

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Cambie Park open for play

### Summary

Cambie Park, located at 390 Cambie Road in Harewood, now includes a playground, a half sport court and fencing. Park development was made possible by community volunteers and a number of generous donations, in-kind donations and volunteer labour through local businesses and community groups. They include:

- The Cambie Park Neighbourhood Association along with their friends and extended families
- H & W Country Grocer Ltd. (Chase River)
- Kinsmen Club of Nanaimo
- Rotary Club of Lantzville Society
- Rotary Club of Nanaimo
- Island West Coast Development
- Milner Group
- Members of Block Watch #43
- City of Nanaimo Grant of \$25,000 through the Partners in Parks Program

Park planning was guided by community volunteers and championed by Cambie Road Block Watch Captain, Shirley Gremyachev.

Cambie Park was acquired by the City of Nanaimo as part of a subdivision application in 2011 and has been vacant since that time. In 2017, neighbours began planning improvements to Cambie Park through the City of Nanaimo's Partners in Parks (PIP) program. PIP is a public participation program designed to bring the ideas and efforts of volunteers together with the City of Nanaimo's Parks, Recreation and Culture Department in order to collaboratively develop and improve Nanaimo's parks and open spaces.

Construction at Cambie Park began in October of 2019.

*Strategic Link:* Livability: "We proactively plan for Nanaimo's growth and focus on community infrastructure to support an inclusive, healthy and desirable place to live."

### Key Points

- Partners in Parks Program (PIP) is a public participation program designed to bring the ideas and efforts of volunteers together with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture in order to develop and improve our parks and open spaces.
- The improvement plan is neighbourhood initiated and driven. This project will not directly impact taxes and will not require maintenance by neighbours.
- Cambie Park's new amenities include a half sport court and playground equipment.

### Quotes

"The City of Nanaimo is grateful for the many dedicated volunteers and businesses that have donated their time and resources to improve Cambie Park. It is parks like these that bring neighbourhoods together. Cambie Park is another great example of how programs like the Partners in Parks Program help to create a more vibrant and livable community."

Leonard Krog  
Mayor  
City of Nanaimo

Continued... Cambie Park open for play

"I am truly honoured to be part of such a project as Cambie Park. I have learned so much through this experience. It is a first-time for me, and I have a whole new respect for what it takes to make such a park happen and how it benefits our children and families from such an act of service. I am truly grateful to all those that stepped up to support the creation of this park and especially the generous grant from the City of Nanaimo that encouraged our hearts that we could see this dream come true. A million thanks."

Shirley Gremyachev  
Captain  
Cambie Road Block Watch

-30-

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