

Vision, Guiding Principles & Big Moves

5

MILL LAKE
PARK

City of Abbotsford
Mill Lake Park Master Plan
2025



5 Vision, Guiding Principles & Big Moves

5.1 Vision

In Stage 1 of the master plan preparation, the following vision statement was prepared and endorsed.

Mill Lake Park is the “heart” of the City of Abbotsford’s parks system connecting our diverse population with nature and each other in a Park where ecological integrity is prioritized, play and exploration are fostered, and where culture is celebrated.

5.2 Guiding Principles

Themes & Guiding Principles

The following themes and guiding principles were identified to support the vision, and also align with related City policies and strategies. They have been used as a guide for the preparation of design options for the Park.

1. **Environment & Landscape:** Protect and enhance environmental qualities including lake water quality, riparian zone, tree canopy, flora and fauna. Reinforce a distinct identity for the Park including its natural landscape character and views.
2. **Amenities:** Enhance Park amenities to support diverse and inclusive recreation and culture activities.
3. **Safety & Accessibility:** Provide safe and accessible Park spaces for all users that facilitate and encourage active movement throughout the Park. Provide key connections to other priority Parks, trails and places.
4. **Culture:** Embrace our diverse heritage and let our shared histories and evolving cultural identity inform decisions on heritage conservation and cultural activities in the Park.

5.3 The Big Moves

Based on the desired activities and amenities reported by engagement participants, seven “Big Moves” were developed and communicated in the concept options developed in Stage 2:

7 Big Moves

1. Create space for community and culture
2. Prioritize broad public use
3. Reallocate parking
4. Enhance amenities
5. Environmental enhancements
6. Upgrade the lake loop
7. Improve park entrances and edges

7 BIG MOVES

01



CREATE SPACE FOR
COMMUNITY & CULTURE

02



PRIORITIZE BROAD
PUBLIC USE

03



REALLOCATE

04



ENHANCE

05



ENVIRONMENTAL
ENHANCEMENTS

06



UPGRADE THE
LAKE LOOP

07



IMPROVE PARK
ENTRANCES & EDGES

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