

## **Parksville Welcomes Visitors to BeachFest**

One of the most exciting summer festivals in the Parksville Community Park each year is the five-week Quality Foods Sand Sculpting Competition and Exhibition and the Parksville Beach Festival events which complement the exhibition. The event opens to the public on Friday, July 14 at 2 pm and events and activities are scheduled through August 20. We look forward welcoming the thousands of visitors to the park for festivities.

Planned construction of several upgrade projects in the Parksville Community Park are either completed or well underway with completion of all projects expected by year end. The Parksville Outdoor Theatre was completed in July 2022, surfacing and play equipment upgrades to Lions Ventureland Playground and the resurfacing of the racquet courts to accommodate pickleball and tennis were completed earlier this year. Yet to come is completion of the new gathering plaza, accessibility upgrades and a new washroom facility.

The City of Parksville and Parksville Beach Festival are working together to accommodate the world class sand sculpting exhibition and special events during construction of the gathering plaza. Because visitor experience and safety are important to both Parksville Beach Festival and the City, work underway at the gathering plaza will be reduced to help ensure an enjoyable visit to the park. Once again, we thank residents and park visitors for their patience and understanding during construction.

Most of the park including such areas as the sports fields, Lions Ventureland Playground, waterfront walkway and beach area are accessible to the public. During the five weeks of Parksville Beach Festival, there will be no road closures in the park, washrooms near the festival site are open to the public, additional accessible parking spots are available near the playground, and until further notice, food trucks will be located along Sandcastle Drive towards Arbutus Point.

The community event scheduled for September 16 to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> birthday of the Parksville Community Park will be postponed until spring 2024.

Please refer to <u>Let's Talk Parksville</u> for information about the City's improvements to amenities in the Parksville Community Park.

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## For more information:

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> The City of Parksville is located on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish Nations, home to the Snaw-Naw-As First Nation and the Qualicum First Nation.

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