

### **Parks and Public Amenities**

Aquatic Centre: Featuring a 6-lane, 25 metre main pool, 150' waterslide, kids pool, hot tub and steam room. Soak in the hot tub after a day's adventure or splash and have fun. Call 423-4466 for hours or information.

Skateboard Park: An excellent spot for the skateboarder in your family. The outdoor park features several bowls and streetscapes.

Rotary Park: Essentially the multi-function park of Fernie, Rotary Park features play structures for kids, grass areas, picnic sites, seating areas and a gazebo. It is the perfect place for the kids to have fun or to hold your celebration.

Fernie Memorial Arena: The Fernie Memorial Arena is home to the Jr. 'A' Hockey team, the Ghostriders, and also offers public skating and drop-in hockey. Skate rentals available.

Fernie Community Centre: Enjoy gymnastics, badminton, floor hockey, teen programs, preschool, and book special events.

Ridgemont Park: Ridgemont Park offers play structures for children, a large field for activities and a beautiful view of the surrounding mountains.

10 Ave Park: The Annex's neighbourhood top park, features a play structure for children and a grass area for relaxing.

Annex Park: Annex Park is a quiet setting featuring picnic areas, horseshoe pits, under a canopy of trees and a large grass field and duck pond.

Prentice Park: Prentice Park is comprised of 2 slo-pitch fields, a soccer field, a running track and a concession area. This is Fernie's primary location for tournaments and track and field competitions.

Mount View Park: Situated alongside the Elk River, Mount View Park provides a beautiful forested area featuring towering pines, mountainscapes and a host of amenities including tennis courts, horseshoe pits, bocci courts, slo-pitch field and a minor ball field.

For information or to book call 423-2222

## **SPONSORS**

## Fernie Trail Loops

Fernie Main Loop, 14 km: This barrier-free loop offers access to all of the community trail spurs. Providing and easily accessed gravel surfaced trail, it connects the Mountview and Annex Parks to the forested areas of Fernie's eastern slopes.

Great Northern Loop, 5.7 km: This trail offers many opportunities for wildlife viewing around the McDougall Wetland, and Hutchinson Spring areas. Portions of this trail pass through private property and managed forest, please respect this privilege.

Main Town Loop, 7.5 km: This trail circles the downtown and Annex areas of Fernie, and offers excellent access to city amenities, the Historic Downtown, and the Elk River.

Mountview / Cokato Loop, 7.6 km: Take time before departing from the trail hub to view the interpretive panel on the local history of the coke ovens. This trail also follows part of the Coal Creek Heritage Trail and ends at Fernie's Aquatic Centre.

### **Fernie Trails**

Trans Canada: Fernie is proud to provide part of the world's longest continuous multi-use trail system, which connects the East coast with the West coast, some 8600 km. The Trans Canada follows various trail routes and part of the Fernie Main Loop, and is marked by log directional signposts.

Kootenay Elk Heritage: This trail follows an abandoned railway right-of-way that was never actually constructed. An integral part of the Fernie Main Loop, it passes over a boardwalk crossing, a small wetland area, and offers great views of Historic Downtown.

Coal Creek Heritage: This trail takes us through a bit of Fernie's history, following the former railway line that connected the mines at Coal Creek to Fernie. It also crosses over a remnant of the old coke ovens, ending at the old football field along-side the former townsite at Coal Creek.

Cemetery Bypass: This bypass around St. Margaret's Cemetery provides a glimpse of Fernie's past in the old portion of the grounds. Visitors are reminded to keep dogs outside of the fence. The trail winds its way through a mixed pine and aspen forest and connects many of the upper Ridgemont trails, popular with mountain bikers and hikers.

Old Stumpy: This 2.0 km section of the Great Northern Loop meanders through mixed forest, pasture and crosses small creeks coming from Fernie Ridge area. Old Stumpy is home to many resident wildlife populations, and care should be taken to not disturb their habitat.

Maiden Lake: The lake, beach and associated trail provide a great place to

Photos: Terry Nelson

recreate and a starting point to explore the McDougall Creek Wetland, and connecting trails of the Fernie Trail System.

Coal Creek Binwall: Constructed to replace a portion of dyke which was washed away in the 1995 flood, this trail crosses beneath the C.P.R trestle, where the trail constricts. Caution should be used at this bottleneck, and cyclists are encouraged to dismount prior to moving through this tight spot.

Great Northern: The Great Northern Railway once served as a primary link between the U.S. and Eastern Canada. Trail users can see the old log cribbing pilings that once supported the bridge structure crossing the Elk River, as they travel parallel to the watercourse alongside the Fernie Golf and Country Club.

Dogwood: An integral link between the Annex, Mountview, and West Fernie, connecting the areas to Historic Downtown. The presence of the indigenous "Red Osier Dogwood" which is very common along the Elk River, gives the Park area its name.

Annex Park: Following the eastern shore of the Elk River, while passing through the Annex Park, this portion of the Trans Canada Trail provides a scenic bypass of the busy highway district, with a picnic area and bird viewing opportunities around the Annex Pond.

Mountview: The trail corridor gives access to many of Mountview Park's quality amenities, while offering secluded forested areas, nature trail loops and Elk River beach access.

Downtown Connector: An important pedestrian link between Fernie's two distinct business districts (Highway #3 and Historical Downtown), the trail enables non – motorized movement through the Prentice Park and High School area.

Centennial Trail: Ski Hill City Connector: The Fernie
Trail Committee is working with the region, Fernie
Alpine Resort, and the City of Fernie to develop this
important community trail. Construction is slated to
begin in 2004, and the gravel trail will accommodate
cyclists, pedestrians, cross-country skiers and horseback riders, following a 5.0 km route primarily parallel to Highway #3.

West Fernie Dyke: Located in Thomson Regional Park, the Elk River provides a beautiful backdrop to this corridor. The community of West Fernie utilizes this trail to connect to the Fernie Trail System via the West Fernie Bridge.

# Fernie and Area Hiking Opportunities

Fernie offers unsurpassed access to hiking. Popular local hikes include Mt. Fernie, Fairy Creek/Mt. Proctor, Mt. Hosmer, Castle Mountain, Mountain Lakes Trail, and the Lizard Range/Cedar Valley. Many hiking trailheads are indicated on this map; for more detailed information, inquire at the Fernie Info Centre, Fernie Alpine Resort, Island Lake Lodge or pick up a copy of the Fernie Trail Guide.

# FERNIE RECREATIONAL TRAILS



#### Fernie Trail System and Recreational Information

Fernie's Recreational Trail Committee works to provide the community with a quality network of trail systems for pedestrians, cyclists, horseback riders, snowshoers and cross-country skiers. We hope that you enjoy all that Fernie has to offer – from natural open spaces, to well-maintained public parks, to quality recreational facilities and our friendly community.

#### Fernie Trail Code of Conduct and Safety

- 1. Please use the trail system with the same degree of respect and enjoyment as you would your own property.
- 2. To help ensure that aquatic or terrestrial habitat is not degraded, stay on designated trails, keep pets on a leash, and make as little impact as possible.
- 3. Please use the refuse receptacles at trail junctions do not litter.
- 4. Use caution as the motor vehicle has the right of way where trails cross sidewalks or roadways.
- 5. Obey all signs and trail closures, be courteous to other trail users. Slowing down when passing horses, or family groups will reduce potential user conflicts. You can then take the time to maybe smile and say hello.