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Bimonthly Publication of The British Columbia Society of Landscape Architects



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October 2006



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The purpose of *Sitelines* is to provide an open forum for the exchange of ideas and information pertaining to the profession of Landscape Architecture. Individual opinions expressed are those of the writers and not necessarily of those of the BCSLA.

October 2006

# Introduction

As Chair of the BCSLA Public Sector Sub-Committee I welcome this opportunity to introduce the October 2006 edition of *Sitelines*. This issue features articles written by BCSLA Members who work in the public sector. More than 30% of BCSLA Members are employed in the public sector in parks, planning and design, community development and more.

Landscape architects in the public sector bring our comprehensive skills and expertise to a broad spectrum of project in every region around BC. Our Members are key players when it comes to master planning, site selection, site planning, sustainability, urban design, visual analysis, design, team management and public facilitation and mediation.

Tiina Mack has written a terrific article about the City of Surrey and projects in the Whalley area. The BCSLA Public Sector Sub-Committee recently toured the area and we were impressed by all of the projects. Fiona Chamberlain from the Regional District of Central Okanagan has submitted a fascinating article on the historic Gellatly Nut Farm Regional Park in Kelowna. Gerald Fleming tells us about some of the exciting projects on Vancouver Island. Susan Rogers has put together some interesting information on projects in the District of North Vancouver. Kevin McFarland has provided an impressive article on projects in the Resort Municipality of Whistler. We also included a welcome to Daniel Roehr – the newest faculty Member at UBC.



*Cover Image: Design and Photograph by  
Resort Municipality of Whistler*

Our Public Sector Sub-Committee is a diverse group of talented BCSLA Members that arranges site tours and meets informally from time to time to discuss issues of interest. The tours are always fun and informative – it's great to see what other LA's are up to and the unique problems and solutions that are out there. Sometimes we wrap up the meeting/tour with a tall cool refreshing beverage in the company of friends and have a few laughs.

On behalf of our group we hope that you enjoy reading about just a few of the projects that public sector landscape architect are working on in BC.

*Ron Myers, MBCSLA  
Manager of Design and Development,  
Parks, Recreation & Culture  
City of Abbotsford*

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# Public Sector Landscape Architecture in Whistler

KEVIN MCFARLAND, MBCSLA  
PARKS PLANNER, RESORT MUNICIPALITY OF WHISTLER

It was 1:00 a.m. and, as I waited for a hockey team in an empty parking lot outside Torino's Olympic Village, I had time to reflect on the eccentricities of my job and the nature of Whistler's public sector landscape architecture. In this episode, I was traded to the Games organizing committee to experience the weeks leading up to the start of the Winter Olympic Games – the high anxiety period. Several weeks later, my co-worker Martin Pardoe (MBCSLA) was sent to observe the Winter Paralympic Games.

In this resort municipality, so influenced by the work of landscape architects, the range of work and experiences is remarkable. For this, Martin and I thank our parks planning predecessors, as their good work seemed to convince decision makers that landscape architects can lead or contribute to any project. Currently, there are two landscape architects working for the Parks and Recreation Department. Several landscape architectural graduates have significantly infiltrated the Planning and Development Department, and, in the public sector

world of VANOC in Whistler, our former co-worker, Jan Jansen, MBCSLA, is developing the Sliding Centre for bobsled, luge and skeleton on Blackcomb Mountain (Jan measures his work in G-force).

Certainly, the prospect of the Winter Olympics has a large and growing influence on our work. Apart from the Olympic competition venues, the municipality is very much involved in the planning for the Athletes' Village and the Athletes' Centre. This site in south Whistler will become a new neighbourhood following the Games. The planned closure of the nearby landfill was hastened by the Games development, and the capped site will ultimately become a very large recreation space. Also within that area, our Department is currently building a section of the Sea to Sky Trail. The post Games neighbourhood will be a trailhead for the regional trail that is being developed from Squamish to Pemberton and beyond.

A significant Games related project will be built on the last remaining undeveloped site within Whistler Village North. This Lot



*Park Planning Day 06 (Martin and I with our Parks Planning co-workers on Whistler peak, Spring 2006) photo by Keith Bennett, GM Parks and Recreation*

1/9 was considered the site of the arena for the Paralympic Games sledge hockey events. As Manager of Parks and Facility Planning, Martin led the process to determine whether Whistler could afford to develop that facility. Through a difficult consultation process the community decided it could not proceed, and Martin will now shape the future of that site as a medals ceremony plaza and park. As part of the testing of Lot 1/9, famed landscape architect Eldon Beck was engaged by the municipality, and he worked with PWL Partnership Landscape Architects Inc. to develop options. Mr. Beck has had a large role in creating plans and critiquing progress in the development of the resort. This was the first time I had seen him in action as a designer and teacher, and it was a privilege.

Apart from the Games, this period is particularly interesting as Whistler is maturing as a community. The Comprehensive Sustainability Plan (Whistler 2020) has been a huge undertaking and it addresses how Whistler will evolve. Out of that process I have several responsibilities that range from continued reinvestment in our Village, to more sites and opportunities for cultural programs and improved access for persons with disabilities. *Continued on page 6*



*Townsite aerial (Village with Whistler and Blackcomb Mountains) Coast Mountain Photography*

## Public Sector Landscape Architecture in Whistler

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Two projects illustrate Whistler's transition from fun loving, twenty something to a fun loving, more fully evolved community. Martin Pardoe is project manager for the library project that now under construction. For twenty years Whistler's Public Library has been housed within portable structures. Despite the unfortunate facility, our library has been one of the most intensely used community libraries in the province. Completion of the new facility will be a civic landmark for Whistler.

The second landmark institutional project, the Squamish – Lil'Wat Cultural Centre, involves us only peripherally, but should be noted as it will be a big step in the life of this town and it will be historically significant for First Nations. It represents a partnership of the Squamish and Lil'Wat nations that is positioned to take advantage of Whistler's status as an international destination.

There are a number of other projects I could relate that we are involved with, including recent negotiations to acquire more parkland, park design and the protected areas network strategy, but instead I will conclude with one more eccentric job episode. I am often asked to give tours to visiting planners, resort developers, mayors, etc., as I seem to get enthused in telling the story of how people with vision, including landscape architects, developed a plan and stuck with it through good times and bad. On one recent tour, a Japanese cabinet minister generously nodded and asked questions as I talked of plans, reinvestment, diverse offerings and hotel tax revenues. As he climbed to the top of our mock medals podium in the Village and donned the cardboard gold medal he leapt and waved with such joy you had to smile. Whistler affects people in different ways. It certainly took me to a different place.



Village Park East Water Feature. Design and photo by Resort Municipality of Whistler.

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# Surrey's City Centre

WRITTEN BY TIINA MACK, MBCSLA, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT  
CITY OF SURREY, PARK FACILITIES DIVISION

## – Whalley Then and Now

*The City of Surrey continues to be one of Canada's fastest growing municipalities. With a land area greater than Vancouver, Burnaby and Richmond combined, and a population of 400,000 residents, which is growing by nearly 1,000 new residents each month, Surrey is predicted to become the largest city in British Columbia. Traditionally considered a commuter suburb of metropolitan Vancouver, Surrey is fast becoming a metropolis of its own right. Surrey has six community centres: Whalley, Guildford, Newton, Fleetwood, Cloverdale and South Surrey. This article features Whalley, which is a focus for urban open space enhancement, and highlights public open spaces in Whalley visited recently by the BCSLA Public Sector Committee.*

From the industrial past as evident at the Tannery and Brownsville Bar waterfront parks in the north, traveling along the City parkway greenway pathway to Central City, and finishing at Holland Park in the south, one can see that Whalley has all the potential for a great future City. The following is an overview of recently created parks and open spaces in the Whalley Community of Surrey, British Columbia.

Tannery Park and Brownsville Bar Park are two riverfront parks constructed for the millennium. These parks will eventually form anchors at either end of a waterfront-oriented walkway backed by mixed-use development. Tannery Park, located at the foot of Tannery Road (named for the tannery factories located here at the turn of the century), was designed by DMG Landscape Architects. The context remains industrial, but a borrowed view of downtown New Westminster from the Tannery Park dyke takes a visitor's eyes away from the outdoor storage and lumberyards surrounding this parkland.



*Tannery Park, view north to New Westminster*



*Brownsville Bar Park, view north west to Skytrain Bridge  
Photos taken by Annia Vuthirong, University of Guelph BLA student*

Brownsville Bar Park is located at the terminus of Old Yale Road, the crux of the Pattullo and Skytrain Bridges. This reclaimed land is leased from the Fraser Port Authority, and is a popular spot for fishing and observation of the working river. At the turn of the century this was the location of a dock and ferry that would take farmers and their wares across the Fraser River to New Westminster. One day a ferry will dock here again, this time to provide cyclists and walkers that currently must take the Pattullo Bridge and skytrain to cross the river with an alternate route.

From Brownsville Bar Park, cyclists and pedestrians can hop on the City parkway, an off-street multi-use pathway below the skytrain, up the King George Hill Highway hill, to downtown Whalley, known as City Centre, located around the Surrey Central skytrain station. In 2006 the Surrey's Transit Village Plan, funded by the City, Translink and the Federal government, was prepared by Hotson Bakker Architects. This plan looks to create a dense, vibrant, mixed use, and pedestrian focused neighbourhood an urban plaza at

*Continued on page 8*



# Whalley Then and Now

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Surrey Central station. Thousands of people pass through the transit exchange here daily.

The Central City landmark tower is a five-minute stroll from Surrey Central station. Bing Thom Architects designed the building, and Phillips Farevaag Smalberg designed its entry plaza. The tower can be seen from kilometers away and has become characteristic of what is expected for Whalley. The fact that this public square is flanked by a local microbrewery with an outdoor patio, and that hundreds of new students are now enrolled at Simon Fraser University at the heart of the tower, only bolsters the strength of this space.

Due south of Central City, is Holland Park. In July of 2004, after months of community consultation, Surrey City Council approved the preferred master plan for the renovation of Holland Park, the City's first truly urban park. The plan and process were prepared by van der Zalm+associates inc.

In 2005, the park concept plan was refined to better integrate the existing trees and to keep the project on budget in a time of rising construction costs. The renewed plan maintains the spirit of the original design and includes: a central focal point water feature including a stage and landform seating, "Roseholly Gardens" after the Holland family estate; formal tree-lined promenades approaching the water feature and garden, a walking loop that is 1 km in length with distance markers, a major plaza including public art installations, an events lawn for public gatherings and passive use, preservation of many valuable trees, with low branches limbed up and crowns thinned to allow low native shrub and groundcover growth underneath, and space for a future playground. Of special interest for horticulturalists will be the introduction of the Alice Holland dahlia, a new variety that will be on display at the park opening in 2007.



by van der Zalm+associates inc.

These public places cannot be viewed without comment on the social, economical, and transportation challenges in the environs. Whalley has one of the Fraser Valley's only needle exchanges serving an area greater than Surrey proper, and homeless people and substance abusers can be seen. Housing and rental accommodation costs are lower here than in most other lower mainland locations, and Whalley is a first home for many new Canadians. At the same time, the surrounding residential neighbourhoods have long time residents who are Whalley-

proud. Creating safe, friendly and environmentally sound public spaces that foster a sense of place is imperative. Many of these recently developed urban spaces in Whalley do just that. In these spaces, and in the pride of Whalley's residents, we can look to a future that is a vibrant and diverse downtown for the City of Surrey.

*If you would like more information or have any questions about Surrey Parks call (604) 598-5706 or visit [www.surrey.ca](http://www.surrey.ca)*





# A Quick Glimpse into the District of North Vancouver Parks and Recreation

SUSAN ROGERS, MBCSLA SECTION MANAGER – PARK PLANNING AND CONSTRUCTION, DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER

The District of North Vancouver is blessed by a scenic natural environment defined by mountains, rivers, forests and ocean. With a population of approximately 90,000, the vision for the District of North Vancouver is one that strives to balance community planning with environmental protection and stewardship. Within this context, the DNV Parks Department is responsible for a wide range of parkland, varying from forested greenbelts, conservation, neighbourhood and community parkland. With an inventory of over 100 parks, the need for park planning and site design and management is significant. Landscape architecture and park planning has played an important role in helping to implement the community vision.

Historically, the first Landscape Architect joined the District in the 1980's as a full time staff position for the Parks Department. Since that time, new positions requiring landscape architectural skills have been established, including a park planner position. This trend of employing public sector Landscape Architects seems to be mirrored in most municipalities and regions throughout the Lower Mainland and beyond. Currently, there are approximately 70 Landscape Architects working for the public sector in British Columbia.

In the District of North Vancouver, there are currently four full-time Landscape Architects working in different areas from Parks, Engineering and Community Planning. The variety of roles and responsibilities range from park design, development permit, subdivision, and local area plan review, to planning, park capital project management, and urban design. In addition, more and more landscape architects are holding management positions within public sector as their skills and training in landscape architecture and plan-

ning prove to be valuable assets to the municipalities.

In public sector, a big challenge is to keep up with the evolving outdoor recreation trends. With the backdrop of the North Shore mountains, the DNV Parks Department has witnessed a number of growing outdoor recreation trends. Most currently, one key focus has been to develop a recreational management strategy for the forested mountain areas, in consultation with GVRD Parks, GVWD Lower Seymour Conservation Area, BC Parks and other private land owners, such as Grouse Mountain Resorts. The growing interest in "unstructured recreation" such as outdoor hiking, mountain biking, orienteering, and commercial eco-tourism has exploded over the past ten years. The recreational strategy aims to set a vision for the DNV north shore mountains, supported by recommendations around environmental protection, best management practices, recreational access, trails, signage and staging areas.

This interest in trails is supported by DNV public surveys that continue to highlight trails as the most popular activity for residents on the North Shore. Parks and Planning continue to foster trails and linkages between home, work and recreation through development permit, rezoning and park planning projects.

At the same time, the shortage of grass sports fields to meet growing demand has become more of a concern in the District of North Vancouver, particularly given tight fiscal budgets, and a limited land base to expand upon. One approach DNV has



District of North Vancouver Parks Department Outdoor Education Program  
Photo: of District of North Vancouver Photo Library

undertaken is to convert existing grass fields, such as William Griffin Field, into an artificial surface to maximize the use of the site. The need for a sports field tournament centre on the North Shore was also identified in the 1990's. Over the past 15 years, to meet recreational needs, Inter River Park has been converted from a closed landfill site to an active sportsfield park.

In recent years, the needs of youth have triggered a number of new types of park facilities, in particular skateboard parks, such as Kirkstone Skateboard Park. In addition, DNV is working on its first BMX park at Inter River Park, in partnership with Cycling BC, North Shore Mountain Bike Association and the Dirt Bike Club.

Without a doubt, the move towards developing formal partnerships with our park users and volunteers is supported and advocated at the political level. The level of volunteerism in our parks system has increased dramatically, particularly in areas of trails, sports fields, mountain biking, planting and environmental clean ups. We estimate that volunteerism currently provides us with up to \$50,000 of labour in kind.

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## North Vancouver Parks and Recreation

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We have seen over the years, unique partnerships developing between municipalities and First Nations. In 2001, The District of North Vancouver signed a landmark Protocol/Cultural agreement with the Tsleil -Waututh Nation to foster a spirit of co-operation in the management of our largest waterfront park, named Cates Park/Whey-ah-Wichen. This agreement led to the recent completion of a joint plan called the Cates Park/Whey-ah-Wichen Master Plan and Cultural Resources Interpretive Management Plan. This partnership will guide the restoration of the park which is planned to include a First Nations Feasthouse, new waterfront trails, a playground and other renovated facilities.

Over the years, there has also been a trend towards inter jurisdictional park planning between municipalities and other governmental agencies, in an effort to leverage funds and maximize efficiencies. In North Vancouver, the GVRD and DNV jointly funded a Seymour River Greenway Trail plan, with the goal of sharing planning and capital resources to construct a regional trail that would connect the GVWD Lower Seymour Conservation Area through DNV lands to the Maplewood waterfront.

In addition, all the land managers on the North Shore have embarked upon a collaborative trail planning framework for the mountain areas, in order to develop common guidelines on topics such as signage, trail standards and best management practices. Once again, the goal is to maximize efficiencies in terms of managing and operating interjurisdictional trail systems.

Of course, the public continues to play a large role in helping to shape public space planning and design, and a large part of DNV staff's time is involved in facilitating public consultation and project management. Given the wide scope of projects and issues staff become involved in, being a "generalist" can prove to be your biggest asset. As Landscape Architects, having our fingers in a wide variety of "pies", there is never a dull moment!



Community Building and Public Participation, Photo: North Vancouver Recreation Commission

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# Public Sector Projects in Saanich

GERALD FLEMING, MBCSLA PARK PLANNING & DESIGN MANAGER DISTRICT OF SAANICH

One of the great benefits of working in the public sector is the opportunity to see projects progress from the first idea through to completion. Two recent projects in the District of Saanich illustrate how this can be a challenging field of endeavour. Happily, I can suggest that by following a good process and truly listening to what people have to say, we have completed many projects and these two recent projects attest to that fact. Not to say that there weren't "challenges" but we were able to persevere through the adversity to make significant changes that will have lasting positive effects on the people and the environment.

## Rutledge Park

The recorded history of this site goes back more than 150 years to when Dr. William Fraser Tolmie who was born in Scotland in 1812 acquired land in the area and began the construction of his home in 1860. The house stood until 1963. Dr. Tolmie's son, Simon Fraser Tolmie went on to become the first BC born Premier of the province serving from 1928-1933. According to local historian Valerie Green, the name "Rutledge" means a stream or pool in boggy land. Even in relatively recent times local residents retell stories about canoeing down Rutledge Street in heavy rains.

The original Rutledge Park was created in the early 1960's and consisted of a small playground and a very popular and well loved pink elephant set within a half hectare area. Over the years, beginning in the late 1970's, the Saanich municipality began acquiring all of the other properties needed to complete the park. The last three properties were acquired in 2001. In total, 24 properties were acquired at a cost of approximately \$2.5 million.

The first major public meeting with Saanich Parks staff and area residents to discuss the expanded park took place in December 1997. A second meeting whereby



*District of Saanich - Centennial Trails Blenkinsop Greenway - Phase 1, 2006 Photo: Saanich Parks & Recreation*

the design team presented the initial concept plan to the area residents took place in April 1998. Momentum for the future development of the park increased dramatically when in February 1999, Saanich Council endorsed the park plan. Long before these meetings however, there was a great deal of time, energy, and visionary thinking by the community that led to the creation, of this splendid new park. House demolitions and removals took place during the summer of 2000 and spring of 2001.

Construction of the park took 2 years. Phase One commenced in the spring of 2002. This work included the removal of the last house, new curbs and gutters along adjacent streets, excavation and regrading, drainage, pathway base installation, playground construction, lawn and tree planting and irrigation. Phase Two commenced in late spring, 2003 and saw the installation of new sidewalks and traffic calming measures, completion of drainage and irrigation systems, pathway paving, tennis court, playcourt, pedestrian plaza, lighting,

furnishings and more soft landscaping. A public art component was added in 2006.

The primary funding source was the Parks Capital Budget and Reserve Funds. Total capital expenditures were approximately \$975,000. Saanich Council showed unanimous support for the project and were committed to seeing it completed.

Today, the new Rutledge Park occupies 1.89 ha. The new park has acted as an economic catalyst for the revitalization of the neighbourhood and has instilled a strong sense of pride among local residents. Rutledge Park has become a significant and important green oasis in Saanich's already impressive open space system. Forty years ago, people with vision saw the need for this park and today it has become a reality. The pink elephant, now named "Rutley", stands as an enduring reminder that with vision, patience, creativity and commitment that great things are possible.

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# Public Sector Projects in Saanich

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## Centennial Trails 2004-2006

The trails and walkways in Saanich are diverse and provide opportunities for recreation, transportation, exploration, and connection of the rural and cultural richness of our community.

The principle of preserving trail connections and creating new ones is embodied in the District of Saanich Official Community Plan – a guiding document for future land use and development. Over the years, trails have been established throughout the community for the use and enjoyment of residents and visitors. Some of these trails include: Colquitz River Linear Park, Galloping Goose Regional Trail, Lochside Regional Trail, Blenkinsop Bridge Crossing, Glendale Trail and the Interurban Rail Trail.

As part of the celebration of 100 years of municipal incorporation in 2006, the District of Saanich embarked on the Centennial Trails project in 2004. Approved by Council in December 2003, this project built upon existing trails and created new multi-use trail connections along east/west and north/south routes to all geographic areas of the municipality. The east/west trail connections will eventually link the Frances Freeman King Regional Park on the Saanich Inlet, all the way across the municipality to Mt. Douglas Park on Haro Straight.

The project is being undertaken in two phases from 2004-2006 and 2007-2009. Both phases of the project include trail improvements and the construction of new trails in the key strategic areas of the community. All of the trail segments will be tied together with distinctive and cohesive way-finding and information signs and maps. One of the more challenging aspects of the project has been creating a level of acceptance in the community for changes to existing trails. With the excitement of pro-

viding new, wider trails for a broader range of trail users, came the concerns about residents' privacy, environmental effects and the loss of a slower pace of life. The design for the trails was led by UMA Consulting Engineering Ltd. with Saanich Parks & Recreation staff acting as part of the planning/design team and client.

Funding for the \$3.99 million Phase 1 of the project was provided by the Canada-British Columbia Infrastructure Program (\$1.468 million), with the remainder coming from the District of Saanich (approximately \$2.522 million). The estimated cost for Phase 2 is \$2.40 million.

The scope of park and recreation planning and design has changed a great deal in the past 20 years. Communities have trans-

formed from being an accepting public, to one where we must not only meet the highest standards but also try to accommodate the interests of the individual wherever possible. Whether one is planning and designing a small playground or a major park/trail project, community and neighbour input is essential. The public sense of "ownership" has extended from one's own private spaces out into the public spaces. This may be somewhat unique to our community but that is doubtful. Part of the changing climate is that the public has come to realize that they do have a genuine opportunity to affect the outcome. Even when there may be disagreements over solutions, the respect for the individual's viewpoint must not be lost.



Opening Day Celebrations at the new Rutledge Park – Saanich, BC • Photos courtesy of Saanich Parks & Recreation



# Gellatly Nut Farm Regional Park – Westbank, British Columbia

Regional District of Central Okanagan – Parks and Recreation Department

BY FIONA CHAMBERLAIN, MBCSLA, PARKS PLANNER AND JODIE FOSTER-SEXSMITH, COMMUNITY RELATIONS COORDINATOR.

The Gellatly Nut Farm was established in 1905 and was the first of its kind in British Columbia. Sifting through the old photos and historical records of the farm is like witnessing the settlement of Westbank, British Columbia. The wooden trunks and cardboard boxes hold treasures including original mail, bills of sale, receipts for purchases of seeds, and invitations to local weddings and social functions. They lead you through a hundred years of history with vivid photos of the people who arrived in Westbank and the land they settled.

The Gellatly Family is widely acknowledged as an important pioneer of Westbank. The family experiences are chronicled in historical publications throughout the Okanagan Valley and their innovations led the way for the Agriculture industry in the Okanagan.

The Gellatly Nut Farm is significant as the last remnant of a pioneer enterprise, the

mainstay of the historic community at Gellatly Point, which played a substantial role in shaping the farming pattern of the entire Okanagan Valley. As such, the Gellatly Nut Farm property was designated a Class 'A' Heritage site in the Central Okanagan Heritage Resource Inventory, in 1984.

David Erskine Gellatly and his family came to the Okanagan Valley in 1893 and purchased what is now known as Gellatly Point in 1900. The Gellatly family laboriously cleared the land by hand and began planting crops. By 1905, the Gellatlys had a substantial vegetable acreage and had set out the first fruit trees. They proceeded to build the biggest greenhouse in the Okanagan Valley as well as packinghouses and a wharf for dispatch of produce by boat.

Jack Ure Gellatly, David's brother, was the experimental mind that worked the land for decades developing

*Continued on page 14*



*Top: Jack Ure Gellantly*

*Bottom: Nut Orchard Trail Construction*



# Gellatly Nut Farm Regional Park

- continued from page 13

new nut tree species. He accomplished this by crossing traditional high yield trees with hardy Canadian species like the hazelnut. Gellatly strongly believed in the benefits and economic profitability of nut trees. His slogan on farm flyers and price lists read “For Beauty, Shade and Profit – Plant Gellatly’s Northern Nut Trees” and he traveled throughout British Columbia promoting nut growing as an upcoming industry.

His greatest achievement was the development of cold hardy filberts and hazelnuts, walnuts, buartnuts, filberts,



Above: Jack Ure Gellatly, (1955)

Left: Children prepare for the dove release at the Park's Grand Opening in September 05

Bottom Left: Restored Park Beach

Bottom Right: Nut barrel cleaner

All photos for this article contributed by Eve Wegscheidler





trazels and superior varieties of blight-resistant Chinese chestnut. This gene pool would become an irreplaceable source of Northern hardy nuts. Gellatly named about thirty-five hybrids; however, none of them has received commercial acceptance. His most significant contribution lies in providing germ plasm breeding material for other breeders as a basis for crosses involving production of rootstocks, ornamental trees, trees with winter hardiness, large sized nuts and early maturing nuts.

His introductions of nut varieties have been propagated and planted widely across Canada and the northern United States. They have also been distributed in France, the Netherlands, and other north European countries. Most of his new nut varieties have been given names that incorporate 'OKA' for Okanagan. The nut grove at Rideau Hall, the Governor General's residence in Ottawa, proudly displays Gellatly tree varieties.

The Gellatly Nut Farm was purchased in 2002 for use as a regional park in a partnership between the Regional District of Central Okanagan and a non-profit organization called the Gellatly Nut Farm Society. A concept plan for the park was completed in 2003 by Debbie Clarke of Forecon Consulting in Vernon and directed the development of the property as it moved from a working orchard to a regional park site.

In 2004, a Canada/BC Infrastructure Grant of \$600,000.00 was awarded for the development of park amenities. The park landscape architectural and engineering design drawings were prepared by Bel-MK Engineering of Kelowna and implemented by Sierra Landscaping Incorporated. Work in the park included the restoration of the farm buildings, the addition of interpretive trails and development of park amenities such as a parking area, washrooms and site furniture. Over 750 sprinkler heads were installed to automate the orchard irrigation system. A significant challenge during construction was the upgrade to the sanitary sewer, electrical and domestic

water servicing of the park, given the proximity of the root systems of the 100 year old orchard trees.

The 4 hectare (9.88 acre) park opened to the public during the harvest in September 2005, marking the centennial of the farm. The Gellatly Nut Farm Society operates the park, which is open to visitors daily from dawn to dusk. The park is particularly

attractive during the fall harvest from early September to the middle of November. Visitors can purchase or pick their own nuts and learn about several species of hazelnuts and walnuts as well as butternuts, heartnuts and interesting crosses such as the buartnut. For more information visit [www.regional-district.com](http://www.regional-district.com) or [www.gellatlynutfarm.ca](http://www.gellatlynutfarm.ca)

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# The Introduction of UBC's Newest Faculty Member

## The Landscape Architecture Program at UBC

BY DOUG PATERSON, MBCSLA, FCSLA, ASLA PROFESSOR LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Daniel Roehr comes to our program by way of Berlin. At a young age, he left Germany to study in the United Kingdom, first becoming qualified as a gardener at Elmwood College in Scotland before gaining a Higher Diploma in Horticulture and Landscape Technology from the Askham Bryan College of Agriculture and Horticulture in York, England in 1987. In 1992 he obtained the equivalent of a MLA from Heriot Watt University/ College of Art, in Edinburgh, Scotland. He has both teaching and international practice experience, and has significant expertise in green roof and other cutting edge "green" technologies in landscape architecture.

Roehr's work over the past 14 years has spanned Great Britain, Japan, the US, Germany, Italy, Austria and China. For six

years he was project architect (manager) with responsibility for the landscape implementation for the internationally recognized and award winning Potsdamer Platz project in Berlin. Through this internationally acclaimed, urban design project, he gained extensive expertise in the design and implementation of green roofs, used extensively on this project and others he designed in Germany. In addition, he has been involved in a number of major design-planning initiatives including, most recently, the master plan for Wujiang City Park in China. He is a registered landscape architect in Berlin and started his own office there in 1999 and, in 2004 he was a cofounder of an office in Shanghai. Since that time, his work has been recognized in international



publications and exhibitions. He has lectured extensively in Europe, North America and Asia and taught studios courses at several universities over the past four years in Germany including the Humboldt University, Berlin and the University of Applied Science, Berlin. He also has served as external examiner for the graduation of students at the University of Applied Sciences in Berlin, the University of Hannover, and the Anhalt University of Applied Sciences in Bernburg.

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