

## One Page Summary

### Emily Lake Park Expansion.

The intended use of the land is undisturbed park land.

The qathet Regional District (qRD) would like a thirty (30) year lease over the property for park purposes, this would compliment our existing thirty year lease on the existing Emily Lake Park. The current size of the park is approximately 12.8 hectares, the proposed expansion covers an area of approximately 164 hectares, to increase the park size to approximately 177 hectares. The area of expansion is referenced in the Texada Island Official Community Plan.

The qRD has a letter of support from the local First Nation, Tla'amin Nation. This letter of support outlines the importance of the area to the Nation.

The access to Emily Lake Park is from Van Anda, the cultural and economic centre of Texada Island, the expansion of the park will draw more visitors to the park, promoting tourism, and this will have a favourable impact to the local economy. The grocery store, coffee shops and hotel are all within a 5 minute walk from Emily Lake.

The proposed additional park lands are within walking distance of the only school on Texada Island, within a few hundred meters of the fire hall, with its established trail system will provide the community with an area to help maintain their physical and mental help.

The area is within the Van Anda Improvement district watershed and will help put additional safeguards in place for water quality. The extensive trail system is based on old industrial roads, both mining and forestry, these roads/trails are currently not being maintained. The qRD would take over responsibility for the trail maintenance, this will help prevent sedimentation from entering the watershed system by failing trails and roads. The qRD would also manage drainage, fixing, replacing or eliminating any failing culverts left in place by industrial users.

The area of expansion has a multitude of old growth management areas (OGMA), Wildlife Habitat Areas (WHA), and riparian areas, along with being a community watershed. The establishment of a park over the proposed area will help preserve all these values.

The qathet Regional District is requesting ministerial sponsorship for this crown land lease application.