

**The Friends of Mt. Douglas Park  
Society**

**Annual General Meeting**

**7:30 pm, Wednesday April 13, 1994**

at

**McMorran's Sea View Room  
5109 Cordova Bay Road**

**Agenda**

**Annual Reports**

**Election of Society Directors**

(Note call for nominations in this newsletter)

**Presentation by VICTorienteers**

**Trails Plan Status**

**Saanich Engineering Rip-rap Plans**

# The Friends of Mt. Douglas Park Society

## Spring 1994 Newsletter

### Contents

1	AGM Format	3
2	Park Trails Update	3
3	Cordova Bay Road Update	4
4	Call for Nominations	4
5	Membership	5

## 1 AGM Format

Immediately following the brief formal part of the meeting, there will be a presentation about orienteering in the Victoria area by the VICTorienteers club. They use Mt. Douglas Park on a regular basis and are also responsible for the best and most accurate maps of the park.

We also have obtained from the CBC, David Suzuki's Nature of Things, **The Shoreline Doesn't Stop Here Anymore**. This excellent video is a must for anybody interested in the fate of all the area beaches, especially Cordova Bay Beach. It effectively illustrates the dangers of attempting to influence the forces of nature. It directly relates to the current engineering proposals for rip-rap on the park beach and suggests that not only might the efforts not be effective, but could be counterproductive, causing loss of sand and destruction of the beach itself.

## 2 Park Trails Update

If you recall, Saanich Parks and Recreation have presented a trails proposal for Mt. Douglas Park. From the discussions that have taken place since that time, there are areas of agreement and areas of disagreement.

Our Society and Saanich Parks and Recreation are in agreement concerning the following:

- There should be a circular trail around the base of the mountain with local access points from all sides.
- There should be an *over-the-top* trail allowing hikers to traverse the summit without backtracking.
- The trails are in extremely poor condition and require improvement and maintenance.
- The entire trail system should be identified with signs.
- Maps of the trail system and all other trails identification should be erected at appropriate locations.

Saanich Parks and Recreation propose the following with which we disagree:

April 1994

- Trails widths and surfaces.
  - **2.0 meters wide** for the circular trail accommodating pedestrians and equestrians. Current proposal calls for **crushed gravel surface** the entire length whereas previously a hog fuel surface had been proposed.

Two trails have already received this treatment. We suggest you try these trails. One is the fire road leading from Cedar Hill Road under the power line, the other follows the creek and connects Ash Road with the beach parking lot. The points we have made include the noise of walking on gravel, the slippery surface, the alien appearance of the gravel, the artificially level trail surface, and no give when walking on it. What do you think?

We note from an old 1991 newsletter, how similar this list of trail agreements and disagreements is, how little has changed, and how little has been done to the park trails.

### **3 Cordova Bay Road Update**

The Thurber engineering study which recommended the shoring up of the existing Cordova Bay Road near the motel also recommended that rip-rap be placed on the beach in an attempt to stabilize the toe of the cliff. When Council approved the road repairs, they deferred any decisions on the question of rip-rap until further information was available. Saanich Engineering department commissioned a study to examine the effectiveness of the proposed rip-rap and also examine any secondary effects on the movement of sand along Cordova Bay Beach. The study noted that the current rip-rap has not been entirely effective and recommended it and future rip-rap be placed higher up the bank and also deeper into the sand. The study also showed that there is a substantial movement of sand along the entire length of Cordova Bay Beach, but they expressed the opinion that the rip-rap would have little effect on this movement. We have reservations about this opinion.

### **4 Call for Nominations**

There are three director positions to fill. Claude Maurice is chairing the nomination committee. If you would like to nominate some-

body, please contact him at 598-7407. Nominations close April 12, 1994. Elections will be held at our AGM on April 13.

## 5 Membership

We hope you will support The Friends for another year; you may send the membership fee using the form below, or drop by the membership desk at the AGM. We hope you also will be interested to join The Friends of Mt. Douglas Park Society.

April 1994

The Friends of Mt. Douglas Park Society

Form

Membership for 1994

Send \$5.00 and this form to

The Friends of Mt. Douglas Park Society

4635 Cordova Bay Road, Victoria, B.C. V8X 3V6 (658-2200)

Membership for 1994: Send \$5.00 and this form to  
**The Friends of Mt. Douglas Park Society**  
4635 Cordova Bay Road, Victoria, B.C. V8X 3V6 (658-2200)

Name:.....

Street:.....

Postal Code ..... Phone .....

April 1994