

No Dogs on Parksville Beaches

We wish to remind the public that Parksville beaches are closed to dogs seasonally each year to allow the Black Brant geese to feed along our shores without disruption. Parksville beaches within the Parksville-Qualicum Beach Wildlife Management Area are closed to dogs both on-leash and off-leash as follows:

- Rathtrevor Beach until April 15
- Parksville Bay Beach until April 30

For the information of the public, provincial conservation officers, noticeable in bright orange vests, are actively patrolling both Rathtrevor Beach and Parksville Bay beach. Conservation enforces regulations below the high tide mark and the City of Parksville enforces restrictions above the high tide mark. Simply, above the waterfront walkway, the City will enforce any regulations and conservation officers have jurisdiction below the waterfront walkway. Signs are posted at most of the entrances to the beaches and must be obeyed by dog owners.

Questions should be directed to the RAPP line (Report All Poachers and Polluters) at 1 877 952-7277, #7277 on the Telus mobility network or online at https://forms.gov.bc.ca/environment/rapp/

The Black Brant geese you see along the shores of Parksville are on a remarkable and arduous journey of migration from California and Mexico to northern nesting grounds. Our beaches provide an abundant food source for the geese which need to gain weight and strength before making another non-stop flight. A disturbance caused by something as simple as a child running on the beach can have drastic effects on the geese while feeding. For this reason, Parksville beaches are subject to seasonal no dog restrictions; beaches close to dogs both on-leash and off-leash for a period each year.

###

For more information: Deb Tardiff, Manager of Communications <u>dtardiff@parksville.ca</u> 250 954-3073

> City of Parksville | 100 Jensen Avenue East (P O Box 1390), Parksville, BC V9P 2H3 Phone 250 248-6144 | Fax 250 954-4685 | <u>www.parksville.ca</u>

