

# Community Report

## What's happening in our community

As you may know, the District—along with our neighbour, the City of North Vancouver—was recently recognized as the top place to live in the Globe and Mail's Canada's Most Livable Cities ranking.

Proximity to nature and strong local amenities were highlighted as key reasons for this recognition. With this in mind, we're pleased to share the latest District-wide news and updates that continue to enhance our residents' quality of life.

This issue explores the making of Belhouse Park, the new accessible park on the former Delbrook lands. You'll also get an update on our Community Transportation Plan, a blueprint for the District's long-term transportation vision, and learn how you can help shape it.

We also look at Metro Vancouver's wet-weather pricing system that charges municipalities based on the amount of rainwater entering the sewer system during storms. We also explain what the District is doing to manage these costs and how homeowners can help.

Finally, we spotlight Alaia, a standout volunteer whose dedication helps our green spaces and communities thrive, and profile Inter River Park's new turf field.



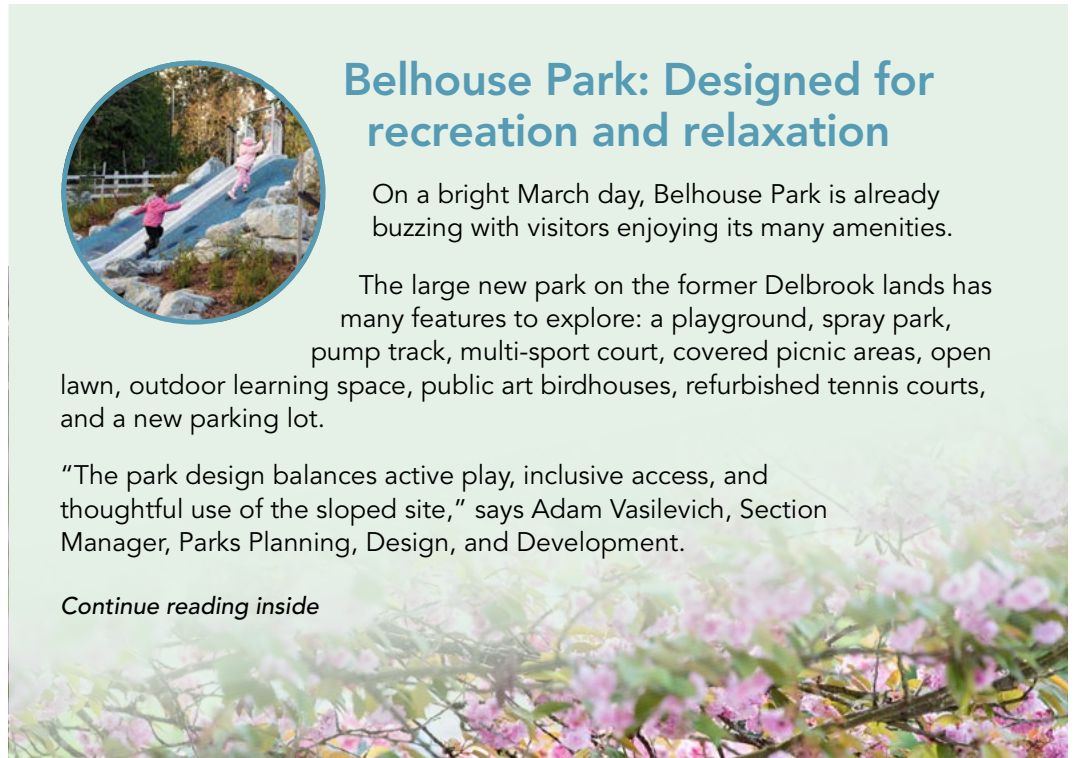
## Belhouse Park: Designed for recreation and relaxation

On a bright March day, Belhouse Park is already buzzing with visitors enjoying its many amenities.

The large new park on the former Delbrook lands has many features to explore: a playground, spray park, pump track, multi-sport court, covered picnic areas, open lawn, outdoor learning space, public art birdhouses, refurbished tennis courts, and a new parking lot.

"The park design balances active play, inclusive access, and thoughtful use of the sloped site," says Adam Vasilevich, Section Manager, Parks Planning, Design, and Development.

*Continue reading inside*





## Belhouse Park *continued*



Organized across three natural terraces, the upper level includes parking and spaces for older kids, including a small skate spot. The middle terrace is the park's activity hub with the playground, spray park, and accessible washrooms. The lower terrace offers tennis courts and a painted walking track with distance markers that loops around a grassy area.

The park also includes quieter, accessible areas for older adults and visitors seeking a more relaxed experience. Pathways connect all terraces with a route kept at an 8% grade. Other accessible elements include a roundabout, swings, a roller slide, interactive playground accessories and the spray park.

Public input from the Delbrook lands planning project helped shape the design.

Vasilevich says, "As town and village centres grow and more residents live in multi-family homes without backyards, parks increasingly serve as shared outdoor spaces."

As extreme weather has become more common, the park includes shade structures, a covered picnic shelter and a spray park. "Spray parks are a great way for kids to play and for families to stay cool."



"We're always considering how the district must evolve to meet the needs of our park users now and in the future."

Learn more about the new park:

[DNV.org/belhouse-park](https://DNV.org/belhouse-park)



## Shaping the future of transportation in the District



### Regional infrastructure needs

If you live on the North Shore, you're familiar with how congestion on Highway 1 and the Ironworkers and Lions Gate bridges spills onto municipal roads and affects transit. The province has not made commitments to upgrade this critical infrastructure despite growing demand,

provincially mandated housing growth, and projected population increases.

However, these challenges are outside our direct control and jurisdiction, and we can only implement changes to our local streets and neighbourhoods. We will continue, as a municipality, to press senior governments to increase investment in our community.

To guide transportation decisions on our local streets and in our neighbourhoods, we're creating a new long-range Community Transportation Plan.

### A new Community Transportation Plan

The existing 2012 plan no longer fully reflects the District's current context, priorities, or emerging transportation needs. Recent and future growth adds additional pressure on our transportation network, requiring modern strategies to address congestion, safety, and mobility challenges, while supporting broader District goals.

"This is an opportunity to consolidate and update our policies into a single, integrated framework that better reflects the priorities of today's Council and the community," says Ehab Taha, Section Manager, Transportation.

### Community input

Residents and businesses will be engaged throughout the process to share experiences, needs, and ideas.

Visit our Community Transportation Plan webpage to learn more and sign up for engagement updates through your MyDNDV account by clicking "Watch this page."

[DNV.org/community-transportation-plan](https://DNV.org/community-transportation-plan)





## Celebrating volunteers: Meet Alaia



When she's not trail running across the District, Alaia is usually volunteering—especially at running events and park stewardship activities. Giving back to her community is one of her greatest passions.

Sitting outside District Hall in colourful Hokas, sunglasses, a black Patagonia jacket and a 1,000-watt smile, she talks about what

volunteering means to her.

Alaia first discovered the North Shore while working at the 2010 Olympics. After moving here from Toronto, she began volunteering right away, focusing on invasive plant removals, plantings, and the Urban Tree Canopy Project.

Across the District—from Bowser Trail and Tatlow's Spirit Trail to Mosquito Creek and Kirkstone Park—she sees reminders of the work she and fellow volunteers have done. She also helped plant the Welch Strip Mini Forest and continues to care for the site.

"It's so rewarding, and you meet likeminded people," says Alaia, who also volunteers at trail races, something she's been doing since she moved here. "You feel invested in the places you help restore. It's a fun, easy way to give back. Please consider volunteering!"

Erika Nassichuk, Section Manager of Environmental Protection, says volunteers like Alaia play a vital role in maintaining, revitalizing, and significantly improving the long-term sustainability of the District's forested areas. "Alaia's generosity of time, energy, and care has made a lasting contribution to our local landscape. Her dedication continues to strengthen our green spaces and the community around them."

### Volunteers make the DNV a better place to live

During National Volunteer Week 2026, which takes place from April 19–25, 2026, we want to recognize and celebrate all the volunteers who share their time, energy and skills to make the District such a vibrant and inclusive municipality.

District volunteers contribute their time in a variety of positions, making a significant impact through hands-on activities in our parks and gardens and roles on community boards and committees.

Learn more about volunteer opportunities at the District:

[DNV.org/volunteer-opportunities](https://dnv.org/volunteer-opportunities)



### Be part of shaping the DNV's future!

Join an advisory committee and share your voice and unique experiences as we build for the future.

[DNV.org/committees](https://dnv.org/committees)



### We want to hear from you

Did you find this Report informative? Scan the QR code to take a short survey and share your thoughts.



### New EV charging at Parkgate Library

The new stations are scheduled to be ready this spring. Learn more at:

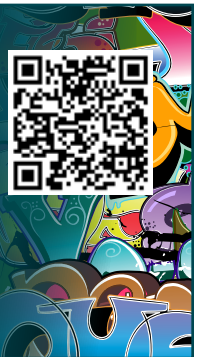
[DNV.org/electric-vehicles](https://dnv.org/electric-vehicles)



### Report a problem

Spot an issue within the District? Let us know! Use this service to quickly and easily report litter, graffiti, and other common problems.

[DNV.org/report-a-problem](https://dnv.org/report-a-problem)



## Why sewer costs are rising—and how homeowners can help

Metro Vancouver's fees have increased significantly—and will continue to rise—due to major cost overruns on the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant and Metro Vancouver's wet-weather pricing system, introduced in 2024.



When it rains, rainwater and groundwater can enter sanitary sewers through damaged pipes or improper connections. Under this wet weather pricing model, communities now pay based on how much storm water they send into the regional system.

That means keeping rainwater out of sanitary sewers matters more than ever—for system reliability and household utility bills. Reducing rainwater in sanitary sewers also lowers the risk of sewer backups and overflows during extreme storms, helping protect homes, waterways, and emergency response capacity.

“The District is committed to protecting our sanitary sewer system from rainwater and groundwater inflow and infiltration,” says Sean Rooney, Manager of Utilities. “We are working diligently to keep this water out of our sanitary sewer system. This ongoing effort is funded by our sewer utility rates.”

While the District is investing public utility funds in sewer upgrades, Rooney notes that a lot of the rainwater that makes its way into our sanitary sewer comes from private property beyond what the municipality can access or repair. This requires property owner action.

There are several things you can do to help prevent inflow and infiltration. Read more about your role in protecting the system and what we are doing to manage rising sewer costs:

[DNV.org/sewer-costs](https://dnv.org/sewer-costs)



## Almost game time for the new turf field at Inter River



The new full-size artificial turf field (ATF) at Inter River Park is nearly ready for play. Designed to meet tournament standards, the field will accommodate soccer, field hockey, and several levels of baseball, including youth (U11 and under) and women's fastpitch.

We're also adding a new washroom facility located near the field to support players, spectators, and other park users. The washroom building is nearing completion, and work continues on the asphalt and concrete surfaces, as well as on field structures such as player shelters.

Both the field and washrooms are expected to open in the coming months, although final completion will depend on weather conditions.

Learn more about Inter River Park turf field and washrooms:

[DNV.org/inter-river-atf](https://dnv.org/inter-river-atf)



## North Van mayors call for BC to act on wastewater plant

Mayors Mike Little and Linda Buchanan brought the North Shore Wastewater Treatment Plant issue to the Premier on March 5, 2026. Read the message they delivered:



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[@NVanDistrict](https://twitter.com/NVanDistrict)

[DNV.org](https://dnv.org)

We respectfully acknowledge the original peoples of these lands and waters, specifically the *səlilwətał* (Tsleil-Waututh), *Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw* (Squamish), and *xʷməθkʷəy̓əm* (Musqueam), on whose unceded ancestral lands the District of North Vancouver is located. We value the opportunity to learn, share and serve our community on these unceded lands.