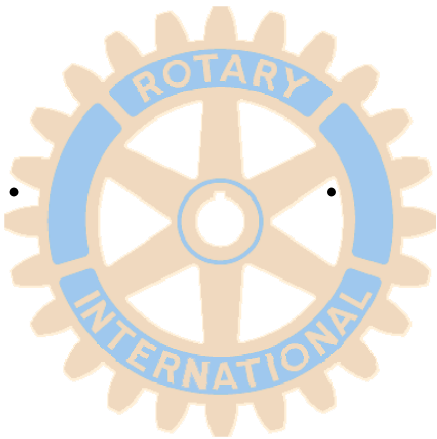


Rotary Club of Wellington

Wellington Beach Park Improvement Project



Project Plan

2005-2008

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Rotary clubs around the world have worked hard throughout the years to help make this world a better place. This ongoing goal is being accomplished through the efforts of club members volunteering their time to raise funds and organize projects to benefit communities and larger international causes. Rotarians like the fellowship of the club, and the opportunity to give something back to the community.



The Rotary Club of Wellington

The Rotary Club of Wellington received its charter in November of 2002. The club now has 30 members and is growing.

The Rotary Club of Wellington has weekly meetings with guest speakers from various organizations in the region, some of these presentations involve an appeal for funds and in many cases the club is able to provide support. Some of the activities the club is involved in are as follows:

- Wellington Waterfront Festival
- Canada Day in Wellington
- Wellington Pumpkinfest
- Wellington Rotary Winefest
- Wellington Annual Rotary Golf Tournament
- Sale of Rotary Diners & Duffers coupon discount books
- International Student Exchange Sponsorship
- Contribute to Polio Eradication
- Remembrance Day recognition
- Contribute to Land Mine Eradication
- Beach Improvement Project
- Monetary and personal support to many local organizations

Scope of the Beach Project

The club has chosen as its Rotary Centennial project the development of the Wellington Beach Park. This is a major project for the club and for the community, requiring significant funding.

The Wellington Beach Park project will change an undeveloped site into a connection between the Wellington community and Lake Ontario, Wellington Harbour and West Lake. Facilities will be provided for Prince Edward County citizens and visitors, of all ages, to enjoy walkways, a designated swimming area, enhanced lake and harbour views, change rooms, washrooms, beach volleyball facility, benches, limestone sitting stones, barbecues and a second sun shelter.

The village needs a connection to the lake and harbour. The harbour side of the Beach Park attracts various bird species including the blue heron and in the spring a large group of over 60 mute swans. A dredged channel connects Lake Ontario to the harbour providing boat access. From the air the beach park can be seen as an extension of an undeveloped part of the Sandbanks Provincial Park, separated by the channel to the lake.

The park will give people an opportunity to see wildlife in its natural habitat. Walkways will allow people to enjoy a walk by the beach on the lakeside, and along the harbour side for a view of the wildlife, boats, and the village across the harbour. Common areas are planned for active, passive, and special events, providing visitors with an opportunity for recreational activities. Research is underway for a series of planned interpretive signs on features of the area. This will add to the enjoyment of visitors and we expect area schools will add class trips to the beach to learn local features and history.

Members of the Rotary Club of Wellington include lifelong citizens of the community as well as newcomers. The depth of knowledge and expertise represented by the members is impressive and assures a successful project, both in terms of planning and execution. Each of the club's members contributes to the community through his or her unique skills, talents, expertise and interests.

The club has had a model of the project built and it has been on view at various locations in Wellington. A detailed budget for the project has been prepared. Our current rough cost estimate is \$300,000. The amount budgeted for 2007 is \$75,000.

The project will mean improved pedestrian and wheelchair access to the beach and its viewing areas and will open the beach park to a whole new segment of the population.

A Town Hall Meeting was held in August 2005. The 50 people in attendance, including Daryl Kramp, MP, Ernie Parsons, MPP, and Mayor Finnegan gave full support to the project.

Presentations have been made to Prince Edward County Council and its committees and we received support from the county in 2006 and 2007.

As the project progresses synergies are developing with other organizations.

Members of the Wellington on the Lake Woodworking Club are participating in the construction of the boardwalk.

The West Lake Catamaran Sailing School (WLCSS) has asked for space on the beach for their operations which include training teenagers to sail catamarans, over an eight week period each summer. Space is needed for a seasonal classroom-sail storage facility.

Beach Park planning is now being done in conjunction the Wellington Harbour Advisory Committee (WHIP). New docks will be installed in the channel on the east side of the beach park. The Wellington Lion's Club is planning a Dragon Boat Race for a Saturday in August 2007 bringing many visitors to the beach.

The Work Plan

The Rotary Club of Wellington under its Executive Committee has organized a Rotary Beach Park Development Committee. The committee consists of a chairman and a number of Club members.

The success of the project is dependent on community communications and involvement, fundraising, sponsorships, and continuous progress on different elements of the project over the period 2005 to 2008.

The Operations Plan

The Operations Plan will be coordinated by the Rotary Beach Park Development Committee, which meets regularly, Members are:

Chair	Jim Bancroft
Design Leader	Ted Nash
Admin	Reg Gemmell
Funding	Chuck McWilliams, Dean Westbrook,
Publicity and Public Relations	Steve Snider
Building Coordinators	Dick MacArthur, Chris Bowles
Design Consultant	Scott Wentworth
PEC Liaison	Barry Braun, Ron Dubyk

The Publicity Plan

A well attended Town Hall meeting was held in 2005. A “thermometer” has been installed in Wellington to inform the public of progress on funding. Local newspapers include articles on the project’s progress, along with announcements on funding support from The County, The Stark Foundation, PELA-CFDC, and Rotary DSG.

Land Ownership and Approvals

The Wellington Beach is owned by the Province of Ontario and is the responsibility of the Ministry of Natural Resources. The Municipality of Prince Edward County manages the beach under an agreement with MNR that extends to 2014.

The Municipality has made the necessary applications on our behalf for environmental approval, and the required approvals and permits for boardwalk/pathway construction the other features we are adding to the beach.

The Details

Model of the project

Status: completed – updated version underway.

A model of the beach park project has been built. Here is a photograph of the model. It shows the beach area in relation to Lake Ontario, Wellington harbour, and the channel connecting the harbour to the lake.



Picnic Tables

Status: completed

10 new picnic tables were built and installed in 2004. Thanks go to members of the Wellington-on-the-Lake community for designing and building the tables.



Barbecues

Status: completed

Three in-ground barbecues were installed in the spring of 2005.

**Designated Swimming Area**

Status: completed

PEC Parks, Recreation and Culture Department installed designated swimming area signs on the beach in the spring of 2005.

**Posts**

Status: completed

Rotary members painted existing posts in July 2005.

**Shelter Improvements**

Existing picnic shelter to be retained. A second shelter will be built in 2007 to plans (attached). Some material has been donated and some purchased and in-kind labour is being provided.

**Change Rooms**

Status: completed

Existing change room was painted in July 2005, and will now be re-located to allow for construction of new picnic shelter.



Washroom/Change Room

Status: 2007

A washroom/change room/ shower facility is being added to the site, in conjunction with Parks, Recreation, and Culture Department, early in the 2007 construction season. Electrical supply will be provided with provision for extension to the new docking facility, on the channel, and to the WLCSS classroom.

**Hardtop/Asphalt**

Status: 2007/2008

PEC has plans to resurface Beach Street. We have requested this be extended through the first parking lot to a point opposite the present change room.



Boardwalk & Paths

Status: 2005, 2006

The first 360' of boardwalk was built on the beach in the fall of 2006. Rotary volunteers were joined by volunteers from the Wellington on the Lake Woodworking Club to build the boardwalk. The total boardwalk/pathway will form a circular route around the park and will be 1600' in length. Here is a picture of the 2006 construction activity and the section completed in 2006.



Benches

Status: 2006, 2007

Permanent benches are being planned for location at various spots on the boardwalk and other suitable locations.



Beach Raking & Cleaning

Regular maintenance is being provided by Prince Edward County Parks, Recreation and Culture – at least 2 times per week



Beach Volleyball Net

Status: completed

Volleyball net was installed on the beach in July 2005 and is well used during Wellington's annual Waterfront Festival.

Portable Stage – parade & entertainment facility

Status: tbd

Water Testing

Status: ongoing

Hastings & Prince Edward Health Unit now testing in five beach locations on Mondays. We will request that the Wellington Beach be tested and results reported on the same schedule as Sandbanks and North Beach parks.

Limestone Sitting Stones

Status: 2007

Groupings of limestone sitting stones will be placed on the beach in 2007. The stones are being donated by Essroc. They will be aesthetically pleasing and serve a useful function/

Park Maintenance

Status: ongoing

Prince Edward County PRC Department is responsible for park maintenance. Wellington Rotary will maintain the boardwalk and other amenities it adds.

Signage

Status: 2006-2008

New Public Beach signs were installed on Main Street in 2005. We are requesting more prominent Main Street signage.

A series of nine interpretive signs on the local flora, fauna, geology, environment, harbour history, and village history, etc. are in the planning stages. They will be installed in appropriate locations along the boardwalk/pathway system. In addition a monument-type park sign is being planned for the park entrance

The Engineering Plan

Area maps were obtained to plan the improvements to the park. PEC Department of Parks, Recreation and Culture have worked closely with the club on all aspects of the project. Engineering help was obtained on boardwalk design and materials. Boardwalks positioning took high water marks into consideration. As spring approaches we can see that the boardwalk has weathered the winter well

All elements of the plan have been budgeted and as of the end of 2006 elements completed are within budget.

The Fundraising Plan

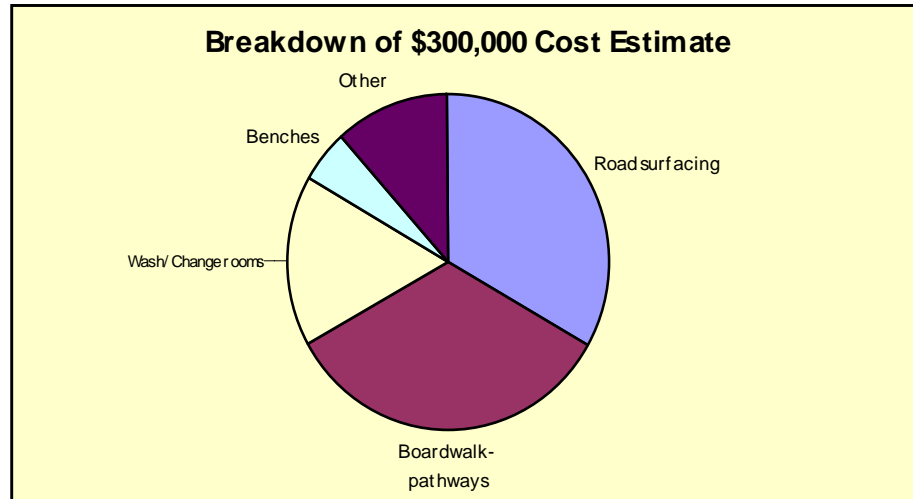
Fund sourcing is estimated as follows:

- PEC 10%
- Province 10%
- Federal 10%
- Grants 25%
- Private Donations 20%
- Fundraising Events 25%.

The Budget

The current budget estimate is \$300,000. Large cost items are boardwalk / pathways, and road surfacing.

Boardwalk & pathways (material only).....	\$100,000
Road & parking lot surfacing.....	\$100,000
Proposed washrooms/change rooms	\$50,000
Limestone Sitting Stones	\$5,000
Benches	\$15,000
Other	\$30,000
Total	\$300,000



Moving Forward

There is a consensus amongst members of the community who we have spoken to, PEC officials, Rotary members and members of the public, that the project is worthwhile and the timing is right for a positive feature to be added to The County and to Wellington Village.