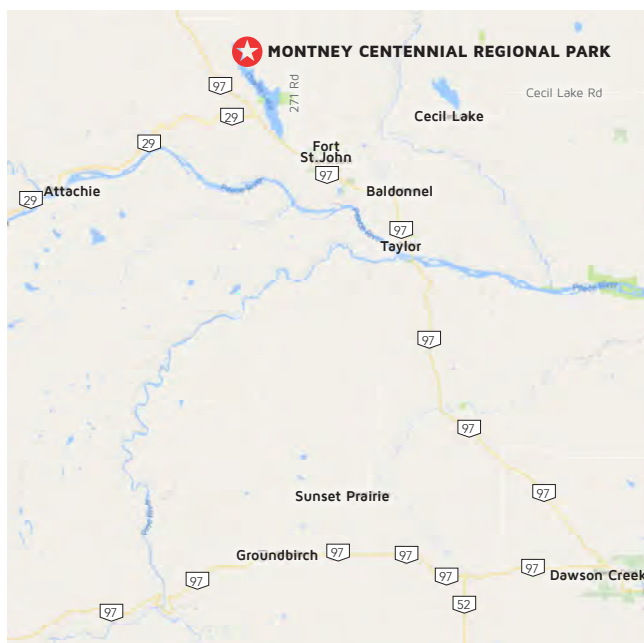
HISTORY

Montney Centennial Regional Park, situated on the northeast shore of Charlie Lake, was established by the Montney Recreation Commission as a Canada Centennial project in 1967. In 1988, the Commission requested that the park become a Regional Park.

AMENITIES & ACTIVITIES

- » 6 Rustic free campsites (no hookups)
- » Picnic tables
- » Pit toilets
- » Lake access
- » Boat launch
- » Bird and wildlife habitat

Park Site Map



Park Location Map

MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

CURRENT PARK USE

To help us understand how visitors currently use Montney Centennial Regional Park, please answer the following questions.

15. How frequently would you say you visit the park?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Once per year | <input type="checkbox"/> Occasionally
(e.g. 1-2 times in the past five years) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2-5 times per year | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6-10 times per year | <input type="checkbox"/> I never visit the park (skip to Question 17) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 11 or more times per year | |

16. What activities have you participated in at Montney Centennial Regional Park? Select all that apply.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bird watching | <input type="checkbox"/> Nature appreciation
(wildflowers, vegetation, wildlife) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating (motorized) | <input type="checkbox"/> Picnicking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boating (non-motorized - e.g. sailing,
kayaking, canoeing) | <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming, playing in the water, sun bathing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping (RV or Trailer) | <input type="checkbox"/> Visiting the Northland Trailblazers
Snowmobile Club |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping (Tent) | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter sports (e.g. snowmobiling, ice fishing,
snowshoeing, skiing) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing | <input type="checkbox"/> Other outdoor activities (please describe): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain biking | _____ |

17. What, if anything, limits your use of Montney Centennial Regional Park? Select all that apply.

- ☐ Little or nothing limits our use
- ☐ Park location
- ☐ Difficulty finding and accessing the park
- ☐ Not enough information about the park
- ☐ Trail conditions
- ☐ Lack of park facilities / amenities that suit our needs
- ☐ Safety concerns
- ☐ Concerns about unsanctioned activities (e.g. parties, vandalism, firearms use)
- ☐ Other, please describe: _____

MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

18. If you've visited Montney Centennial Regional Park, what is your level of satisfaction with the following aspects? Please check one box for each category. If you haven't visited the park, skip to the next question.

Park Aspect	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very Dissatisfied	No Opinion	Comments
Park layout/ configuration						
Boat ramp						
Park safety						
Park campsites						
Toilets						
Picnic amenities						
Park maintenance						
Park roads						
Trails						
Signage (entry, wayfinding)						
Other (please describe) <div></div>						
Other (please describe) <div></div>						

19. What do you believe are the biggest issues or challenges in Montney Centennial Regional Park?
Please describe up to three.

1.	
2.	
3.	

MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

FUTURE PARK USE

The Regional Park Study will consider potential future improvements for Montney Centennial Regional Park.

20. If you could describe in one word or short phrase your vision for the future of Montney Centennial Regional Park, what would it be? (We will use these words and phrases to create a draft vision.)

21. What amenities do you think might warrant consideration in Montney Centennial Regional Park? Please check that apply.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Swimming dock | <input type="checkbox"/> Mountain bike trails |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing dock | <input type="checkbox"/> Interpretive signage (nature, wildlife, birds) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More RV/Trailer campsites | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter activities (e.g. sledding, skiing) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> More tent campsites | <input type="checkbox"/> Additional camping amenities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Campsites with hookups | <input type="checkbox"/> Improved toilets |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improved boat launch (for motorized boats) | <input type="checkbox"/> Group picnic shelter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improved boat launch (for non-motorized boats) | <input type="checkbox"/> Group campsite |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hiking trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Horse facilities (e.g. trails, corrals for overnight camping) |

Other suggestions – your ideas could be big or small – we want to hear them all!

22. If Montney Centennial Regional Park was enhanced to include improved/additional facilities, would you consider paying for camping in the park?

- ☐ Yes, I would consider paid camping if there were improved/additional facilities
- ☐ Maybe, depending on amenities available and cost
- ☐ No, I would prefer the park remain more rustic with free camping



PART 4: GENERAL

23. Have you visited a provincial, regional, or other type of backcountry park and had a great experience? If yes, please tell us the name of the park and what made it great. Learning from other successes helps us understand ideas and experiences that might be considered.

24. Do you have any additional comments, concerns, or ideas about either park that you would like to share at this time?

Thank you for providing your input!

CONTEST ENTRY

I wish to be entered into a draw for chance to win a \$250 Canadian Tire Gift Card:

☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please provide your contact details.

Contact information will be kept confidential and will only be used to contact the draw winner.

Name:	
Phone:	
Email:	

Only one entry per person. Winner will be contacted by August 17, 2017.

Stay Connected!

- » Watch for updates on Facebook: Peace River Regional District "Official Page"
- » Subscribe to **PRRD's Engage!** email list
- » Watch for announcements and public events in the parks
- » Visit: prrd.bc.ca/engage



Participation in this questionnaire is voluntary and may require the disclosure of personal information. Questionnaire information will be used on an aggregated basis only (and not on an individually-identifiable basis).

APPENDIX B: PRELIMINARY CONCEPT OPTIONS





CONCEPT OPTION A: A QUIET GETAWAY

CONCEPT OPTION B: OUTDOOR ENTHUSIAST DESTINATION

Legend

- Park Boundary
- Public Access Road (gravel)
- Private Access Road
- Walking/Hiking Trail
- Mountain Bike or Horseback Trail (partnership)
- Parking Area
- Disc Golf Hole/Cross-country Ski Route (partnership)

Campsites

- Existing Campsite (improved)
- Potential New Campsite
- Designated Group Campsite
- Potential New Tenting Area

Amenities

- Park Information Sign
- Trail Marker
- Playground
- Group Picnic Area
- Picnic Shelter or Hut
- Vault Toilet (new)
- Water Tap (new, non-potable)

RECREATIONAL TRAIL LOOPS

- Hiking trail loops (red)
- Large loop - 1.2 km; Small loop - 500 m
- Mountain biking or horseback loops (blue)
- 3 to 5 km of trail (funding and design in partnership with club or organization)
- Map signs and distance markers
- Layout shown is illustrative; routing based on grades and environmental features

DISC GOLF COURSE

- 18-hole course within treed areas (layout shown is illustrative; funding and design in partnership with club or organization)
- Potential for fairways to double as skiing or snowshoe route during winter

CAMPSITE AREA 3: EQUESTRIAN CAMPING (~7 SITES)

- New unserviced sites for equestrian camping
- Small corrals for horses
- Group picnic area
- New vault toilet
- New non-drinking water tap for horse watering
- Clean-up bin for manure

CAMPSITE AREA 2: NEW UPPER CAMPSITES (~12 SITES + TENTING AREA)

- New sites developed on upper bench
- Narrow access road with trees retained as much as possible
- Trail connection to lower sites; road connection grades permitting
- One tenting area with potential for group camping, including large picnic area

CAMPSITE AREA 1: IMPROVED LOWER CAMPSITES (~7 SITES)

- Existing sites retained with fencing/revegetation to define sites and increase privacy
- Access road narrowed by new tree and shrub planting along edge
- One group site

ACTIVITY STAGING AREA

- Starting point to trails network and activity area
- New picnic area and vault toilet
- Small picnic shelter or hut

BOAT LAUNCH AREA

- Existing campsite removed
- New concrete boat ramp
- New vault toilet
- Small parking area
- In accordance with Lakeshore Development Guidelines

FOREST ACTIVITY ZONE

- Activity area developed in trees including a playground, group picnic area, information kiosk, and vault toilet
- Adjacent day-use parking

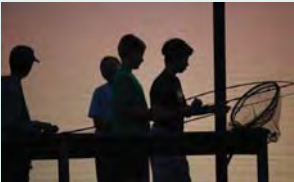
EXISTING SNOWMOBILE CLUB CHALET (no public access)

NORTHLAND TRAILBLAZERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB LEASE AREA

279 ROAD

CHARLIE LAKE

Inspiration



Small fishing dock



Noodland disc golf course

APPENDIX C: PUBLIC INPUT #2 SUMMARY





REGIONAL PARK DESIGN STUDY

ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT Community Input #2 – Preliminary Concept Options

1 | OVERVIEW

The Peace River Regional District (PRRD) is undertaking a Regional Park Design and Feasibility Study for **Blackfoot Regional Park** and **Montney Centennial Regional Park**. The purpose of the Study is to develop a plan that will enhance the functionality, environmental sustainability, safety, and fiscal and operational viability of each park. The Regional Park Design Study began in July 2017 and is planned to be complete in early 2018.

Community engagement is a key part of the process to understand the values and issues of community members including park users, Peace River Regional District residents, stakeholders, PRRD staff, Regional Parks Committee, and the Regional Board.

This report provides a summary of **Community Input #2**, part of **Phase 2: Park Options Development**. The purpose of this phase has been to:

- ▶ Translate input received and technical analysis from Phase 1 into an initial vision, goals, and set of program directions for each park.
- ▶ Define preliminary concepts that illustrate potential directions for each park.
- ▶ Engage with the Regional Parks Committee, members of the public, and stakeholders to review draft concepts and gather feedback to help refine the directions being considered.

The final phase of the Study, **Phase 3: Final Plans Development and Review**, will use the community input to recommend a plan for each park.

HOW COMMUNITY INPUT WILL BE USED

Input provided during this phase of engagement will be considered by the project team, along with technical and financial information, to refine preliminary options for each park into preferred concepts and recommendations for implementation.

More information about the PRRD's Regional Park Design Study can be found at www.prrd.bc.ca/engage.

2 | ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

METHODOLOGY

During Phase 2 of the Regional Park Design Study, stakeholders and members of the public were asked to provide input through a series of interactive feedback opportunities. The following key points of input occurred:

REGIONAL PARKS BOARD COMMITTEE MEETING

- ▶ **Date:** Tuesday, October 10, 2017
- ▶ **Feedback:** The project team presented emerging preliminary options for each park and received feedback from board members. This feedback was used to refine the preliminary options before bringing them forward for public input.

PUBLIC INPUT EVENTS

- ▶ **Dates:** Monday, Nov. 6 through Wednesday, Nov. 29
- ▶ **Locations:**
 - World U17 Hockey Challenge Drop-in Booth, North Peace Arena, Fort St. John
Tues. Nov. 7 @ 6:30-10:00 pm
Fri. Nov. 10 @ 1:00-4:30 pm
Fri. Nov. 10 @ 5:30-9:00 pm
 - World U17 Hockey Challenge Drop-in Booth, Encana Events Centre, Dawson Creek
Mon. Nov. 6 @ 2:00-5:30 pm
Wed. Nov. 8 @ 2:00-5:30 pm
Sat. Nov. 11 @ 2:00-5:30 pm
Sat. Nov. 11 @ 6:30-10:00 pm
 - Community Public Meetings
Doe River Public Meeting, Nov. 15
Farmington Public Meeting, Nov. 29
- ▶ **Feedback:** Project team representatives discussed park options with participants and encouraged people to provide input by completing a community response form.

RESPONSE FORM

- ▶ **Dates:** Monday, Nov. 6 through Monday, Nov. 27
 - ▶ **Locations:** Online format (using third-party vendor Simple Survey®) or in hard copy format available at:
 - Community events
 - PRRD website: www.prrd.bc.ca/engage
 - PRRD's Official Facebook page: www.facebook.com/OfficialPRRD
 - PRRD Branch Offices in Dawson Creek or Fort St. John, BC
- Participants who submitted a completed response form had the option to be entered in a draw for a chance to win a \$200 Canadian Tire Gift Card.*

NOTIFICATION

The PRRD provided public outreach to notify the public about input opportunities:

- ▶ **PRRD Website:** Communication on main page (link to Project webpage); Engage! Page; Project webpage www.prrd.bc.ca/engage/regional-park-design-study; Events Calendar, and other PRRD media channels.
- ▶ **PRRD Official Facebook Page:** 11 posts on www.facebook.com/OfficialPRRD from Oct. 31, 2017 to Nov. 27, 2017.
- ▶ **Board Highlights:** One submission to provide an update on the process and advertise Community Event #2
- ▶ **Online Advertising:** Banner on www.EnergeticCity.ca.
- ▶ **Stakeholder Referrals:** Emails to stakeholders and previously engaged participants with invitation to events and request to circulate invitation to membership.
- ▶ **Postcard:** Information postcards distributed to participants at events.
- ▶ **Posters / Signage:** Displayed in key locations including: event venues, PRRD solid waste transfer stations; three community bulletin boards in Dawson Creek; Regional District offices (Dawson Creek and Fort St. John); on the PRRD website; and to Directors, Charlie Lake Fire Station.
- ▶ **Email Communication:** Notification of public events and email reminder to subscribers to PRRD's *Engage!* List.



3 | SUMMARY OF INPUT

The following summary briefly outlines key themes in the input received. This information is detailed further in **Section 4**.

OVERVIEW OF KEY THEMES

- ▶ Participants generally supported the draft vision and goals for each park.
- ▶ For Blackfoot Regional Park, more participants preferred **Concept B: Camping Destination**.
- ▶ For Montney Centennial Regional Park, more participants preferred **Concept B: Outdoor Enthusiast Destination**.
- ▶ Input and comments suggest that some elements from each concept may warrant consideration for blending into a preferred concept.

BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

- ▶ Participants supported additional amenities and management to encourage adventure and activities, while still retaining the park's natural and rustic character.
- ▶ Generally more participants preferred Concept B: Camping Destination for each park aspect.
- ▶ ATV management garnered mixed responses, with 14% preferring neither concept, and comments suggesting some participants would prefer no ATV use in the park.
- ▶ A large majority of participants supported pursuing an improved boat launch.
- ▶ Most participants would support user fees in the range of:

\$15-\$25 for unserviced vehicle campsites	\$10 for tent campsites
\$25-\$35 for serviced vehicles campsites	\$20-\$50 for group picnic shelters (although a large percentage – 30% - did not support user fees for group shelters)
- ▶ The top improvement priorities for the park were:

• Drinking water for campers	• New serviced (power and water sites
• Nature Trails	• Showers/flush toilets building
• New unservices sites	• Boat launch re-establishment

MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

- ▶ Participants supported additional amenities and management that may increase park use including disc golf, fishing dock, and boat launching. There was mixed support for equestrian camping with some concerns about costs.
- ▶ Several suggestions for coordination with local clubs for management and funding of park improvements.
- ▶ In general, more participants preferred Concept B: Outdoor Enthusiast Destination as a multi-use park that supports a variety of activities, while still remaining the natural aspects of the park.
- ▶ Most participants would support user fees in the range of:

\$15-\$25 for unserviced vehicle campsites	\$10 for tent campsites
\$30 for equestrian campsites	\$40-\$50 for group picnic shelters
- ▶ The top improvement priorities for the park were:

• Fishing Dock	• Play and Picnic Area
• Improved Boat Launch	• New Unserved Campsites
• Nature Trails	

4 | DETAILED SUMMARY OF RESPONSE FORM RESULTS

The Response Form for Community Input #2 gathered feedback on the following four topics:

1. **Demographics**
2. **Blackfoot Regional Park** – Draft Vision and Goals, Concept Options, User Fees, and Park Improvement Priorities
3. **Montney Centennial Regional Park** – Draft Vision and Goals, Concept Options, User Fees, and Park Improvement Priorities
4. **General Comments**

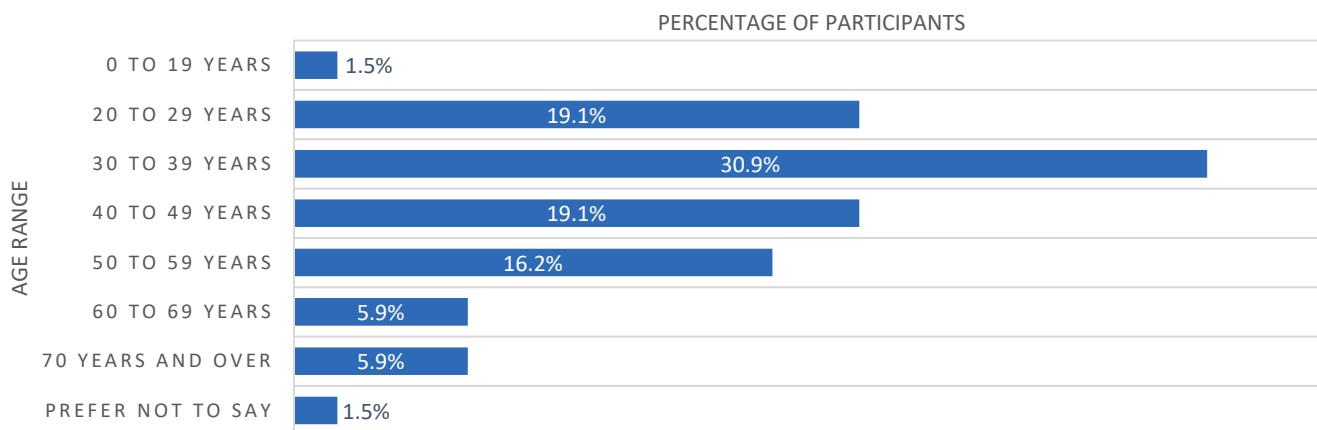
A verbatim record of response form comments is attached to this report in **Appendix A**.

PART 1: PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

Participants were asked to answer the following four demographic questions.

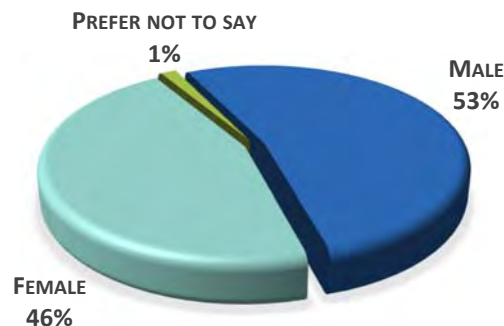
QUESTION 1: IN WHICH AGE GROUP ARE YOU?

- ▶ Most participants were between the ages of 30 to 39 years old (30.9%) followed by an equal number of respondents between 20 and 29 years (19.1%) and 40 and 49 years (19.1%).
- ▶ There were limited numbers of participants under the age of 29 (20.6% combined) or over the age of 60 (13.3% combined).
- ▶ This generally aligns with the PRRD's demographics, where the average age of residents is 35.9.



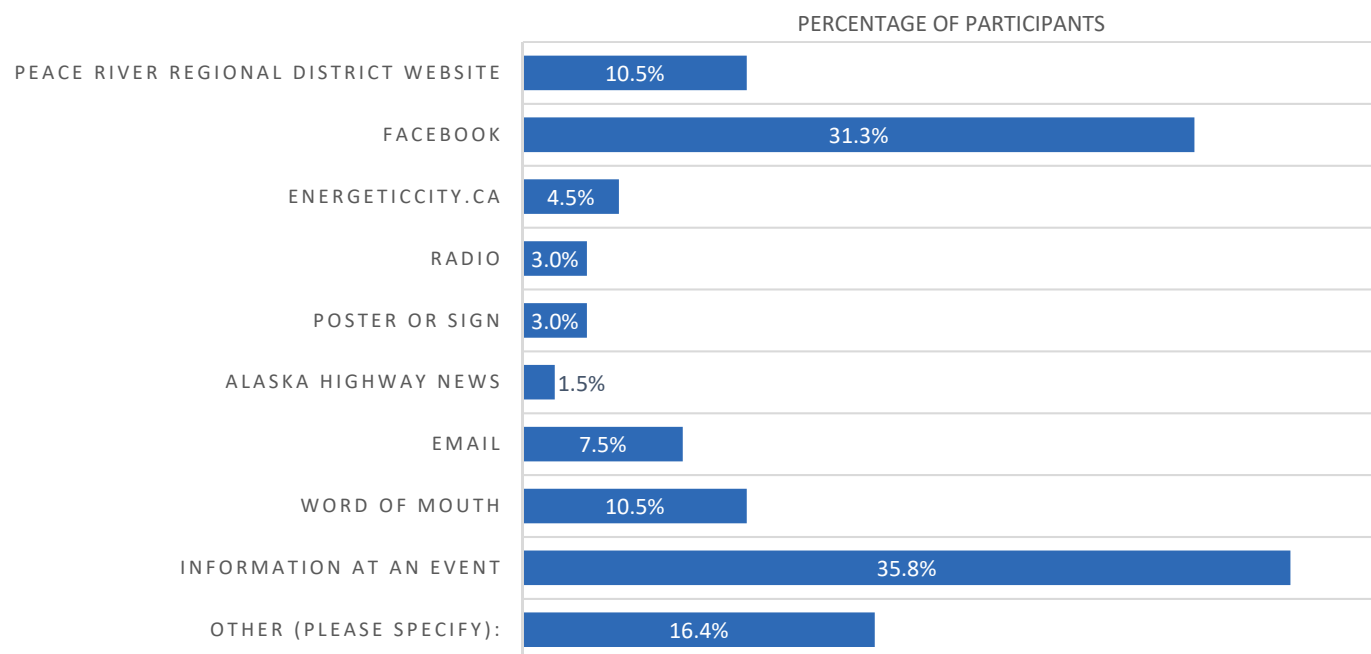
QUESTION 2: WHAT IS YOUR GENDER?

- ▶ Slightly more males (52.9%) than females (45.6%) completed a response form.
- ▶ These results were different from the first questionnaire, where a significantly larger number of respondents were female (64.5%).



QUESTION 3: HOW DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THIS RESPONSE FORM?

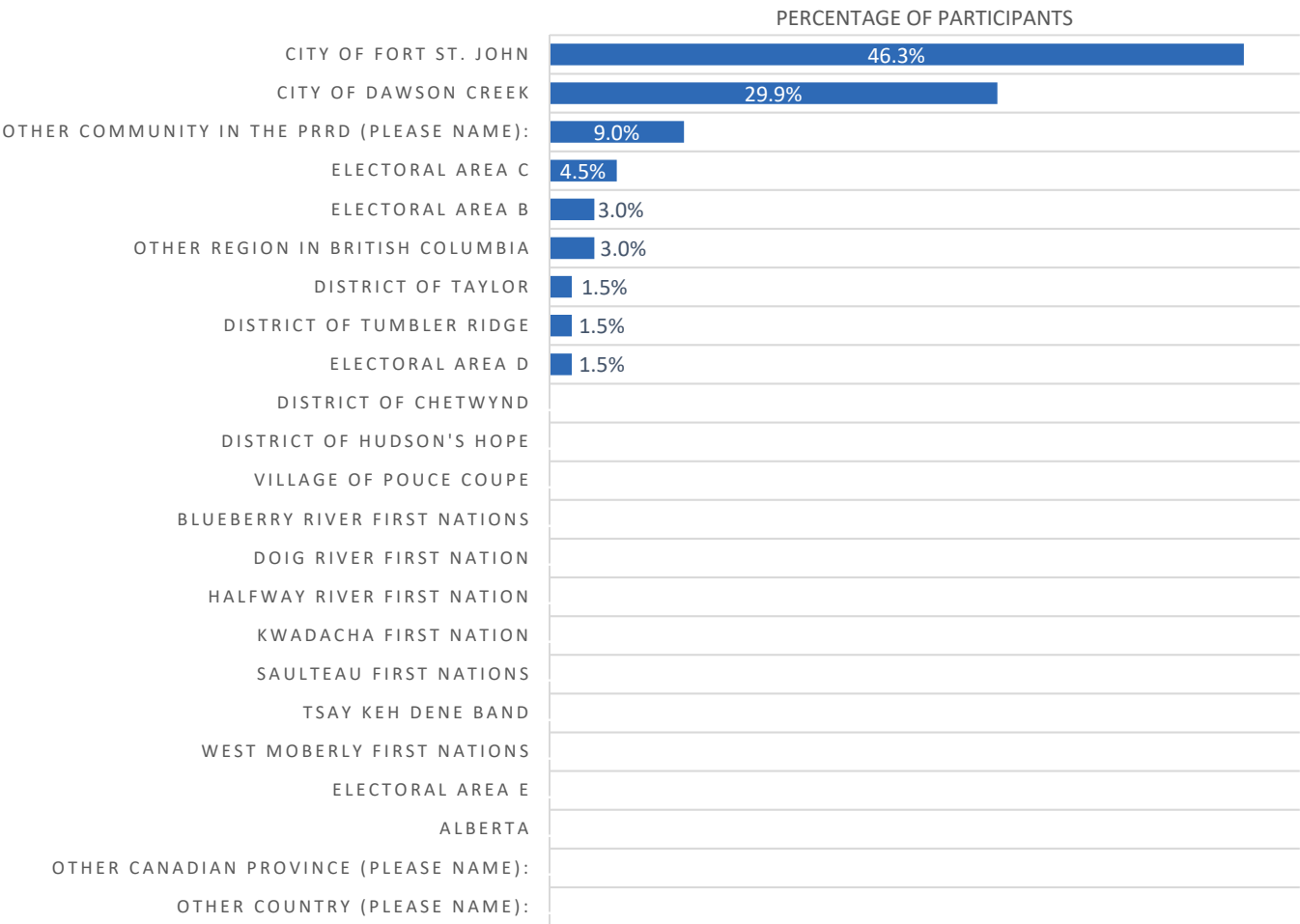
- ▶ A large percentage of participants heard about the response form by seeing information at an event (35.8%) or through Facebook (31.3%).
- ▶ 16.4% identified that they heard about the opportunity to provide feedback through other information sources including from PRRD employees, representatives at the World U17 Hockey Challenge, and Fort St. John disc golf club.



QUESTION 4: AREA OF RESIDENCE

Participants were asked to identify where they lived:

- ▶ The largest percentage of participants reside in either the City of Fort St. John (46.3%) or the City of Dawson Creek (29.9%).
- ▶ Most other participants identified as residing in other communities within the Peace River Regional District or one of the electoral areas (21%), including District of Taylor, District of Tumbler Ridge, Electoral Areas B, C, or D; or other communities including Montney, Charlie Lake, Mile 74, and Farmington.



ART 2: BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

VISION AND GOALS

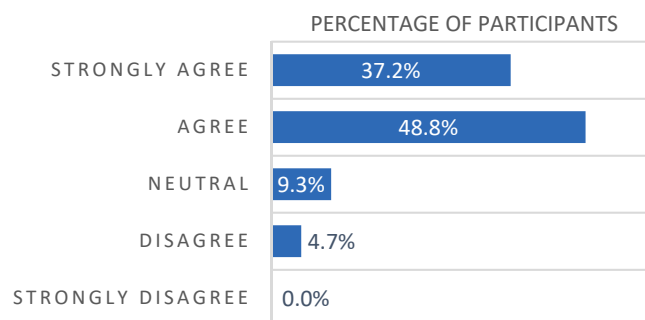
Participants were asked their level of support for the DRAFT VISION and GOALS for Blackfoot Regional Park and to suggest refinements.

DRAFT VISION

Blackfoot Regional Park invites people to explore the natural splendour of the Peace River in a rustic, quiet, and family-friendly forest campground; it is the starting point to many great adventures and memories.

QUESTION 5: DRAFT VISION

- ▶ 48.8% of agree with the draft vision and 37.2% strongly agree – for a total of 86% of participants in general agreement with the draft vision for Blackfoot Regional Park.



QUESTION 6: SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING THE DRAFT VISION

- ▶ Minor text refinements
- ▶ More specific about type of adventures and memories (e.g., hiking, viewing, sports areas, ATV trails)
- ▶ Suggestion that the park outcome is what is important, and the rest is redundant / not relevant to campground
- ▶ Satisfaction with minor improvements but appreciation of the rustic aspects to retain natural feel of the park.

Several participants added comments to state or reiterate desired amenities which included walking trails, signage, dog park, 18-hole disc golf course, revenue generation, improved access, powered sites, sites to accommodate larger recreational vehicles, more secluded campsites, tenting options, and outhouses.

There were also concerns noted about lack of enforcement and management issues

QUESTION 7: DRAFT GOALS

Participants were asked to indicate their level of agreement with the following DRAFT GOALS for Blackfoot Regional Park:

INCREASE PARK AMENITIES

- ▶ Enhance recreational opportunities at the park by providing a variety of amenities that appeal to a wide range of users, especially families
- ▶ Expand campsites in a phased manner

MAINTAIN PARK CHARACTER

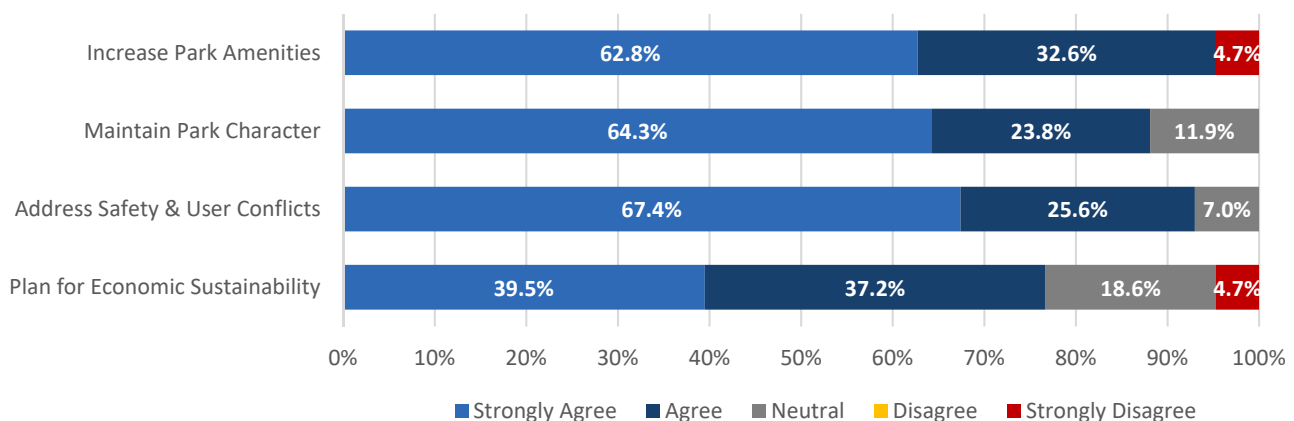
- ▶ Ensure future park improvements align with the rural and rustic feeling that is valued by park users
- ▶ Plan to retain and manage park trees for long-term renewal

ADDRESS SAFETY & USER CONFLICTS

- ▶ Make physical and operational park improvements to encourage a family-friendly atmosphere and discourage disruptive activities

PLAN FOR ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

- ▶ Ensure improvements that increase operational demands can be offset through revenue generation



QUESTION 8: SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING THE DRAFT GOALS

- ▶ Develop initiatives to remove the reputation of the park as a “bush party” destination that attracts drug and alcohol related activities (possibly by providing a park host to provide security/authority)
- ▶ Emphasize maintenance (e.g. garbage collection)
- ▶ Develop education programs for environmental education and recreational activities such as astronomy and fishing
- ▶ Retain rustic feel and natural beauty of the park; caution about over-commercializing park
- ▶ Support for small user fee for camping
- ▶ Enhance park winter activities for hiking and sledding

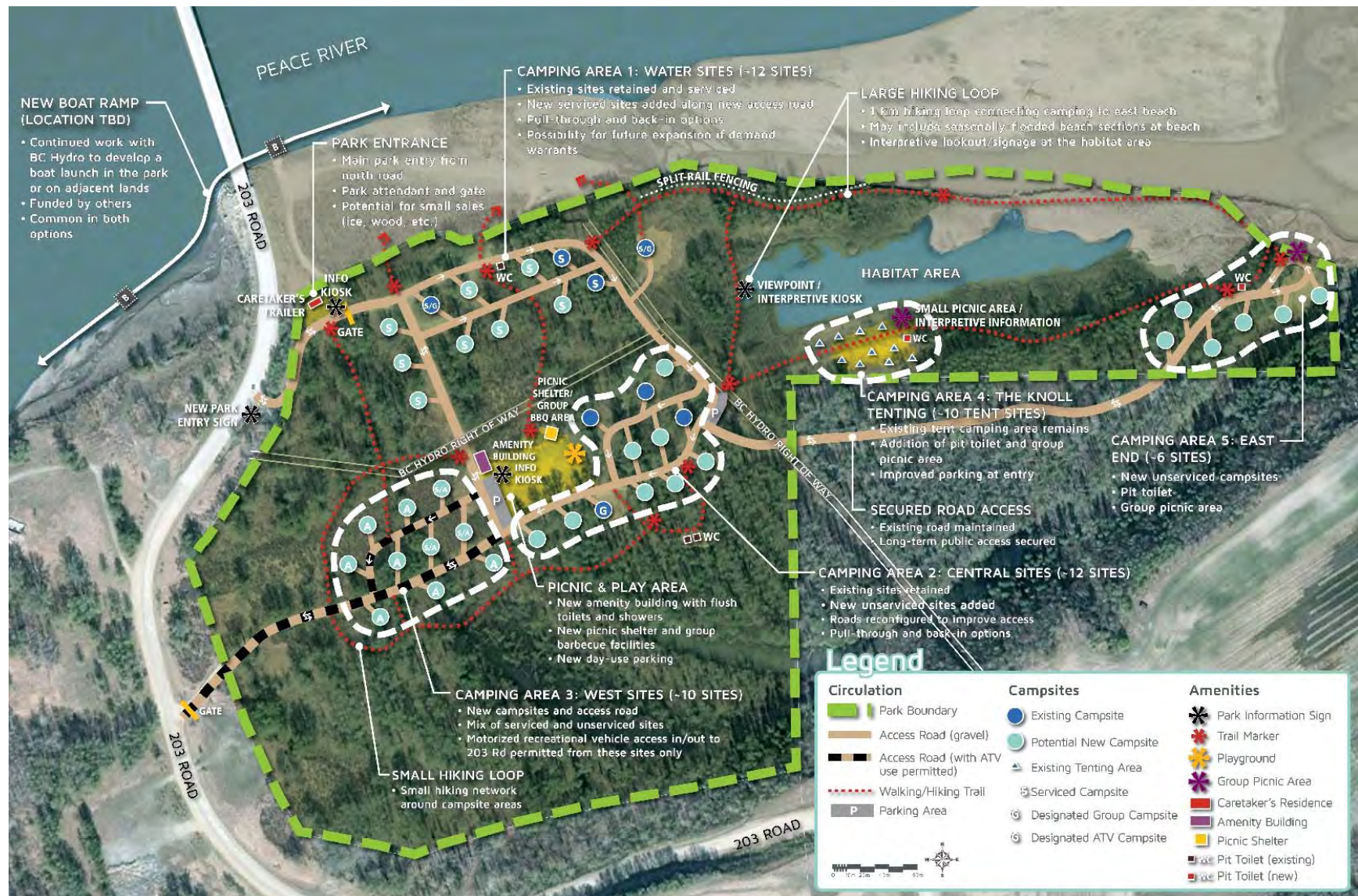
CONCEPT OPTIONS – BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

Two different concept options were developed for Blackfoot Regional Park to show many of the ideas heard in the process to date. Participants were asked to review each concept, Concept A (this page) and Concept B (next page), then answer questions on what they like most/least in each. Larger versions of the concepts are available at www.prrd.bc.ca/engage.

CONCEPT A: RUSTIC & RELAXED



CONCEPT B: CAMPING DESTINATION



QUESTION 9: PREFERRED DIRECTIONS FOR BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

The following concept directions were provided for each option. Participants were asked to identify which concept ("A", "B", or "Neither") they preferred and if they had refinements, comments or additional suggestions. The preferred responses are circled in red below and comments are summarized at the bottom of the graphic.

1. VEHICLE CAMPSITES		2. TENT CAMPSITES		3. ROADS	
CONCEPT A	CONCEPT B	CONCEPT A	CONCEPT B	CONCEPT A	CONCEPT B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Small increase in unserviced vehicle sites (~15 new sites) » Total number of campsites = ~24 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Moderate increase in unserviced vehicle sites (~21 new sites) » Addition of serviced sites (~15 new or upgraded sites) » Total number of campsites = ~40 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Existing tent camping area remains (on knoll in the centre of the park) » New vault toilet added 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Tent camping area relocated to east end of park with walk-in access only (vehicle parking near central campsites) » Vault toilet and group picnic area added 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Access road to east end of the park closed to vehicles (walk-in access only) to help discourage parties and maintain all park roads inside the park boundary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Access road to east end of the park remains open to vehicles and family-style camping is encouraged » Agreement with private landowner pursued to ensure long-term road access
A - 27.5%	B - 72.5%	A - 29.3%	B - 68.3%	A - 32.5%	B - 65.0%
NEITHER - 0.0%		NEITHER - 2.4%		NEITHER - 2.5%	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » More sites are desirable » Paid camping can support more responsible/return guests 				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Deter vehicles from driving on/accessing the dry riverbed 	

4. TRAILS	
CONCEPT A	CONCEPT B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Some new nature trails including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Large hiking loop (common) » Trails connecting campsites to toilets and play area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » More new nature trails including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Large hiking loop (common) » Interpretive lookout over habitat area » Small hiking loop around campsites
A - 17.5%	B - 82.5%
NEITHER - 0.0%	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » At least one trail that is accessible to wheelchairs/baby strollers 	

5. SITE SERVICES	
CONCEPT A	CONCEPT B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Existing/new vault toilets to replace old toilets and better service camping areas » New drinking water tap at the play and picnic area for campers using improved well facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » New amenity building with flush toilets, showers, and drinking water at the play and picnic area » Existing/new vault toilets for non-central camping areas
A - 35.0%	B - 65.0%
NEITHER - 0.0%	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Cost will be a key consideration for advancing services 	

6. PICNIC & PLAY AREA	
CONCEPT A	CONCEPT B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Minor improvements such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Additional picnic tables » Information kiosk with park map » Day-use parking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Additional amenities such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » New picnic shelter » Group BBQs and picnic areas » Information kiosk with park map » Day-use parking
A - 29.3%	B - 70.7%
NEITHER - 0.0%	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Consider protection for the kiosk 	

7. BOAT LAUNCH	
COMMON TO BOTH OPTIONS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Continue to work with BC Hydro or other partners to develop a public boat launch site in Blackfoot Regional Park or on adjacent lands » Funding would be by others 	
SUPPORT - 95.1%	DON'T SUPPORT - 4.9%
OTHER SUGGESTIONS - 0.0%	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Consider proceeding with or without partners » Parking for trailers needed » Concerns about having a boat launch in a river, noise, and risk of pollution 	

8. ATV MANAGEMENT	
CONCEPT A	CONCEPT B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » A few sites (~4) designated for ATV use with direct access west in/out to 203 Rd » Signs in other park areas prohibiting ATV use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » More sites (~10) designated for ATV use with direct access west in/out to 203 Rd » On-site manager to monitor/ manage ATV use in park areas
A - 36.6%	B - 48.8%
NEITHER - 14.6%	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » No ATV use after 9 pm » Some non-support for any ATV use in the park » Concerns about noise and disturbance 	

9. PARK OPERATIONS	
CONCEPT A	CONCEPT B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Free camping » Operations and maintenance similar to existing (minor improvements) » Remains a first-come, first-serve campground 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Paid camping » Park attendant from mid-May to mid-Sept. to manage registration, maintenance, and security » Campsite reservations available
A - 32.5%	B - 65.0%
NEITHER - 2.5%	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Free camping can attract problems, whereas paid camping attracts legitimate campers » Fees cannot be too high » Potential for generating funds through alternative methods (e.g., fundraising) 	

OTHER SUGGESTIONS FOR BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK:

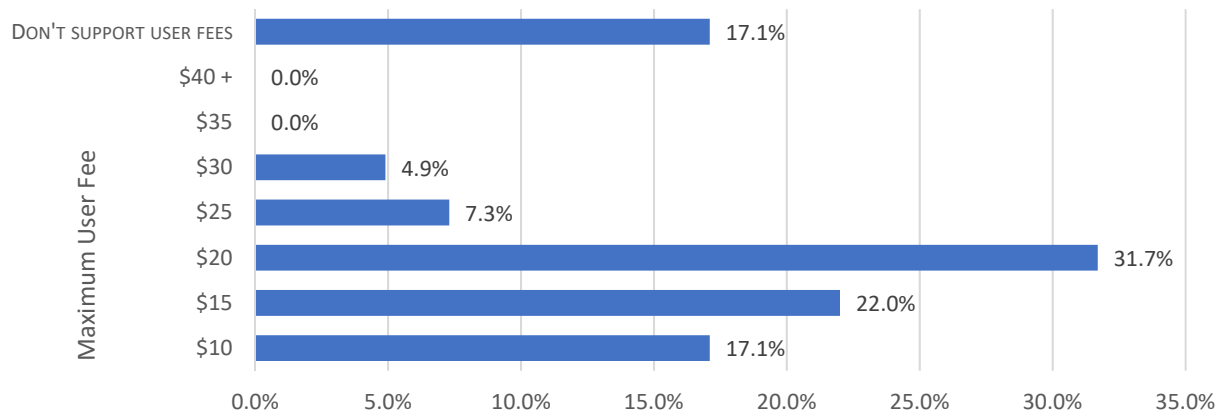
- ▶ Limit or prohibit ATV use
- ▶ Increase campsites further
- ▶ Additional trails for walking
- ▶ Additional trails for ATV use
- ▶ Improve dog waste management

QUESTION 10: USER FEES

Participants were asked to indicate the maximum user fee they would support for potential paid park uses in Blackfoot Regional Park.

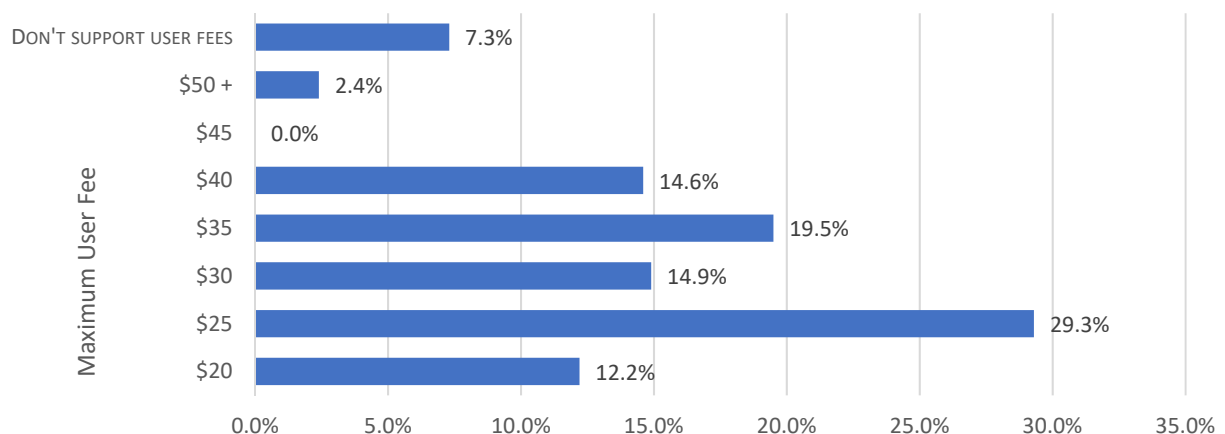
USER FEE FOR UNSERVICED VEHICLE CAMPSITES / DAY

- ▶ The majority of respondents would support a user fee of \$15 or more for an unserviced vehicle campsite



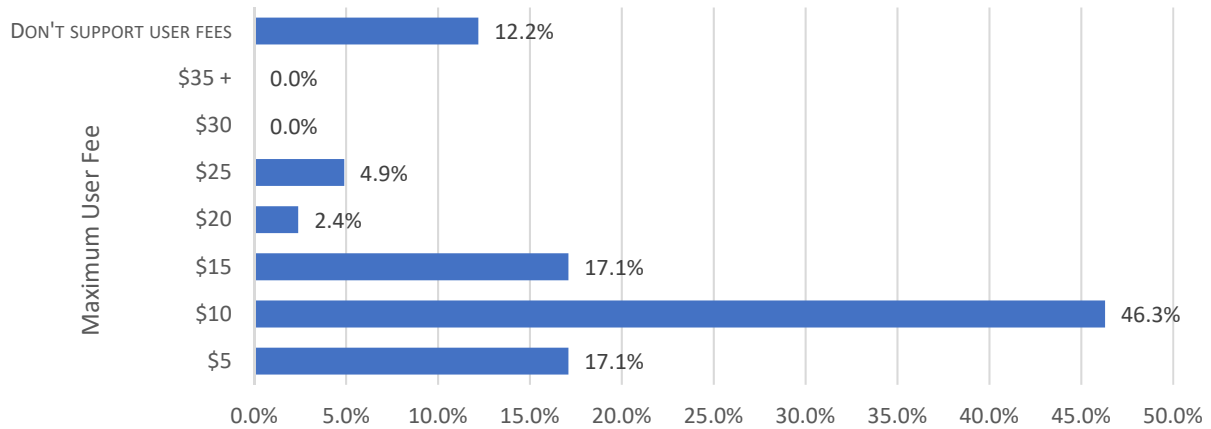
USER FEES FOR SERVICED VEHICLE CAMPSITES / DAY

- ▶ The majority of respondents would support a user fee of \$30 or more for a serviced site



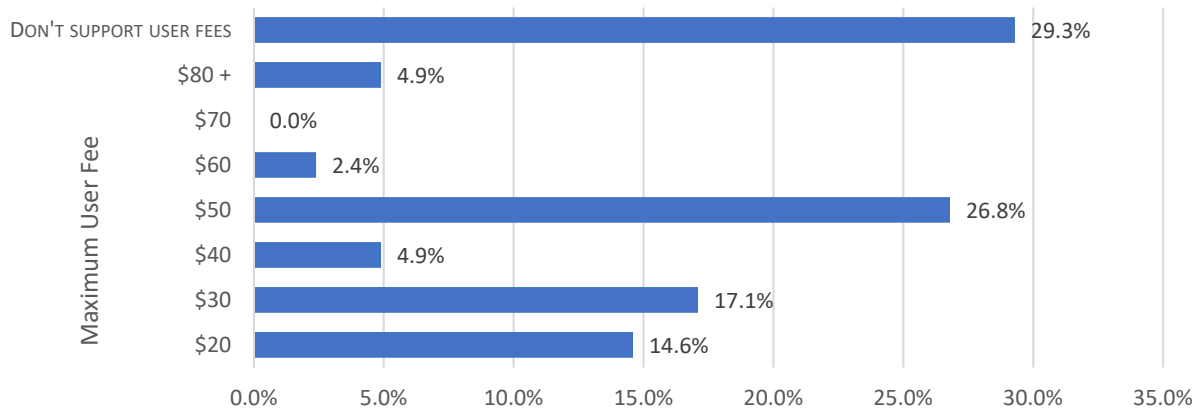
USER FEES FOR TENT CAMPSITES / DAY

- ▶ The majority of respondents would support a user fee of \$10 or more for a tenting site



USER FEES FOR PICNIC SHELTER RENTAL / DAY

- ▶ The majority of respondents would support a user fee of \$30 or more for a group picnic shelter rental
- ▶ One-third of participants indicated they would not support user fees for group picnic shelter rental



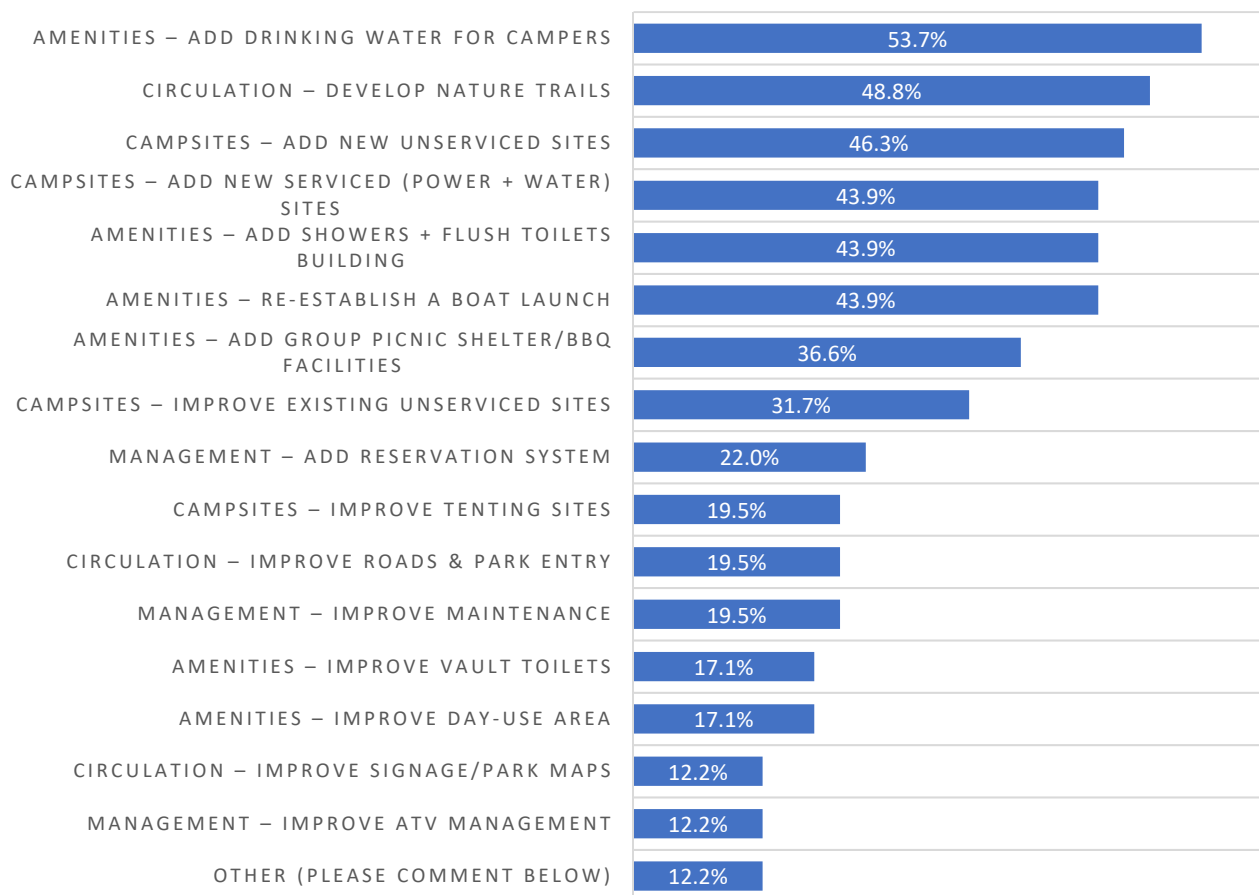
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON USER FEES OR FUNDING:

- ▶ The group picnic shelter may not be warranted
- ▶ Fees can be a useful tool for keeping the park maintained and well used
- ▶ Suggestion to consider an annual fundraiser, rather than fees
- ▶ Fees should be kept low through proper management and capital investment

QUESTION 12: TOP PRIORITIES FOR POTENTIAL PARK IMPROVEMENTS – BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

The top priorities included:

1. Drinking water for campers
2. Nature trails
3. New un-serviced sites
4. New serviced (power and water) sites (tie)
4. Showers/flush toilets building (tie)
4. Boat launch re-establishment (tie)



ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS

- ▶ Prevent motorized access to riverbed
- ▶ Day use parking
- ▶ Add an 18-hole disc golf course
- ▶ Dump stations
- ▶ ATV trails
- ▶ Improve sites, but first add hiking trails

PART 3: MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

VISION AND GOALS

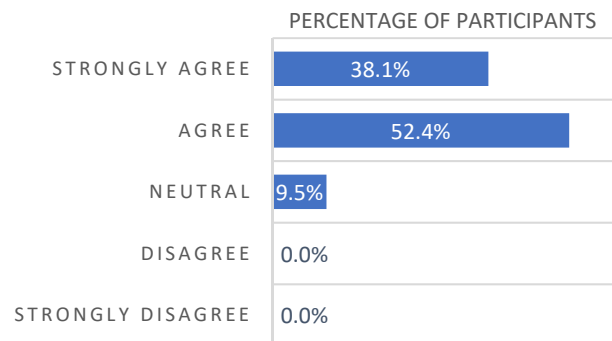
Participants were asked their level of support for the DRAFT VISION and GOALS for Montney Centennial Regional Park and to suggest refinements.

DRAFT VISION

Montney Centennial Regional Park offers unique, remote recreational experiences on Charlie Lake that invite people to stay for a day or for a week and enjoy recreation and relaxation in a lakefront forest.

QUESTION 13: DRAFT VISION

- ▶ 52.4% of participants agree with the draft vision and 38.1% strongly agree – for a total of 90.5% of participants in general agreement with the draft vision for Blackfoot Regional Park.
- ▶ No participants indicated disagreement.



QUESTION 14: SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING THE DRAFT VISION

- ▶ Emphasize day use area aspects including picnic area, fishing, and parking
- ▶ Focus on the "unique and remote" to draw regular users

Other comments focused on the amenities which included:

- ▶ Support for disc-golf and horse camping which could suit the interests of residents
- ▶ Dog park
- ▶ Site attendants and enforcement
- ▶ Campsite amenities and improvements
- ▶ Boat launch and dock
- ▶ Road improvement

QUESTION 15: DRAFT GOALS

Participants were asked to indicate their level of agreement for the DRAFT GOALS for Montney Centennial Regional Park:

ATTRACT A WIDE RANGE OF VISITORS

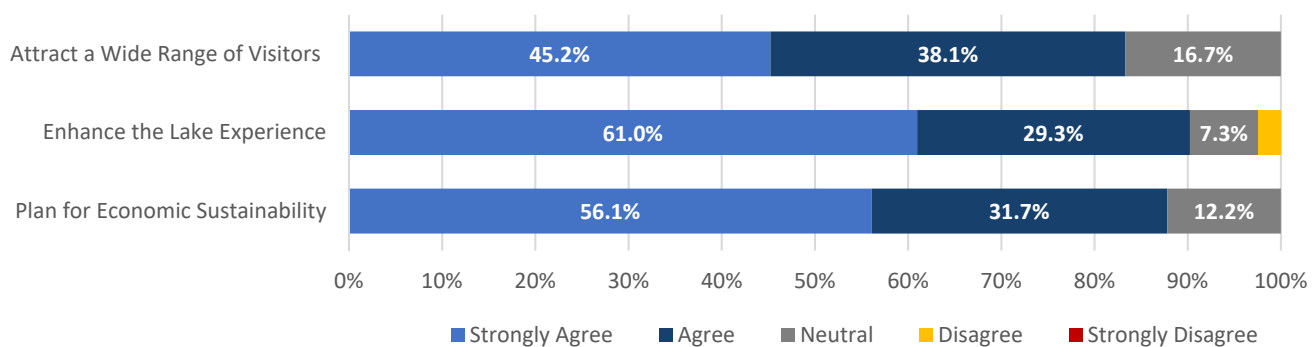
- ▶ Expand potential recreational pursuits in the park to attract a broader range of park visitors
- ▶ Create unique experiences that are not readily available in the surrounding area
- ▶ Support partnerships with clubs and organizations to develop recreation amenities

ENHANCE THE LAKE EXPERIENCE

- ▶ Seek ways to better connect park amenities with Charlie Lake, allowing people to enjoy the lakefront experience

PLAN FOR ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

- ▶ Work to establish strategic partnerships and grants that help manage capital and park operation costs



QUESTION 16: SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING THE DRAFT GOALS

- ▶ Work with Fort St. John Disc Sports Club when designing the 18-hole course to ensure it is the appropriate level for both new and experienced players
- ▶ Lake enhancement including shoreline clean-up
- ▶ Enlist financial or volunteer help from clubs and organizations that use the park to support PRRD efforts
- ▶ Emphasize that an enhanced park would be used more by surrounding communities

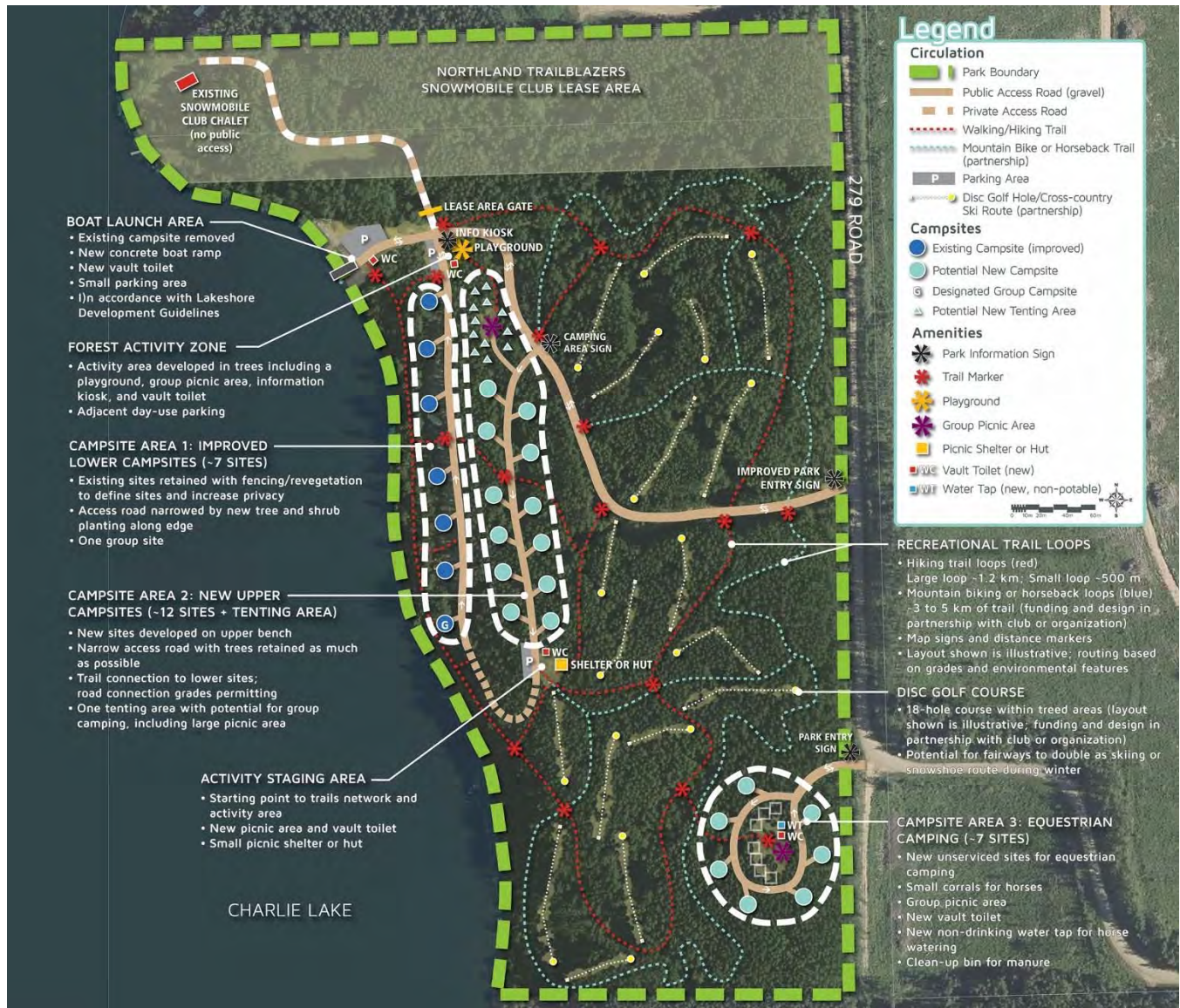
CONCEPT OPTIONS – MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

Two different concept options were developed for Montney Centennial Regional Park to show many of the ideas heard in the process to date. Participants were asked to review each concept, Concept A (this page) and Concept B (next page), then answer questions on what they like most/least in each. Larger versions of the concepts are available at www.prrd.bc.ca/engage.

CONCEPT A: A QUIET GETAWAY



CONCEPT B: OUTDOOR ENTHUSIAST DESTINATION



PREFERRED DIRECTIONS

The following concept directions were provided for each option. Participants were asked to identify which concept ("A", "B", or "Neither") they preferred and if they had refinements, comments or additional suggestions. The preferred responses are circled in red below and comments are summarized at the bottom of the graphic.

1. VEHICLE CAMPSITES		2. TENT CAMPSITES		3. ROADS	
CONCEPT A	CONCEPT B	CONCEPT A	CONCEPT B	CONCEPT A	CONCEPT B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Small increase in unserviced vehicle sites (~7 new sites) » Unserved sites only (common) » Total number of campsites = ~14 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Moderate increase in unserviced vehicle sites (~19 new sites) » Unserved sites only (common) » Varied camping options such as areas for tenting and equestrian camping » Total number of campsites = ~26 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » No designated tent camping area (tent camping at vehicle campsites) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Group tenting area added near picnic and play area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Existing access roads maintained with minor upgrades to address issue areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Existing access roads maintained and new access road developed to provide access to "upper campsite" area » New separate park access for equestrian campsites
A - 17.9%	B - 82.1%	A - 21.6%	B - 75.7%	A - 15.8%	B - 84.2%
NEITHER - 0.0%		NEITHER - 2.7%		NEITHER - 0.0%	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Mixed support for equestrian campsites 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Tenting should be allowed in all sites, but less costly in group area 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Day parking near trailheads » Better roads will be required to support more campsites 	

4. TRAILS

CONCEPT A	CONCEPT B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Some new nature trails including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Large hiking loop in wooded area » Trails connecting campsites to toilets and play area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Multi-use trails developed in partnership with organizations » Possible activities could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Hiking » Disc golf » Snowshoeing » Cross-country skiing » Horseback riding » Mountain biking
A - 21.1%	B - 78.9%
NEITHER - 0.0%	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Concerns about ATV use on trails » Multi-use activities would be an asset for the region » Concerns about too much impact » Would need support from clubs 	

5. SERVICES

COMMON TO BOTH CONCEPTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">» New vault toilets for camping and recreation areas» Park remains unserved (no drinking water, power, or sanitary)	
SUPPORT - 94.9%	DON'T SUPPORT - 5.1%
OTHER SUGGESTIONS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">» Some suggestions for drinking water» Some suggestions for power and sanitary» General support for rustic amenities	

6. PICNIC & PLAY AREAS

CONCEPT A	CONCEPT B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » New waterfront picnic and playground area developed adjacent to the lake 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » New upland forest picnic and playground area developed adjacent to camping areas » New activity staging area for the recreational trail network with a picnic shelter/ hut, parking, and vault toilet
A - 25.0%	B - 75.0%
NEITHER - 0.0%	

7. BOAT LAUNCH

CONCEPT A	CONCEPT B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Existing boat launch and access road removed » Small fishing dock developed to support fishing and small boat access to Charlie Lake (e.g. canoes, kayaks) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Existing boat launch improved for motorized and non-motorized boat launching with concrete ramp, upgraded access road, and parking area
A - 35.9%	B - 64.1%
NEITHER - 0.0%	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Potential for paid boat launch » Concerns that an improved boat launch would create too many issues in the park (e.g. more parking demand) » Sufficient boat launches on Charlie Lake 	

8. PARK OPERATIONS

CONCEPT A	CONCEPT B
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Free camping » Operations and maintenance similar to existing (minor improvements) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Paid camping (collections via drop box or weekend attendant) » Increased operations and maintenance to manage additional camping areas
A - 23.7%	B - 76.3%
NEITHER - 0.0%	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Potentially a nominal fee for various park facilities (e.g., skiing, disc golf, etc.) 	

OTHER SUGGESTIONS FOR MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK:

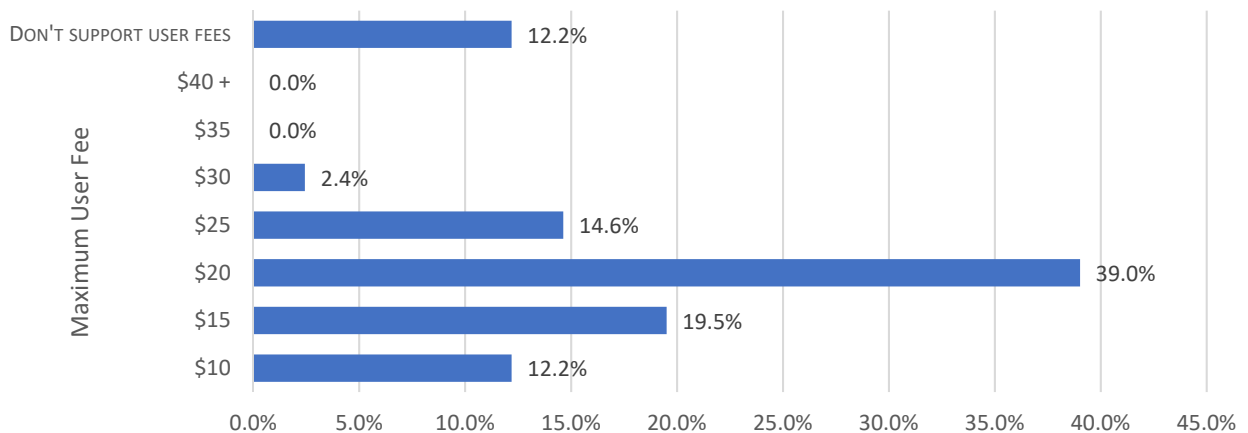
- ▶ Concept B is too busy – the most important thing is retaining the environment and not disrupting the natural beauty of the campsites
- ▶ Concern that the equestrian facilities would be costly and require ongoing maintenance
- ▶ Support for a multi-use park (skiing, disc golf, boating, camping, mountain bikers) that share facilities and collectively help maintain the park. Collective support can also open grant opportunities

QUESTION 18: USER FEES

Participants were asked to indicate the maximum user fee they would support for potential paid park uses in Montney Centennial Regional Park.

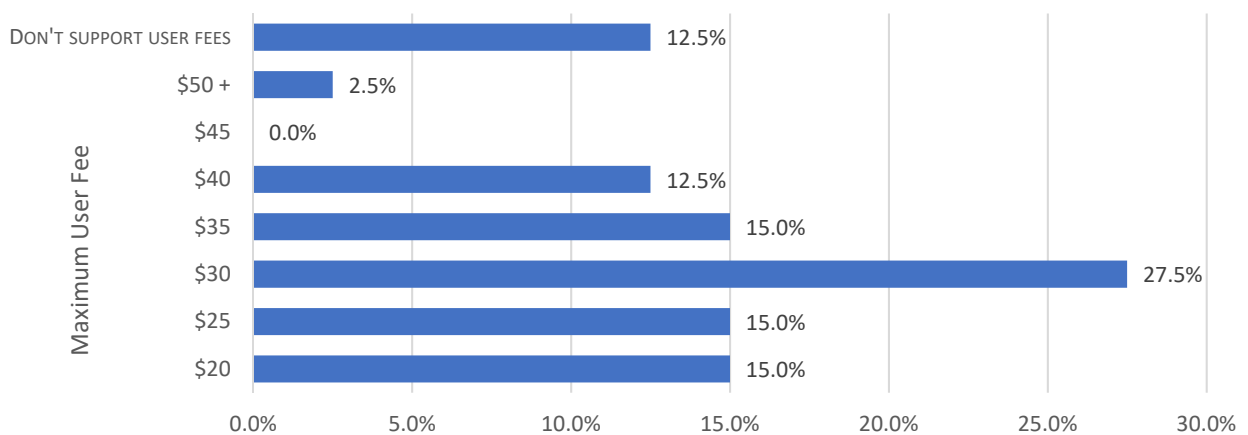
USER FEE FOR UNSERVICED VEHICLE CAMPSITES / DAY

- ▶ The majority of respondents would support a user fee of \$20 or more for an unserviced vehicle site



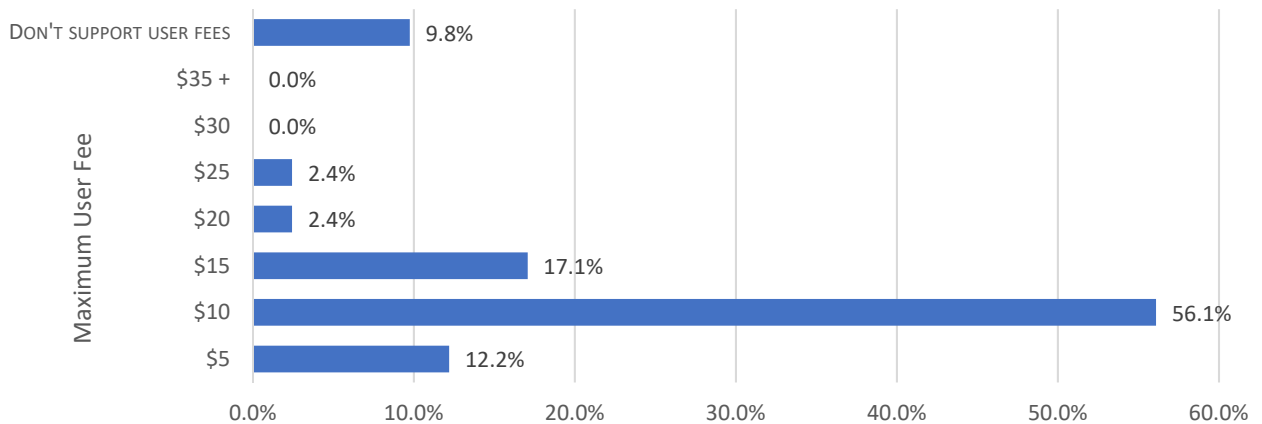
USER FEES FOR SERVICED VEHICLE CAMPSITES / DAY

- ▶ The majority of respondents would support a user fee of \$30 or more for an equestrian vehicle site



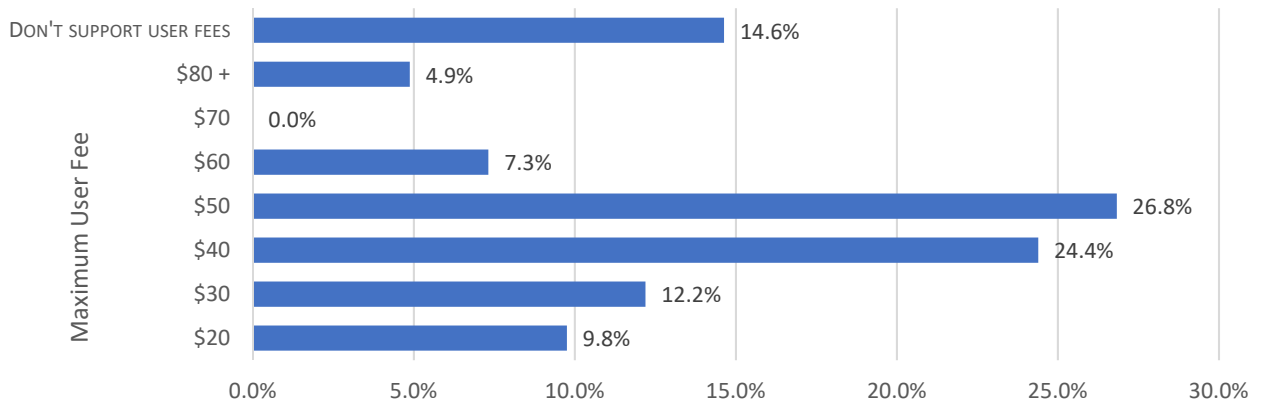
USER FEES FOR TENT CAMPSITES / DAY

- ▶ The majority of respondents would support a user fee of \$10 or more for a tenting site



USER FEES FOR PICNIC SHELTER RENTAL / DAY

- ▶ The majority of respondents would support a user fee of \$40 or more for use of a group picnic shelter



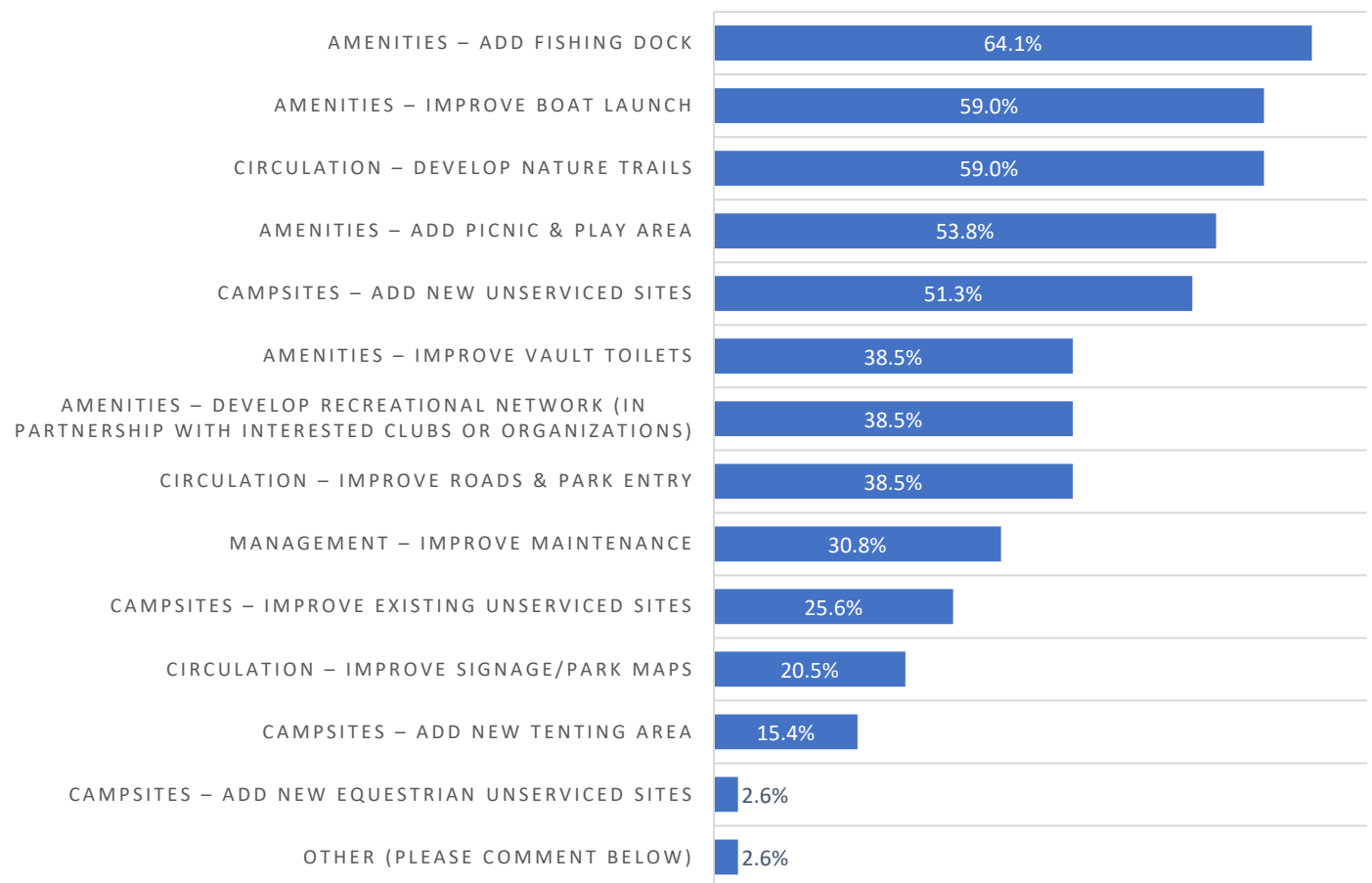
ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ON USER FEES OR FUNDING:

- ▶ Day use activities should be free
- ▶ There is a correlation between the condition of the park and how much people are willing to pay. If it is clean and well-kept, people do not mind paying a bit more
- ▶ The group shelter should not have a cost unless in high demand

QUESTION 19: TOP PRIORITIES FOR POTENTIAL PARK IMPROVEMENTS – MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

The top priorities included:

1. Fishing Dock
2. Improved Boat Launch (tie)
2. Nature Trails (tie)
3. Play and Picnic Area
4. New Unserved Campsites



Part 4: General comments

QUESTION 20: ADDITIONAL COMMENTS ABOUT EITHER PARK

Participants were asked to share any additional comments about either Blackfoot Regional or Montney Centennial Regional Park. Comments included:

- ▶ Support for disc golf, multi-use, and mountain bike trails as growing activities in the region and beneficial for attracting people from other regions to explore PRRD parks.
- ▶ Desire to ensure the parks remain natural in character, keeping spaces park-like and accessible to everyone to enjoy.
- ▶ Concerns that boat launches limit use of shoreline areas.
- ▶ Desire to expand day-use opportunities that encourage locals to enjoy the parks.
- ▶ Appreciation for providing opportunities for input.

APPENDIX A: RESPONSE FORM VERBATIM COMMENTS

PART 2: BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

DRAFT VISION AND GOALS

QUESTION 6: COMMENTS ON DRAFT VISION

- ▶ It always seems dirty, crowded, etc...
- ▶ I might change the word "the" starting point to "a" starting point.
- ▶ End vision afterward: campground. The rest is redundant and is hardly relevant to the campground site.
- ▶ Day Parking, Walking Trails, Signage, Dog Park.
- ▶ An 18-hole disc golf course in either or both parks. This will provide families an excellent way to get out and explore the park together. It will also be a great way to draw disc golfers from other regions throughout BC and Alberta by way of an annual tournament held with the approval of the PRRD. This in turn could provide extra revenue from return visitors who really enjoyed the tournament, and through nominal fees charged to the tournament director, not to mention the camping fees for the golfers on the weekend of the tournament.
- ▶ Presently a party area due to no policing.
- ▶ Improve access, add some powered sites.
- ▶ Be more specific about adventures and memories (hiking, viewing, sports areas, ATV trails).
- ▶ Dog friendly.
- ▶ As far as a vision statement goes, I feel that it encompasses well how I see the park.
- ▶ I think it's great so far!
- ▶ More secluded camp spots; walking trails, ATV trails.
- ▶ I would like campsites with A and/or B big enough to accommodate a 5th wheel with the option to pitch a tent for kids.
- ▶ I am for the site remaining rustic. I am happy with some minor improvements like more sites, hiking trail and outhouses. I do not want to see anymore improvements. They are destroying the natural feel of the campsite.
- ▶ I would like to see minor improvements of the park like more sites and outhouses.

QUESTION 8: COMMENTS ON DRAFT GOALS

- ▶ Work to remove "bush party" reputation - drunks/drugs. Provide Park Host to provide security/maturity.
- ▶ Develop an Education Program: Flora, Fauna, Night Sky, Fishing, etc
- ▶ Making sure there is someone doing garbage maintenance is so important!
- ▶ I feel it's important to keep the away from civilization feel.
- ▶ Sounds pretty good.
- ▶ I believe in user pay and a small fee for camping would be appropriate
- ▶ Preservation of natural environment / beauty would always be a benefit. I believe commercializing this area would be a huge downfall for this park.
- ▶ Would be nice to have a park for winter with the idea of making the hiking trails wide enough for sleds. Fort St. John needs to utilize the winter months.

CONCEPT DIRECTIONS – BLACKFOOT REGIONAL PARK

QUESTION 9: IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE OPTIONS

- ▶ No ATV use after 9:00 pm.
- ▶ Thank you for asking.
- ▶ Lower boat launch!
- ▶ Install electric mosquito zappers.
- ▶ More sites, more trails for both walking and ATVing would be a delighted addition to this beautiful piece of nature. Also, add one stand with doggy poop bags to avoid litter.
- ▶ Nope, you did very nice.

QUESTION 12: COMMENTS ON USER FEES AND FUNDING

- ▶ Don't want a group picnic shelter.
- ▶ Strongly believe in user fees.
- ▶ No user fees for day use.
- ▶ Fees keep park well maintained.
- ▶ Picnics are free.
- ▶ Fees suck but is necessary for needed upkeep.
- ▶ I definitely believe in user pay.
- ▶ Anything full hookup or special amenities should be charged, anything just nature provided should not.
- ▶ If Concept B requires paid camp, could there be an annual fundraiser instead?
- ▶ I support fees, but keep them low through proper management/concept.

PART 3: MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

DRAFT VISION AND GOALS

QUESTION 14: COMMENTS ON DRAFT VISION

- ▶ Day use parking, dog park.
- ▶ The Option B with the Disc golf park and horse camping is very suited to our District. Love the idea.
- ▶ Add a disc golf course.
- ▶ We need another disc golf course.
- ▶ Requires site attendants to enforce rules.
- ▶ None.
- ▶ It states what is available for the campsite.
- ▶ A good boat launch and dock for boats.
- ▶ I love going to Charlie Lake, so I would love this camp site.

- ▶ Improve road and park sites.
- ▶ There will always be people that complain about not having this or that. But if you stay focused on "unique and remote", I think you will develop a clientele (so to speak) that see Montney as their go-to campground (just in my opinion).
- ▶ Day use opportunities should be enhanced with picnic and fishing opportunities.

QUESTION 16: COMMENTS ON DRAFT GOALS

- ▶ Work with Fort St. John Disc Sports Club when designing the 18-hole course to make sure it is a good level for new and experienced players.
- ▶ Clean the lake, so many dead fish on shore.
- ▶ Love to enhance the lake!
- ▶ I prefer Concept B.
- ▶ Support for clubs and organizations should work both ways. If PRRD is enhancing the park for them, then they should be helping, i.e., financially or volunteer work hours spent on the park.
- ▶ The enhanced park would be used more by the surrounding communities.

CONCEPT DIRECTIONS – MONTNEY CENTENNIAL REGIONAL PARK

QUESTION 17: DIFFERENT IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE OPTIONS

- ▶ Disc golf! Heck yes!
- ▶ Concept B is too busy! Most important thing is keeping the green and not disrupting our beautiful natural looking camp sites.
- ▶ Disc golf, boating, and camping sound like a great weekend trip or day use.
- ▶ The equestrian setup would be a big cost and would require ongoing maintenance. It's very unlikely that the horse people would participate, they would only want to complain. The other clubs would likely be willing to work with you.
- ▶ I really like the idea of a multi-use park where skiers, disc golfers, and even mountain bikers can share facilities and help maintain the park. The more clubs that are involved, the less work each group must do to maintain it. Also, it opens more grant opportunities.

QUESTION 18: COMMENTS ON PARK USER FEES

- ▶ No fees for day use Education Programs.
- ▶ Your pricing scheme is per campsite overnight fees or day use fees? My comments reflect overnight.
- ▶ I support user fees and funding.
- ▶ I think there's a direct correlation between the condition of the park and how much people are willing to pay. If it's always clean and well-kept, people won't mind paying a little more. Judging by how often Beaton Park is full, I don't think there would be any trouble getting people out to enjoy Montney. Do a good job on the layout and construction, keep it clean and tidy, and people will come.
- ▶ The group shelter area should be a cost unless there is a high demand and potential double bookings. Some group shelter users may have already paid for camping that day as well.

PART 4: GENERAL COMMENTS

- ▶ Please proceed.
- ▶ I like the intent, but survey is fooling, hard to work through, better in a face-to-face, or one name.
- ▶ Disc golf and multi-use/mountain bike trails is a growing activity in the region. It would be great to see more options for those activities.
- ▶ I feel the two disc golf courses would be beneficial to attracting people from other regions to come explore our two beautiful parks.
- ▶ Disc golf course would be awesome.
- ▶ I think these parks are going to be great! Thank you for letting us give input!
- ▶ For the Montney Centennial Park, I would like to see the park remain more natural without access for boaters or motorized anything. Keep the water access for people, families and keep it park like and accessible for many people. Boat access limits who can use the area. Developing the trails and providing picnics only spots for families who would like to spend the day but not camp overnight. More day use of the park so the families can use the park without cost. Serve the local population and not cater to tourists.
- ▶ I had never heard of this park (Montney Centennial) until the design study was advertised. And in its current state, there is no reason for me or my family to visit this park. The Option B that was drafted would attract locals, visitors and people passing through. The nearest 18-hole disc golf course in BC is Kamloops. Mountain bikers in the region have also been looking for a place to go trail riding after losing their last location.
- ▶ Thanks for providing some great development options!
- ▶ Thank you for maintaining and improving our parks!

