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REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2018

SUBJECT **Bylaw No. 4227 – Capital Regional District Parks Services and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1, 2010, Amendment Bylaw No. 8, 2018**

ISSUE

To amend the Park Use Permit Fees and Charges schedules for 2018-2019.

BACKGROUND

Schedule “A” of Bylaw No. 3675 outlines the fees and charges for Regional Parks services and permits. As new services are introduced, or as fees are reviewed and revised, Schedule “A” of the Capital Regional District (CRD) Regional Parks Services and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw is required to be amended to adhere to the requirements of the *Local Government Act*.

A fee has been added for commercial dog-walking operations. A motion was approved by the CRD Board on December 13, 2017 that “the Capital Regional District Regional Parks Services and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 3675 be amended to add a new category for commercial dog-walking operations, with an effective date of May 1, 2018, and brought before the Committee in March 2018 for consideration.”

The annual fee for commercial dog-walking operations is \$320. The fee is valid for eight months rather than twelve in 2018, seeing as the effective date is May 1. It will not, however, be pro-rated and reduced as the fee is in line with the \$320 already charged for other commercial activities that run for a period of five months or more in a calendar year.

Environmental Interpretation program fees have been simplified based on an analysis of programs and costs. There will be one flat rate of \$70 per class for school programs. In past years, an extra \$10 was charged for craft materials for one of the programs. Costs have been adjusted, enabling the same rate to be charged for all fifteen types of school programs. Most guided hikes and naturalist programs for the public are free. In the past, fees of \$7 to \$20 were charged for specialty programs with limited registration, guided canoe programs or hikes with guest experts. In 2018, there will be one flat rate of \$7 per person for these types of programs.

No changes are proposed to existing fees for camping, parking at Thetis Lake and Sooke Potholes Regional Parks, commercial filming, commercial services or activities, and park use permits.

ALTERNATIVES

Alternative 1

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the CRD Board:

That Bylaw No. 4227, Capital Regional District Parks Services and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1, 2010, Amendment Bylaw No. 8, 2018, be introduced and read a first time, read a second time, read a third time and adopted.

Alternative 2

That the Regional Parks Committee refer the report back to staff with direction.

ECONOMIC IMPLICATIONS

The user fees collected by Regional Parks are used to reduce the requisition for the delivery of regional park services. The new fee for dog-walking operations will be effective May 1, 2018.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Fees and charges are in line with similar fees charged by other agencies.

CONCLUSION

As new services are introduced, or as fees are reviewed and revised, Schedule “A” of the CRD Regional Parks Services and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw is required to be amended.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District Board:

That Bylaw No. 4227, Capital Regional District Parks Services and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1, 2010, Amendment Bylaw No. 8, 2018, be introduced and read a first time, read a second time, read a third time and adopted.

Submitted by:	Mike Walton, PhD, Senior Manager, Regional Parks
Concurrence:	Larisa Hutcheson, P.Eng., General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

KS:km

Attachment: Attachment 1 – Bylaw No. 4227 – Capital Regional District Parks Services and Facilities Fees and Charges Bylaw No. 1, 2010, Amendment Bylaw No. 8, 2018.