



District of Peachland

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MEDIA RELEASE

May 16, 2017

A potential four kilometer waterfront corridor is now closer to reality, thanks to a property purchase by the District of Peachland. The municipality has purchased the Duck and Pug Guesthouse, located at 5899 Beach Avenue. It's envisioned this key property will be used for park purposes, to augment the nearby Heritage Park.

This land is the only remaining piece of privately owned property on the lakeside of Beach Avenue stretching from Highway 97 at the south end, to Buchannan Road at the north. This acquisition by the District of Peachland will create a 4 km contiguous corridor of public parkland and waterfront for Peachland's residents and visitors to enjoy.

This property acquisition has been identified as a strategic priority in the District Council's Strategic Plan for the past two years.

Additional Information*:

- In the early 1960's, Peachland's Council purchased downtown waterfront properties housing a BC Telephones office and a CNR Pier to begin the long, slow process of acquiring downtown waterfront parkland;
- In the early 1970's, Council dealt with the numerous private buoys and docks that were impeding public lake access;
- In the early 1980's, the District acquired packinghouse properties in the downtown waterfront after the buildings burned down;
- Today, the Duck and Pug property has been acquired for \$675,000, and fully funded from reserve funds, thereby avoiding any direct taxation impact;
- The property will continue to operate as a guesthouse until September 30th, 2017, to respect the seasonal visitors to Peachland who have reservations in place;
- The existing buildings will be demolished to make way for enhanced, continuous public parkland.

Quotes

Mayor Cindy Fortin said "For almost 60 years, Peachland's elected officials have made it a priority to preserve and improve Peachland's shoreline, and had the foresight to acquire key properties on the lakeside of Beach Avenue, which has created our beautiful lakefront parks corridor. Now we have another opportunity to add to that legacy, for current and future generations to enjoy."

For more information, please contact:

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*Historical references from *The Chronicles of Peachland – History of the Years 1984 – 2012*, Compiled and Edited by Don Wigfield.