



# Kildonan Park

**MASTER PLANNING DOCUMENT**  
GUIDING DEVELOPMENT & DESIGN TODAY & INTO THE FUTURE





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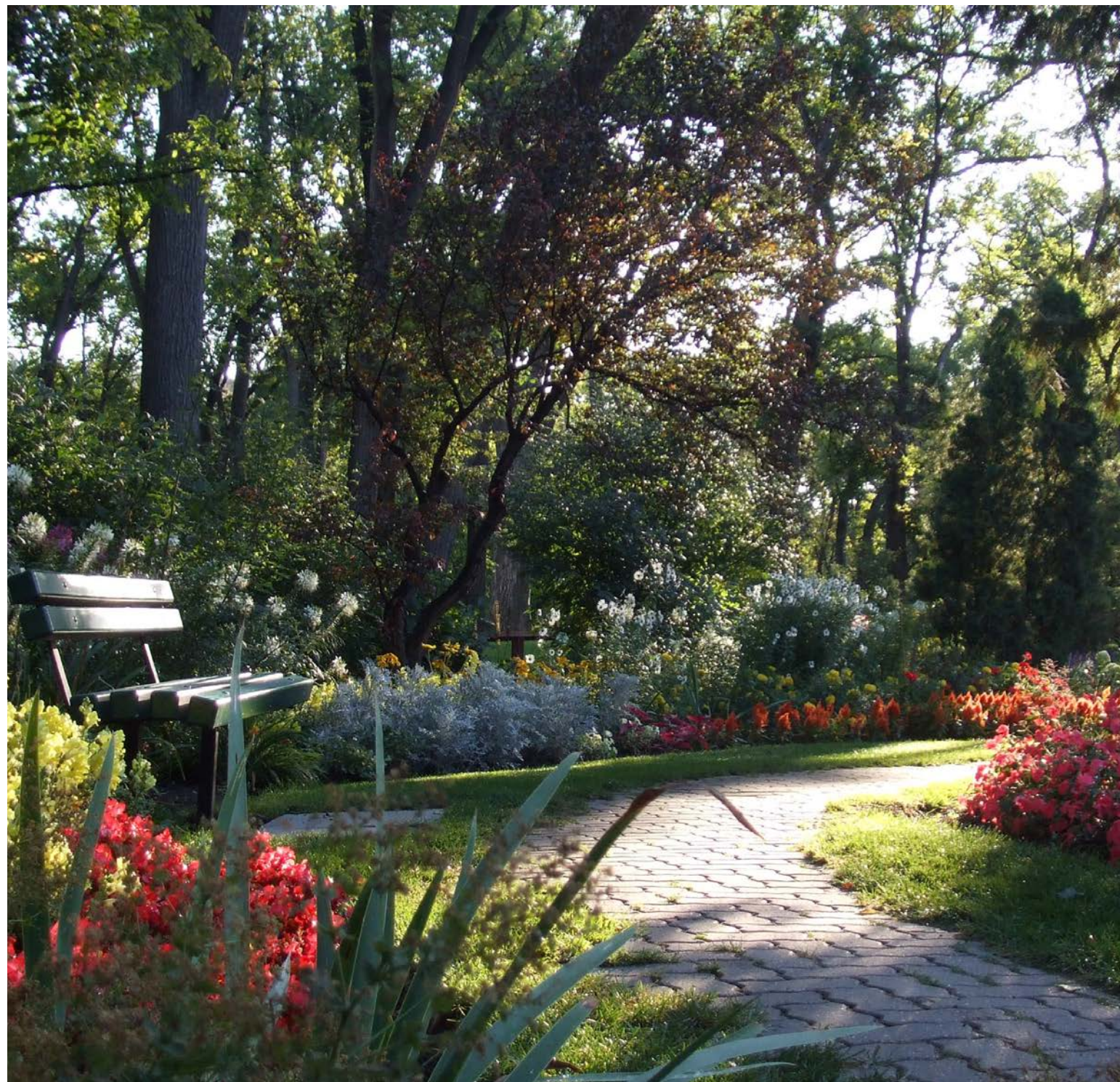


Image Source: SMM

## KILDONAN PARK MASTER PLAN

### THE MISSION:

To protect, restore and enhance Kildonan Park and its legacy as a large urban park and regional attraction for the people of Winnipeg, fulfilling the needs for outdoor recreation today and into the future.

### GOALS:

1. **PROTECTION AND RESTORATION** of the natural beauty and systems of Kildonan Park.
2. **IMPROVEMENT AND ENHANCEMENT** of the existing features and functioning of the park.
3. **EDUCATION AND AWARENESS** of the general public of the natural and cultural history within the park.
4. **DEVELOP GUIDELINES** for future development in keeping with the original design intentions for the park as set forth by George Champion.
5. **PROMOTE COMMUNITY STEWARDSHIP** by building strong relationships with individuals, corporations and foundations for the continued protection and enhancement of the park.

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

## 2.0 BRIEF HISTORY OF KILDONAN PARK

## 3.0 CREATING A PARK IMAGE

## 4.0 ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Create a Park Stewardship Committee
- Create a Forest Management Strategy
- Consolidate Park Services
- Enhance Programming at Rainbow Stage
- Assess Riverbank Stability and Potential for Future Development
- Create a Wayfinding System

## 5.0 DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES

## 6.0 ANALYSIS OF EXISTING FACILITIES, CIRCULATION & ACCESS

- Existing Facilities
- Existing Circulation
- Character Areas
- Character Area Recommendations

## 7.0 SELECT ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN GUIDELINES

- Materials
- Views
- Function / Use Relationships
- Site Elements

## 8.0 MINOR ENHANCEMENT / DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

## 9.0 MAJOR ENHANCEMENT / DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Wayfinding and Signage
- Lord Selkirk Creek Restoration
- The Forest Playground
- Peguis Pavilion and Site Renovation

## INTRODUCTION

### WHY A MASTER PLAN FOR KILDONAN PARK?

This master planning document intends to guide future development within Kildonan Park. It will provide the framework to lead the planning and the decision making process. The document recognizes the importance of the history of the park and how it has shaped the park into what it is today.

The plan creates a new vision for Kildonan Park; one that is rooted in the history, builds upon the importance of culture and socialization, recognizes the existing beauty in the formal gardens and the creek system and trees, while moving forward to better define its image as a premier city park.

It identifies the administrative contributions necessary to fulfill the vision of the Master Plan. The document provides design direction through broad architectural guidelines and explores five key opportunities within the park that should be a priority for future park improvements.

### HOW THIS DOCUMENT IS TO BE USED:

This document is a reference for all stakeholders of the park including the City of Winnipeg staff and their consultants. The document provides guidelines to ensure continuity in quality and character for development within the park, allowing it to evolve over time yet remain true to its roots.



*Skating Pond. Image Source: Kildonan Park History and Development, 1972.*

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF KILDONAN PARK

### KILDONAN PARK - 100 YEARS IN THE MAKING

#### A CENTURY OF GROWTH....

One hundred years have passed since the important land purchase was made in 1909 to create a new, large, suburban park north (at the time) of the City.

Kildonan Park's natural beauty, a combination of treed woodland and open pasture between Main Street and the Red River, was unsurpassed by any other park in Winnipeg. The park possessed two natural, physical features - the Red River and Lord Selkirk Creek - which enhanced its beauty.

Designed in 1909 by George Champion (Park Superintendent), the plan for Kildonan Park was modelled in the English Landscape Style, incorporating many of the style's characteristic features including:

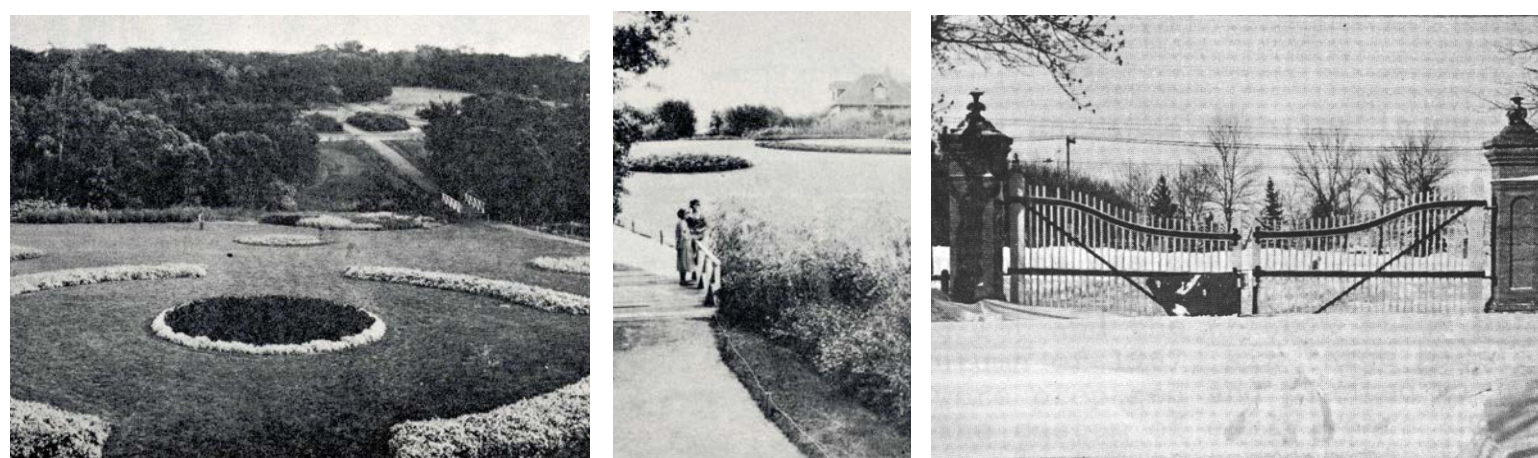
- a formal garden with views from walkways flanking each side,
- a music grove and pavilion (current Rainbow Stage site),
- a park pavilion - the focal point of all major park activities,
- sport facilities and playing fields,
- a picnic grove and "Children's Romp" field,
- bridges over the creek with wild grape vines to enhance the "natural" theme,
- strategic removal of riverside undergrowth to permit views to the Red River, and
- two distinct systems of curvilinear walks and drives through wooded areas and skirting open fields, maintaining a separation of the visual experiences of the pedestrian and motorists.

Champion's design also planned for an aviary and boathouse with two docks along the riverbank which were never implemented.

The last century has witnessed the realization of many of the original design ideas, maintaining the integrity of Champion's original plans and much of the park's original beauty. However, other design principles and features have fallen by the wayside in an effort to meet ever changing needs of park users.



*Park Roadway and Pavilion Postcard. Image Sources: Kildonan Park History and Development, 1972; Valentine Edy Co. courtesy of Andrew S. Cunningham.*



*Formal Garden (2), and the Main Street Gateway. Image Source: Kildonan Park History and Development, 1972.*



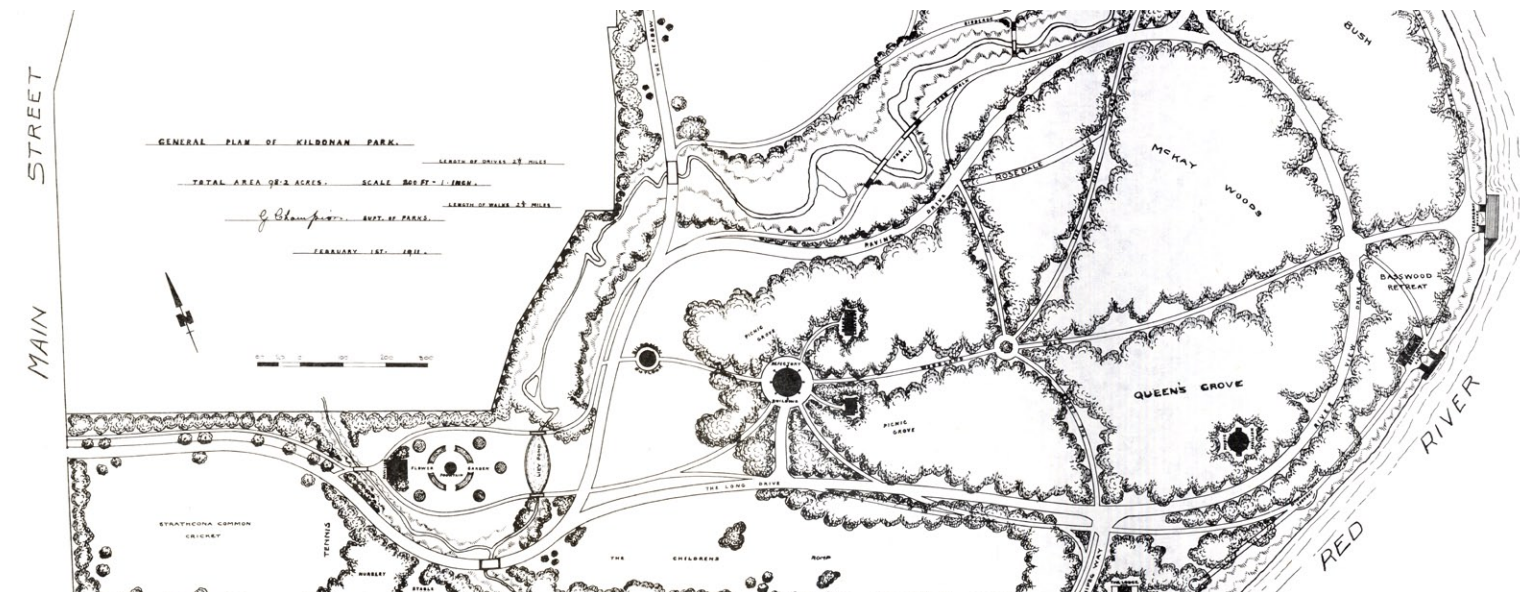
Image Sources: Cory Gurman; SMM; Kildonan Park History and Development, 1972(2); Cory Gurman; SMM.

## KILDONAN PARK – DESIGN GUIDELINES & FEATURES (As described by G. Champion)

1. Path and road system organization (2 1/3 miles each)
  - Curvilinear system of walks and drives winding through wooded areas and skirting open fields to provide a wide opportunity for pleasurable views, keeping the two movement systems separate wherever possible to provide different visual experiences for pedestrians and motorists
2. Park nursery and maintenance area
  - Located in an isolated area within the park away from the viewing public
3. Enhance the “natural” theme of the park
  - Wild grape vines were trained to grow along bridge railings to blend the bridges in with the natural surroundings
4. Create key viewing opportunities
  - Selective clearing of scrub and undergrowth and pruning of deadwood, particularly along the river frontage
5. Additional tree / shrub planting to create enclosure, and supplement sparse planting
6. Gates at main entries into the park
7. Formal flower garden with wooden bridges

### REINVEST, RETHINK, RENEW....

On the Centennial anniversary of its inception, despite aging infrastructure and facilities, Kildonan Park is as popular today as ever. This is an opportunity to reinvest, rethink and renew Kildonan Park for the future.



General Plan of Kildonan Park by George Champion, 1911. Image Source: Kildonan Park History and Development, 1972.



Kildonan Park as Existing in 1969. Image Source: Kildonan Park History and Development, 1972.

## IMAGES OF KILDONAN PARK

### YESTERDAY....

*“Kildonan Park, Winnipeg’s second suburban park, has remained very much the “second-best” park throughout its 63-year history...From the beginning, Kildonan Park, regardless of the enthusiasm generated for and by its creation, has played a subservient role to Assiniboine Park.....The major advantage of this site was its natural beauty, superior to any other Winnipeg Park.”*

*The History and Development of Kildonan Park in Winnipeg, Manitoba  
The City of Winnipeg, Parks and Recreation Department, December 1972*

### TODAY....

Home to some of the province’s oldest and largest trees, Kildonan Park provides something for everyone. It is a place to meet, relax, socialize and to be seen. However, it is a place where the needs of the pedestrian are in conflict with those of the motorist. It is a place that appears to be losing its connection to its past and its surroundings in the attempt to be all things to all people.

### TOMORROW....

Sometimes, the best place to find inspiration for the future is to examine the past successes as well as the failures.

Tomorrow’s Kildonan Park will take the strengths from the past and use them to create a better park for the future. A specific palette of materials and a strong set of design principles once provided a beautiful, unified image for the park, yet still allowed for the development of new amenities. These same principles will continue to help develop a more beautiful, functional and sustainable park for tomorrow.



## CREATING THE PARK IMAGE

### THE VISION

The vision takes the best aspects of the park, including its rich natural and cultural heritage, and protects, restores and enhances these aspects, making them relevant for today's use and allowing the park to evolve in the future.

Historically, Kildonan Park has been, (and should remain), this refuge for urban dwellers. The park has always been a place to gather and socialize with family and friends. To this day, Kildonan Park provides people with the opportunity to explore and reconnect with nature, to become enchanted with the history of the park and with the timeless, magical beauty of the trees found there.

### PROCESS:

Based on a series of site visits over the duration of twelve months, the park was observed in all four seasons and at different times of the day in order to gain an understanding of how the park functions.

Through a number of meetings with City of Winnipeg personnel, interested parties, stakeholders and Open House attendees, a number of common discussions and themes surfaced. Main topics focussed on what people felt was important to preserve within the park, and what opportunities lay within the park to make it a destination that people want to visit, protect and cherish.

### THE 4 HIGH PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

1. Develop a new signage and wayfinding system
  - Create the park "image" and sense of identity to the park
2. Restoration of Lord Selkirk Creek
  - Protect and enhance the existing natural systems
3. Develop a "forest-themed" playground
  - Create an all-seasons playground that will appeal to all ages and abilities
4. Redevelop the Peguis Pavilion and Pond
  - Create the all-seasons destination within the park that will allow the Pavilion to, once again, become the social hub within the park

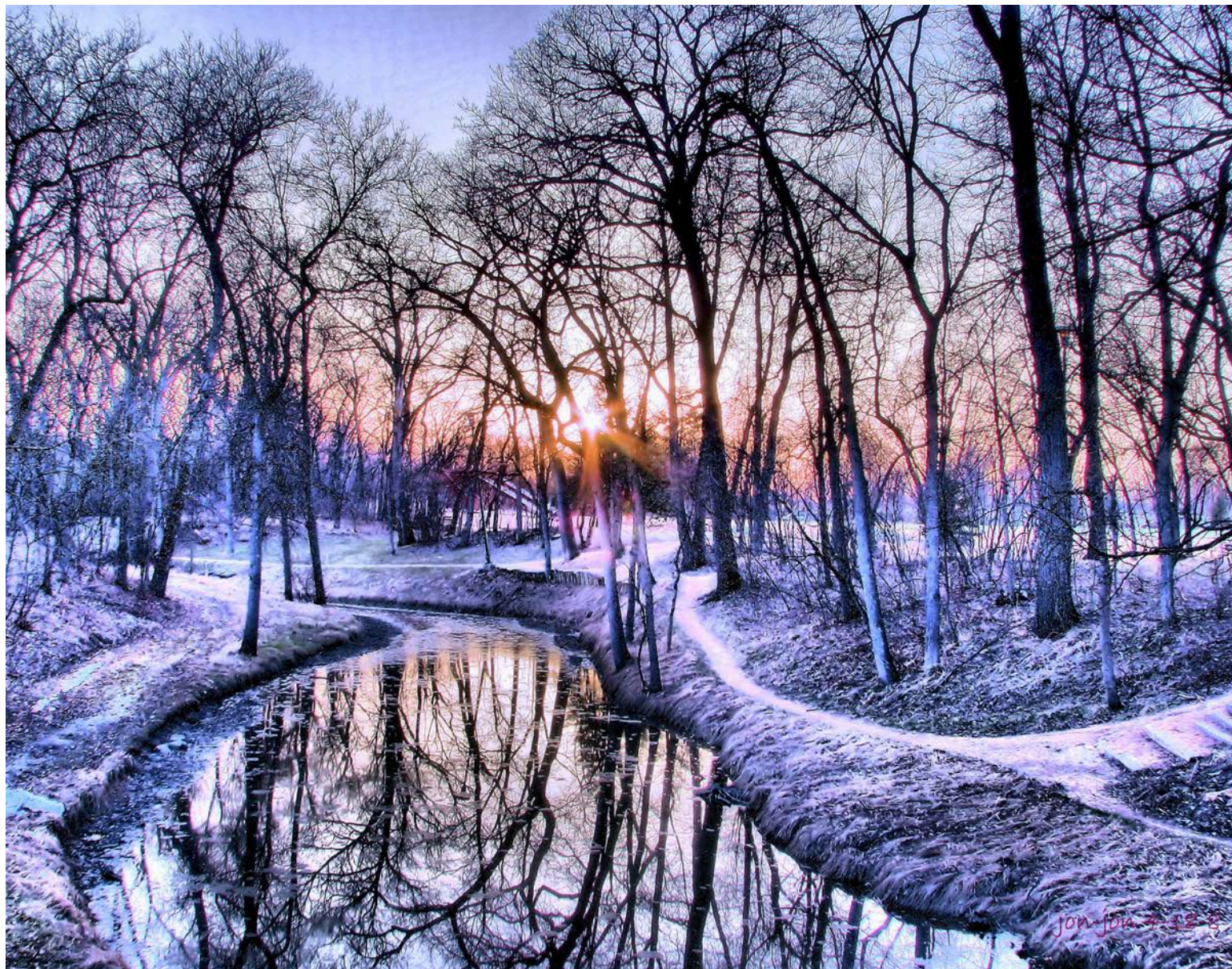
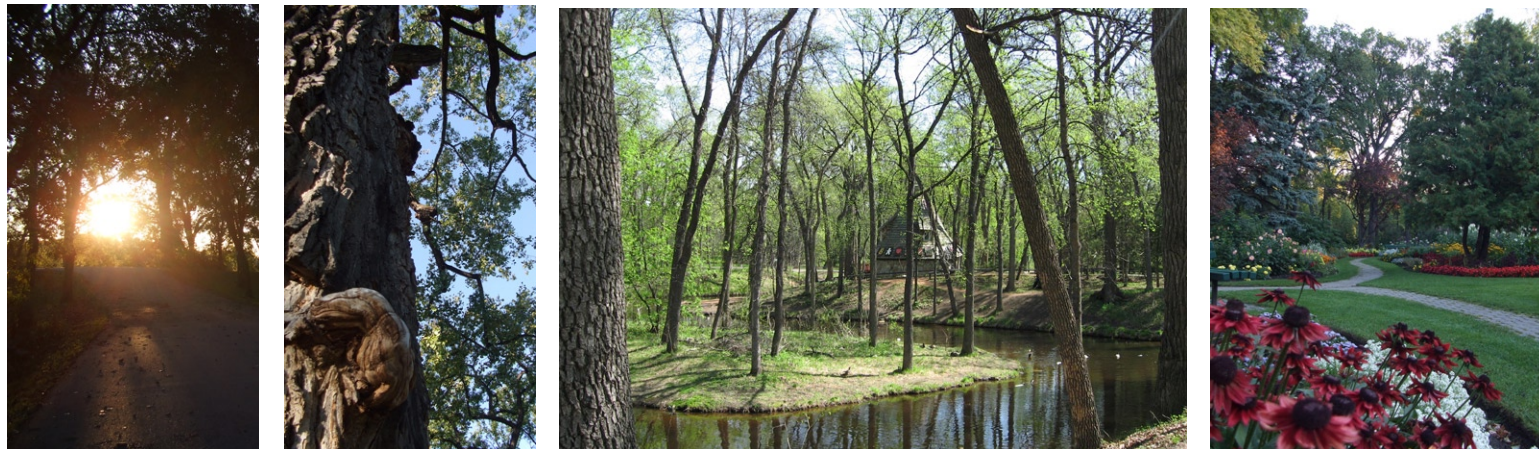


Image Sources: SMM(4); Nilo Manalo.

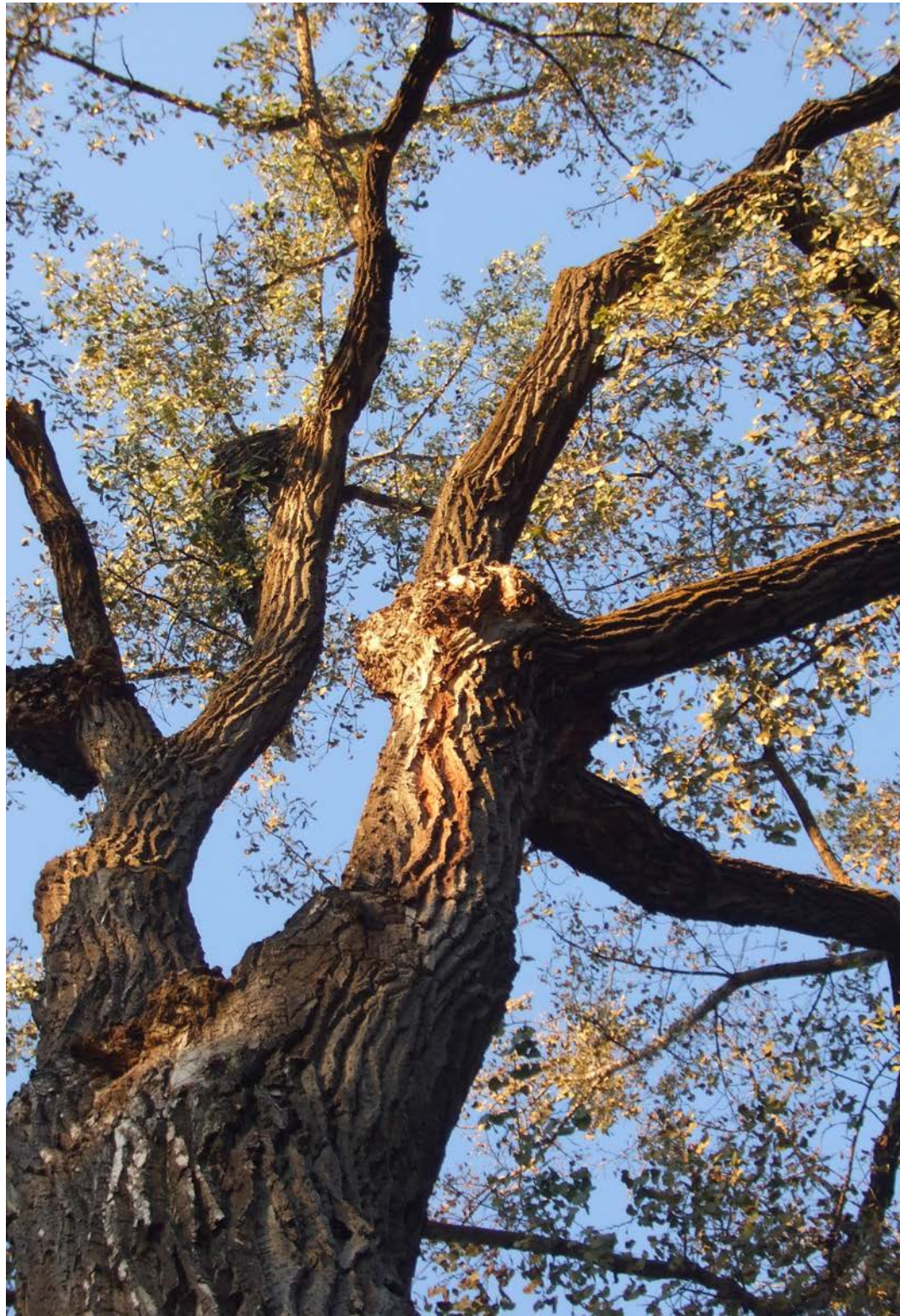


Image Source: SMM

## ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATIONS

### 1) CREATE A PARK STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Kildonan Park needs a group of individuals (key stakeholders) who are involved with the daily activities of the park. Committee members should include representatives from numerous City of Winnipeg Departments (Planning, Property and Development, Water and Waste, Forestry), Rainbow Stage, the Peguis Pavilion operations and community members.

The Park Stewardship Committee will act as the Liaison between the Public and City of Winnipeg. The Committee will work to facilitate public input (concerns and interests) to assist the City of Winnipeg in planning and decision making. A Park Stewardship Committee will foster linkages with the community, raise the public profile of the park and its events, and will be able to coordinate volunteer resources for the park.

### 2) CREATE AN URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY SPECIFIC TO KILDONAN PARK

Kildonan Park contains some of the Province's oldest and majestic trees. The Kildonan Park forest has provided natural and recreational refuge for wildlife and Winnipeg residents for generations and can continue to do so if managed correctly, balancing user needs with the practices required to ensure the long-term health of the forest.

Ideally, the Park's Forest Management Strategy will:

- i) Maintain a comprehensive inventory of the park's trees
- ii) Employ good forest management practices
  - Silviculture is the art and science of controlling the establishment, growth, composition, health, and quality of forests to meet diverse needs and values of stakeholders including the City of Winnipeg, surrounding residents and patrons of the park.
- iii) Promote sustainability
  - Guidelines, procedures and programs to maintain and improve forest health must be cost effective and sustainable over time.
- iv) Protect species and ecological diversity
  - To maintain or improve ecological diversity through the analysis of inventory information.
  - To identify areas or species of concern and implement appropriate management activities.
- v) Promote Reforestation and Naturalization of areas within the park
- vi) Respond to social and cultural concerns
  - To ensure that park users and uses, including historical, present and future, are identified and that forest management activities are undertaken with consideration to those users and uses.



Image Source: SMM

- vii) Promote water system health
  - To ensure management practices do not negatively impact on the hydrologic processes of Lord Selkirk Creek and the Red River, and that ecosystem functions are maintained or enhanced.
- viii) Maintain or improve the physical infrastructure and aesthetics of the park and its facilities
- ix) Encourage educational and research opportunities
- xi) Work together with neighbouring residents and businesses

### 3) CONSOLIDATE PARK SERVICES

George Champion had originally planned for the maintenance facilities to be located in an isolated portion of the park, away from the viewing public. Currently, the park maintenance building and storage yard are two of the first items encountered upon entering the park from Main Street. This area would be much better suited to expand and augment the adjacent formal gardens, one of the park's most beautiful assets.

It is recommended that the maintenance facilities be relocated to a less visible, centralized location. The current Park Police staging area presents an ideal, central location and is well concealed. The Park Police will be replaced by a new Park Ambassador program which will be housed in the Park Pavilion. Additionally, it is recommended that the current storage facility adjacent to Lord Selkirk Creek be decommissioned and excess materials and equipment which cannot be housed on-site in the new storage location be moved off-site permanently.

### 4) ASSESS RIVERBANK STABILITY AND POTENTIAL FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

The Red River is one of the natural assets of the park. Along with the Lord Selkirk Creek, the Red River influenced the organization of the path and roadway systems. According to the original plan, the river was meant to be viewed and accessed by way of a river lookout, a boat launch and landing, as well as a wharf for the steamboats. Today however, there is no formal access to the river and views of the mighty Red are limited at best.

Of the 240 kilometres of waterfront property inside the City of Winnipeg, 45% is owned by the City of the Winnipeg, much of which is in designated parks. Kildonan Park has approximately 800 metres of riverbank frontage. For the majority of the frontage, bank erosion has left the riverbank inaccessible and dangerous. Vantage Points are mostly from a pathway behind a chain link fence set back from the bank.

As a riverfront park, a thorough engineering study and assessment of its riverbank stability is required in order to help determine the potential for any riverbank development, as well as to provide a solution for the continuing erosion problem. There are a number of key locations where both visual and physical connections to the river should be enhanced to re-introduce the Red River to Kildonan Park users.



Rainbow Stage - Geodesic Dome. Image Source: Kildonan Park History and Development, 1972.

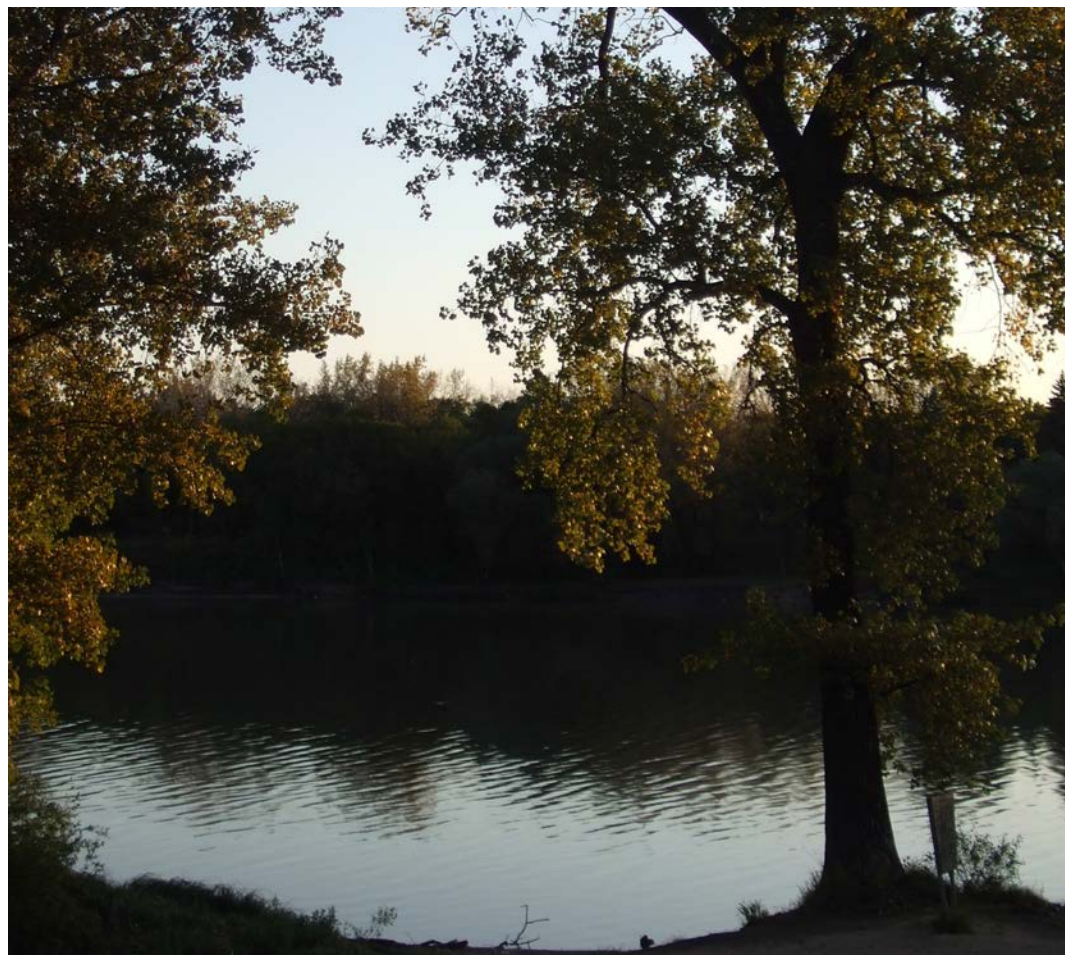


Image Source: SMM

## 5) ENHANCE PROGRAMMING AROUND RAINBOW STAGE (RAINBOW STAGE PRECINCT)

Rainbow Stage currently runs shows for an average of seven weeks during the summer season, resulting in a significant amount of time in which no programming occurs at and around the facility. A committee or task force could help guide potential programming opportunities to increase the level and diversity of activity and use within the Rainbow Stage Precinct.

Programming may include:

- outdoor theatre;
- farmer's markets (Rainbow Stage parking area);
- car shows (Rainbow Stage parking area); and
- seasonal art installations around Rainbow Stage, garnering public and local artist involvement and generating a reason to explore the area around Rainbow Stage.

The Rainbow Stage Precinct provides an amazing venue for prospective user groups to rent, and also for the City of Winnipeg to explore options to animate the space as an ongoing attraction within the park.

## 6) CREATE A WAYFINDING SYSTEM

Kildonan Park lacks a wayfinding system and the park is difficult to navigate, especially for pedestrians. A wayfinding Master Plan, which includes signage, banners, information kiosks, maps and lighting will enhance the park amenities and the visitor's experience of the park.

## DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES

### ESTABLISHING THE FRAMEWORK

Many of the original design ideas laid out by George Champion one hundred years ago exist as part of the legacy of Kildonan Park. The intent of these original design principles has always been to embrace and enhance the natural beauty of the park.

Features and park amenities were originally sited to accentuate key views, facilitate movement and create an array of park experiences.

As late as the mid-1960's, some of Champion's ideas were still being implemented such as the installation of Winnipeg's first toboggan slide and the development of an outdoor skating rink.

### CONTINUING A LEGACY

Any future development and refurbishment within Kildonan Park must adhere to many inter-related principles including:

- sustainable and “green” design;
- accessibility, safety and security; and
- respecting and maintaining the integrity of the original design principles of the park such as enhancing and embracing the park's natural systems.



General Plan of Kildonan Park by George Champion, 1911. Image Source: Kildonan Park History and Development, 1972.



Image Source: SMM

## ANALYSIS OF EXISTING FACILITIES & AREAS

An in-depth analysis of the current conditions of Kildonan Park was conducted and focused on the following areas:

- existing facilities (e.g. Pavillion, gardens etc.),
- existing circulation (pedestrian and vehicular), and
- current “character areas” (e.g. areas of the park which, although lacking in their boundaries and identifiable traits, are defined according to their function within the park).

This study was required in order to make recommendations and formulate development guidelines for each of these areas. The recommendations also examined the opportunity to “re-brand” some of the character areas (i.e change “The Forest” to “The Enchanted Forest”, the North Formal Garden to “The Secret Garden”), as a way of establishing unique destinations within the park that visitors can readily identify.



Image Sources: SMM(6); Cory Gurman.

# EXISTING FACILITIES

- A** PARK MAINTENANCE
  - B** PEGUIS PAVILION/POND
  - C** PARK POLICE
  - D** KILDONAN PARK POOL
  - E** RAINBOW STAGE
- |                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 MAIN STREET ENTRANCE          | 14 RIVER PATHWAY              |
| 2 ENTRY LAWN                    | 15 LORD SELKIRK CREEK         |
| 3 FORMAL GARDEN                 | 16 VEHICULAR BRIDGE           |
| 4 LORD SELKIRK CREEK            | 17 WITCH'S HUT                |
| 5 PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE             | 18 LORD SELKIRK CREEK         |
| 6 PICNIC GROUNDS                | 19 NORTH GARDENS              |
| 7 PARKING                       | 20 PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE          |
| 8 LARGE PICNIC SHELTER          | 21 PLAYGROUND                 |
| 9 PLAYGROUND                    | 22 PICNIC SHELTERS            |
| 10 BEACH VOLLEYBALL             | 23 TOBOGGAN SLIDES            |
| 11 SCOTIA STREET ENTRANCE       | 24 ATHLETIC FIELDS            |
| 12 STORAGE (PARK/RAINBOW STAGE) | 25 VEHICULAR BRIDGE           |
| 13 RAINBOW STAGE PARKING        | 26 PARK MAINTENANCE & STORAGE |
|                                 | 27 LORD SELKIRK CREEK         |



# EXISTING CIRCULATION

## VEHICULAR CIRCULATION

- MAJOR ROAD - TWO-WAY TRAFFIC
- MAJOR ROAD - ONE-WAY TRAFFIC
- PUBLIC ACCESS TO PARKING
- SERVICE VEHICLE ACCESS ONLY
- PARKING AREA

## PEDESTRIAN CIRCULATION

- PEDESTRIAN PATHWAY
- ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PATHWAY





# CHARACTER AREAS

Currently, the areas within Kildonan Park are lacking definition in their identity and boundaries. This master plan divides the park in distinct areas that are now named to reflect their functions and describe the nature of each place.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| A KILDONAN PARK MAIN STREET ENTRY PRECINCT   | I THE RIVER CONNECTION   |
| B THE ENTRY COMMON   | J RAINBOW STAGE PRECINCT   |
| C KILDONAN PARK FRONT FORMAL GARDEN  | K THE FOREST (NORTH)   |
| D THE HILL   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• THE WITCH'S HUT</li> <li>• THE NORTH FORMAL GARDEN</li> <li>• THE NORTH PLAYGROUND</li> <li>• THE BRIDGE</li> <li>• THE AMPHITHEATRE</li> </ul> |
| E THE FOREST PAVILION  | L THE GREAT LAWN   |
| F THE CHILDRENS ROMP   | M KILDONAN PARK PARADE   |
| G THE FOREST   | N NATURALIZED CREEK ENVIRONMENT  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PICNIC GROVE</li> <li>• THE PLAYGROUND</li> <li>• KILDONAN PARK POOL</li> </ul> |  |
| H SCOTIA STREET ENTRY PRECINCT   |  |

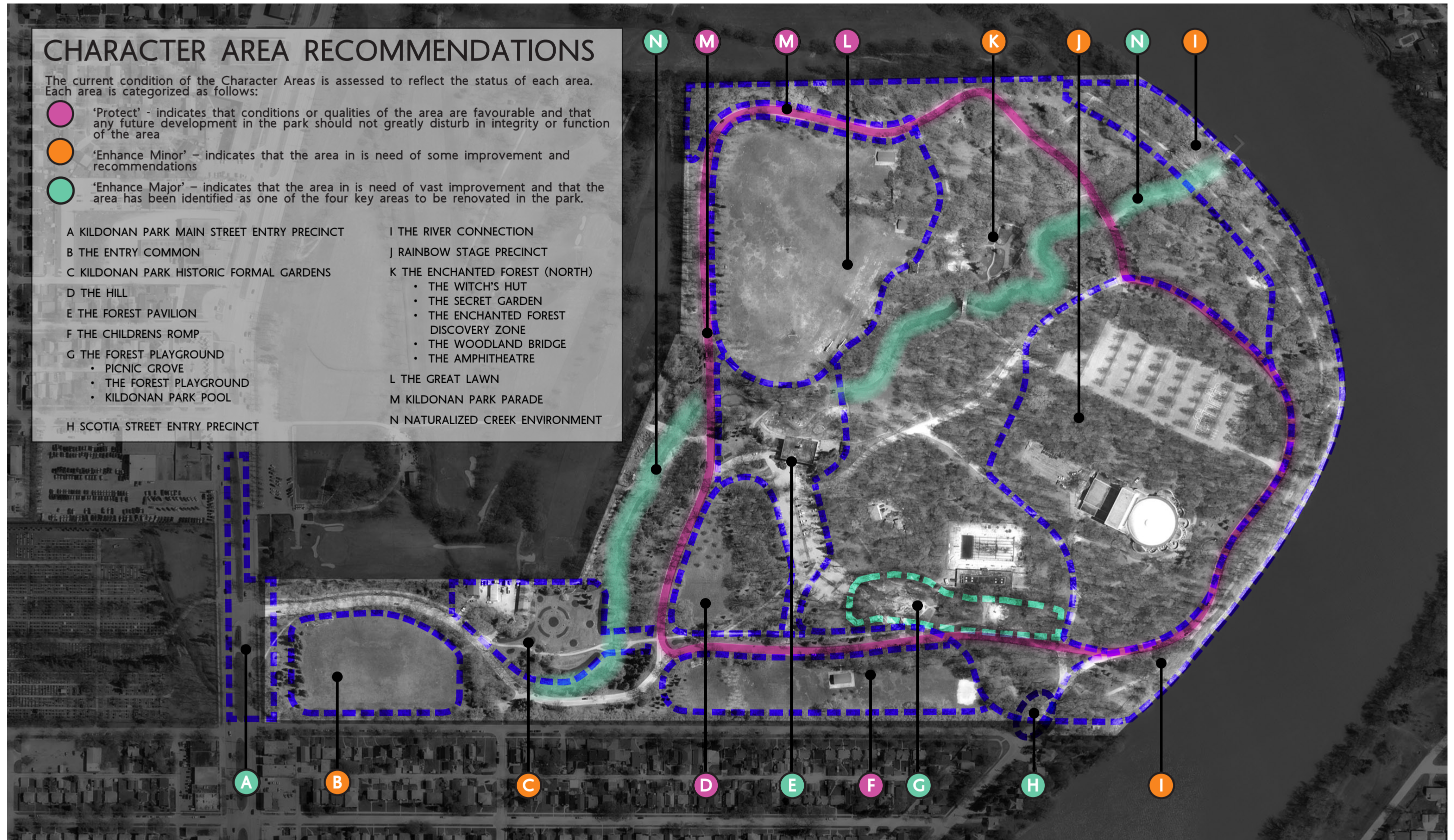


# CHARACTER AREA RECOMMENDATIONS

The current condition of the Character Areas is assessed to reflect the status of each area. Each area is categorized as follows:

- 'Protect' - indicates that conditions or qualities of the area are favourable and that any future development in the park should not greatly disturb in integrity or function of the area
- 'Enhance Minor' - indicates that the area is in need of some improvement and recommendations
- 'Enhance Major' - indicates that the area is in need of vast improvement and that the area has been identified as one of the four key areas to be renovated in the park.

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| A KILDONAN PARK MAIN STREET ENTRY PRECINCT | I THE RIVER CONNECTION                |
| B THE ENTRY COMMON                         | J RAINBOW STAGE PRECINCT              |
| C KILDONAN PARK HISTORIC FORMAL GARDENS    | K THE ENCHANTED FOREST (NORTH)        |
| D THE HILL                                 | • THE WITCH'S HUT                     |
| E THE FOREST PAVILION                      | • THE SECRET GARDEN                   |
| F THE CHILDRENS ROMP                       | • THE ENCHANTED FOREST DISCOVERY ZONE |
| G THE FOREST PLAYGROUND                    | • THE WOODLAND BRIDGE                 |
| • PICNIC GROVE                             | • THE AMPHITHEATRE                    |
| • THE FOREST PLAYGROUND                    | L THE GREAT LAWN                      |
| • KILDONAN PARK POOL                       | M KILDONAN PARK PARADE                |
| H SCOTIA STREET ENTRY PRECINCT             | N NATURALIZED CREEK ENVIRONMENT       |



## SELECT DESIGN GUIDELINES

Design guidelines should be applied to every aspect and component of the park. These guidelines will:

- Ensure appropriateness, consistency and quality of materials to create a cohesive park;
- Reinforce and protect the special character and tradition of the park, providing a connection to its past and place;
- Create a flexible, but balanced framework for future development by providing structure and standardization; and
- Ensure new work is compatible with the existing massing, size, scale and features of the park to protect its integrity and its environment.

These guidelines will consider materials, views, and function for the following design elements:

1. Signage
2. Site Lighting
3. Paving
4. Bridges
5. Retaining Walls
6. Fencing and Barriers
7. Site Furnishings (Benches, Waste Receptacles, Bollards, Tables)
8. Picnic Shelters and Firepits
9. Washrooms
10. Ornamental & Native Planting



Image Source: SMM



Image Source: SMM

## 1.0 SIGNAGE

### Entry Signage:

The current signage on Main Street, used to define the park's entry, is unsuccessful. With traffic travelling rapidly, the park could easily be missed. The former sign at the corner of Main Street and Armstrong Drive - which announced upcoming park events - was poorly located for oncoming vehicular traffic and more noticeable to pedestrians. Now that the marquis sign has been removed, a small, brown, reflective Kildonan Park sign and a "Provincial Star Attractions" sign for Rainbow Stage are attached to a light standard to help direct visitors to the main entry gate. The gates act as the most prominent feature to signal the entry into the park. However, by time the gates are noticed from a vehicle, one is often passed the entrance.

The Scotia Street entrance acts as a secondary entry to the park and has a much different sense of scale due to its direct access from a residential street. While there is currently no significant signage that signals the entry to the park at this location, the gates help to define this as a point of entry and are easily seen when approaching the park from Scotia Street.

### Recommendations:

An entry signage system should be developed for the park to enhance the park's entry and presence from Main Street. (See Section 9.0 for a conceptual design solution).

### Park Signage:

The current signage throughout Kildonan Park is minimal and is inconsistent in its placement and materials. Signs of different styles mark destinations, roadways, parking information and park "rules".

Signage currently does not demarcate all key destinations within the park; many of these destinations have poorly defined pedestrian routes to access them, ill-defined entries and little sense of arrival. The majority of the signs are free-standing wood signs that are painted dark green with white letters. These signs identify places such as the 'Front Flower Garden' and 'Witch's Hut', street names (with directional arrows) and park rules ('Bicycles Restricted to Roadways').

There are newer metal signs to identify some places. A single free-standing white reflective sign with green letters marks the 'Teddy Bass Athletic Field'. A green reflective sign with white letters is attached to a light standard to show the way to the Peguis Pavilion and a free-standing version identifies the direction to the Park Police office. Standard City of Winnipeg white reflective metal signs with black letters mark routes for 'Service Vehicles Only', one-way streets, and parking and no parking. Standard crosswalks signs are found throughout the park. Some amenities, such as Rainbow Stage are completely lacking in signage for the site and building. This contributes to the wayfinding issues addressed in Section 9.0 of this Master Plan.

### Recommendations:

A new park signage system should be developed to help with park navigation and enhance the park's image and character. (See Section 9.0 for a conceptual design solution).



## 2.0 SITE LIGHTING

An overall site lighting program for the park was originally conceived back in the 1930's and initiated in the 1950's. Lighting in the park remains generally as it was first installed, primarily roadway lighting with some auxiliary building lighting in certain areas.

### *Recommendations:*

Develop a lighting Master Plan with emphasis on:

- a) Feature Lighting
- b) Promenade Lighting
- c) Seasonal Lighting

## 3.0 PAVING

There are currently no fewer than five different types of paving treatments within the park - asphalt, concrete, concrete pavers (numerous styles, colours and sizes), crushed limestone, and crushed red shale. There is no consistency in the use and location of the different paving treatments.

### *Recommendations:*

A hierarchy of paving materials should be developed which responds to the function of where the paving is located (accessibility, durability, maintenance) as well as strengthens the overall wayfinding aspect of the park (clarity in circulation routes).

- a) **Asphalt** - High use, multi-user pathways/connections that must be accessible (e.g. Park Promenade and the Active Transportation route).
- b) **Clay Pavers** - High-use, high-profile public gathering spaces (e.g. Peguis Pavilion, formal gardens) and at information kiosks/nodes that must be accessible. The pavers will accentuate the arrival at a place or critical junction within the park's circulation system (e.g. information kiosks).
- c) **Crushed Granular** - High and low-traffic pathways that may not always be accessible (e.g. forest paths). All crushed granular pathways should be a consistent material; use of crushed red shale granite would provide a uniqueness to the forest trails in Kildonan Park.
- d) **Special Paving Materials (stone sets, polished concrete)** - high-traffic/high profile public spaces including the Peguis Pavilion, Rainbow Stage, entry into the formal gardens and park entries.

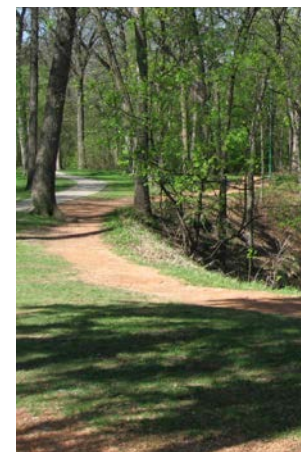


Image Source: SMM



Image Sources: SMM; Cory Gurman, SMM.



Existing Pedestrian Bridge. Image Source: SMM.



Photo Simulation of Enhanced Conceptual Pedestrian Bridge. Image Source: SMM.

## 4.0 BRIDGES

There are currently four bridges which span the Lord Selkirk Creek, one combination pedestrian/vehicular wooden bridge, one vehicular bridge which is also used by pedestrians and two separate pedestrian bridges. There are also three additional linkages over the pond/creek but should not be considered true bridges.

One of the first things completed within the park when construction started was the creation of a series of bridges, first vehicular and soon thereafter, pedestrian; both intended to create different experiences. Despite being updated overtime to accommodate increases in pedestrian and vehicular traffic, the bridges were consistent in their appearance. More so, the bridge architecture, scale and context provided an opportunity to observe the creek, from the vehicle and as a pedestrian.

### a) VEHICULAR BRIDGES

Currently the one joint bridge near the Witch's Hut accommodates pedestrian traffic on one side. However, the walking surface is narrow and does not lend itself to pedestrians stopping to overlook the creek and the Witch's Hut without impacting other pedestrians. The second vehicular bridge to the west of the Pavilion is not accommodating to pedestrians at all. Its current style, in conjunction with the existing condition of the creek, makes for an undramatic vantage point to what should be the quintessential view of the Pavilion and surrounding natural beauty of the park.

### b) PEDESTRIAN BRIDGES

The pedestrian bridge located in the front formal garden is an arched wooden structure which is reminiscent of historic wooden bridges of the romantic English Landscape. However, the bridge is not accessible due to the slope of the arch and consequently, a shallower, asphalt path/culvert system traverses the creek within twenty-five feet of the bridge.

The second pedestrian bridge located along Lord Selkirk Creek is a steel and concrete structure. While it is accessible and does allow for standing and taking in the creek, it also appears very static and utilitarian in the landscape. The bridge architecture does not relate to the design of the other pedestrian bridge or to the romantic history of the park.

### c) POND CROSSINGS

There are two pond crossings linking the Pavilion to the north fields. Both of these crossings are at grade, narrow and isolate the pond from the creek.

### Recommendations:

A bridge, either vehicular or pedestrian, should be an architecturally significant item in the context of a historic park. Its style should be in keeping with the nature and scale of the park while maintaining all structural integrity and requirements. The pedestrian bridges should be a reflection of the original intent to connect to the natural environment. The bridges should be accessible, allow viewing opportunities of the creek as well as celebrate the act of crossing the creek. One of the pedestrian linkages over the pond should be converted to a true bridge to enhance the aesthetics of the view to and from the Pavilion as well as the view of the ecological functioning of the entire creek and pond system. Both vehicular bridges must safely accommodate pedestrians and cyclists. The bridge overlooking the Peguis Pavilion needs to incorporate a pedestrian lookout as this is the marquis view of the Peguis Pavilion and pond.



Image Source: SMM



Image Source: SMM

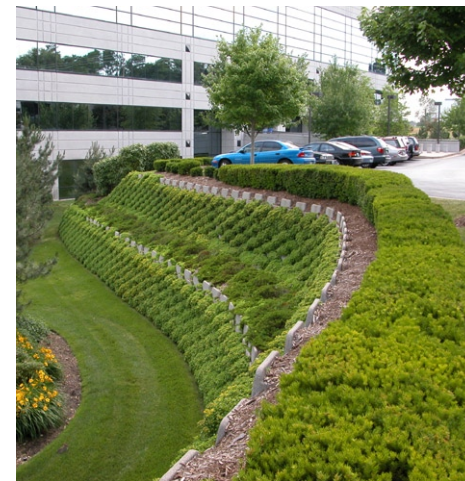


Image Source (Recommendations): [http://www.herculesmfg.com/galleryimages/completed6\\_full.jpg](http://www.herculesmfg.com/galleryimages/completed6_full.jpg); [http://www.herculesmfg.com/galleryimages/2\\_44.jpg](http://www.herculesmfg.com/galleryimages/2_44.jpg)



Image Source: SMM



"Natural Fence"

## 5.0 RETAINING WALLS

There are currently numerous retaining wall systems within the park: tyndall stone blocks, concrete walls, and multiple styles of modular, concrete block retaining walls systems. In many places, particularly with the modular systems, the walls are failing.

### **Recommendations:**

The tyndall stone block retaining walls that were constructed around the pond and stream banks should be restored (cleaned and rebuilt). While tyndall stone is the preferred material for retaining walls throughout the majority of the park, it may not be feasible. In less high-profile areas, such as along some of the forest trails where the retaining walls have already failed, a single system of engineered wall (similar in colour and texture to tyndall stone) could potentially be an acceptable alternative. In keeping with George Champion's original ideas of blending the park infrastructure in with the natural environment, this system should be designed to allow the retaining walls to be heavily vegetated. Around the Peguis Pavilion and Rainbow Stage, concrete retaining walls (which could also become "green" retaining walls) would be appropriate, blending with the architectural style of the buildings.

## 6.0 FENCING AND BARRIERS

Fencing and barriers exist in a range of forms, styles, sizes, and materials, and are used for a variety of purposes: to separate, to enclose, to screen, and to provide safety and protection from various obstacles or hazards. Having standardized guidelines in place in regards to selection of materials, style and scale will allow these elements to better blend with the surrounding landscape and context, while still serving their purpose.

### **Recommendations:**

As maintenance is often an issue, materials must be sustainable and appropriate for their location and function. Where appropriate, vines and other vegetation should be used to help mask fences and barriers without hindering any views beyond.

- a) **Chain-link Fencing** - Appropriate for perimeter fencing, enclosures (e.g. maintenance areas) and around steep slopes for public protection. Base planting on both sides of the fence will help decrease the visibility of the fence, making it appear more as a green fence.
- b) **Specialty Fencing (Metal)** - Appropriate for higher profile, public areas such as the Peguis Pavilion and the formal gardens. The fencing is meant to be seen and should be designed as part of the furnishings in these areas.
- c) **Barriers (Metal/Recycled Plastic)** - Simple barriers will be required along some of the Park's trails. The construction details should be simple and the materials sustainable. While utilitarian in nature, the barriers must still be visible to prevent people (particularly those with visual impairments) from straying from the trails.



Image Source: SMM



## 7.0 SITE FURNISHINGS (BENCHES, WASTE RECEPTACLES, BOLLARDS, TABLES, BIKE RACKS)

Presently, there are a number of various mismatched styles and types of furnishings randomly utilized throughout the park. A complete and standardized set of complementary site furnishings is needed to read cohesively throughout the entire park site. Benches, waste receptacles, bollards, tables, and bike racks should all have a distinct, shared look and aesthetic quality. However, in key areas like the Pavilion and Rainbow Stage, site furnishings should differ and be unique to reflect the particular character and style of those places.

One concept for the site furniture is to highlight the botanical history of the park - the natural beauty in the colours and textures of the formal garden beds. An artist's rendering depicts black metal forms with clean lines that are enhanced with laser cut inserts that are botanical in nature and provide the structure for signs, kiosks and benches. This theme is harmonious with the historical and romantic aspects of the park, taking its lead from the traditional wrought-iron furnishings, but given a modern twist. Bright and colourful floral imagery could be set into the black metal in the form of information panels and banners (see conceptual sign images page 30).



3D Rendering of Conceptual Site Furniture. Image Source: SMM.



## 8.0 PICNIC SHELTERS AND FIRE PITS

There are two picnic shelters in the northern section of the park, and one in the south, as well as a number of other picnic sites and fire pits located throughout the park. These sites and facilities appear to be popular and well utilized. While these facilities are sufficient, they are outdated and could be improved upon in form and in number.

The large shelter structures appear dark and heavy in the landscape, and lack a welcoming quality. No internal separation makes it difficult for separate parties to hold events under the same structure. The shelters could benefit by incorporating natural light filtration through part of the roof structure, and interior modular dividers would provide flexible picnic space for various size groupings – from large family reunions to smaller intimate gatherings.

### Recommendations:

- Creation of new, additional structures (large picnic shelters located in the north-end of the park, and smaller picnic sites located in the south-end of the park near Armstrong Drive to reduce noise for the neighbouring residential community)
- Flexible sizes for both large and small groups
- Universally accessible
- Centrally located fire pits
- Located near washrooms, water and parking, and away from residential streets
- Deep earth waste receptacles (i.e. Molok system / composting waste receptacle)



Image Source: SMM





Ladies Eco-Restroom at the Bronx Zoo, and Trailhead Eco-Restrooms. Image Source: [www.clivusmultrum.com](http://www.clivusmultrum.com).

## 9.0 WASHROOMS

The current washroom facilities at Kildonan Park are outdated, poorly maintained, and they are not universally accessible, or environmentally sound. The public facilities are limited to the Peguis Pavilion (which are currently not universally accessible), the pool (for users of pool facilities) and those located in the north field.

### **Recommendations:**

New washroom facilities should be centrally located, accessible, environmentally sound, and architecturally designed to blend in with surroundings.

Eco-restrooms can include a variety technologies and design elements:

- incorporation of environmental / educational components
- composting / foam-flush toilets
- re-use of greywater (or graywater) to irrigate gardens and plants
- use of natural and solar powered lighting

Composting toilets eliminate water from the waste stream and prevent the nutrients in human waste from becoming a source of pollution. Waterless toilets and urinals use no water at all, and foam-flush toilets are ultra-low-flow toilet fixtures that use just six ounces of water per use. That's a 97% water savings when compared with conventional 1.6 gallon per flush toilets.

There are a number of cost-effective, aesthetically designed, low maintenance, eco-friendly options available. For example, Clivus Multrum composting technology offers pre-fab or kit built stand alone restroom structures that come in either a single stall or double stall. These units are also ADA compliant. Clivus Multrum also provides greywater systems that recycle water from sinks, showers, dishwashers, and washing machines to irrigate plants. Use of these systems are becoming more commonplace and many people consider composting toilets when looking for an alternative to conventional on-site waste treatment technologies.



## 10.0 ORNAMENTAL AND NATIVE PLANTINGS

Despite being well-loved for its natural beauty, Kildonan Park is equally rich and renowned for its formal gardens. With ever increasing time and monetary constraints placed on maintenance staff, the sustainability of lush ornamental gardens will be an important topic for discussion.

However, based on the history of Kildonan Park and the fact that the gardens are one of the identifying features within the park, their preservation is integral to sustaining the character of the park.

### ***Recommendations:***

The two existing formal gardens should be maintained. These gardens should be developed and marketed as Destination points within the park's naturalized setting, creating the scenic experiences and promoting photo opportunity locations. Aside from the formal gardens, the ornamental plantings should be limited to strategic locations including, Main Street Entry Precinct, Peguis Pavilion and Rainbow Stage. Where appropriate, additional hardy, perennial plantings should be incorporated and phased in over time to reduce the reliance on annual plantings.



*Image Sources: Cory Gurman and SMM*

## MINOR ENHANCEMENT / DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

As identified in the Character Area Recommendations (section 6.0), the following areas within the park are identified as in need of minor enhancements. These areas include:

- Kildonan Park Formal Garden Accessibility
- Rainbow Stage, Playground and Pool Entry Nodes
- Connectivity to the Red River

### KILDONAN PARK FORMAL GARDENS

The front formal garden is currently not universally accessible, it does not have accessible parking in close proximity, nor does it have a clear axial connection from the existing paths. It does not incorporate a formal pathway to explore the gardens and does not promote the area as a pedestrian friendly destination with the park.

#### *Recommendations:*

- Promote the formal garden area as a destination within the park with formal entry nodes, feature landmarks (e.g. visitor kiosk / glass house) and seating nodes;
- Create a universally accessible pathway (through at least part of the garden) to encourage circulation through the formal garden area; and
- Provide a parking area in reasonable proximity.



Image Source: SMM



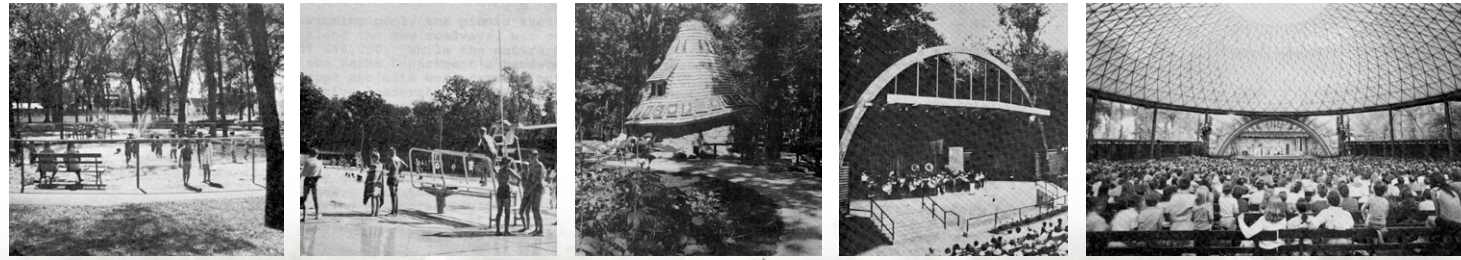
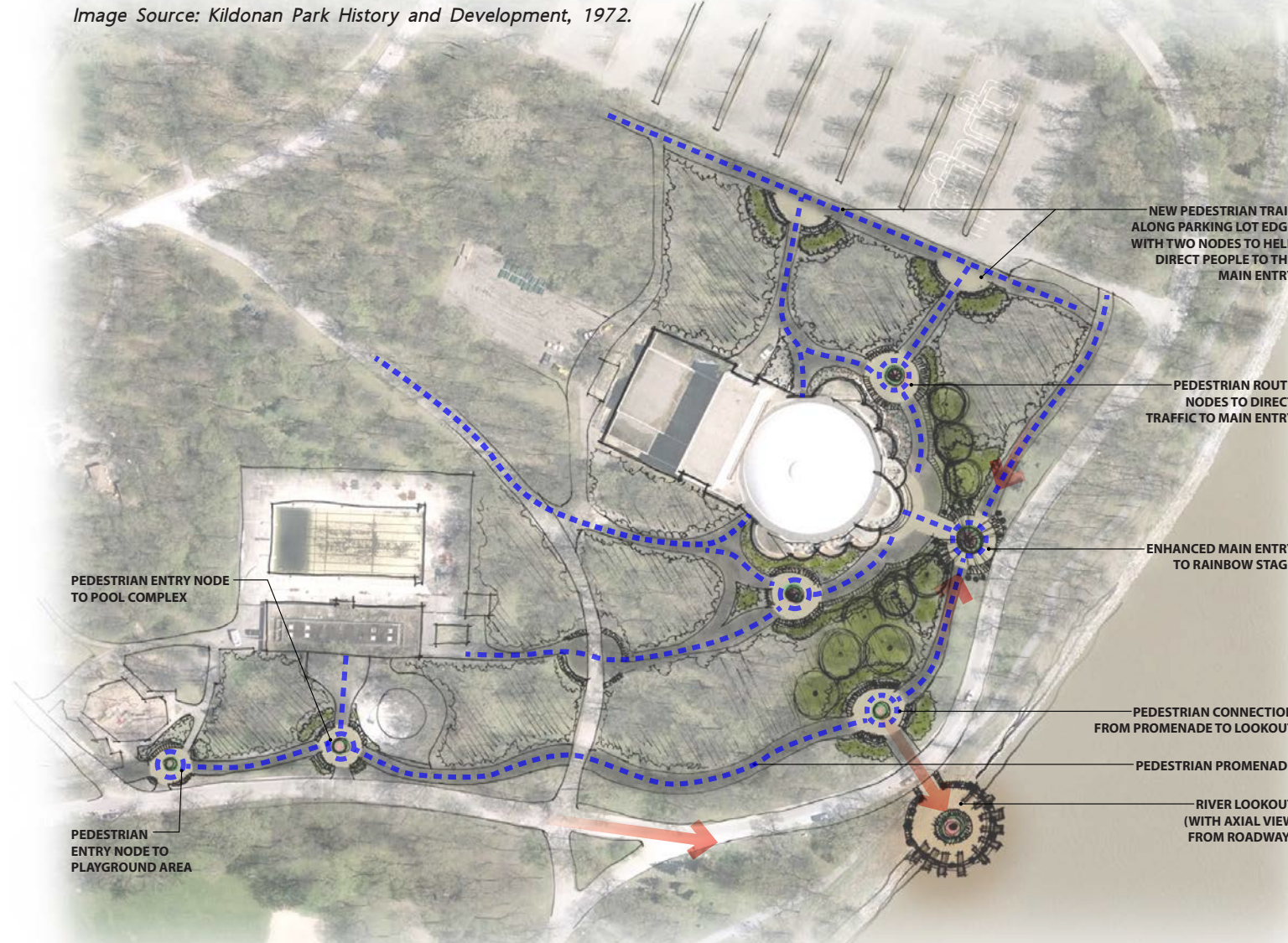


Image Source: Kildonan Park History and Development, 1972.



## DESTINATION ENTRY NODE ENHANCEMENTS

The “arrival” experience is not celebrated or emphasized at many of the key destinations in the park. Pedestrians often experience difficulty when navigating through areas in the park and, at times, experience difficulty in determining the “front door” to many of the buildings.

These locations include:

- Peguis Pavilion
- Pool Complex
- Rainbow Stage
- The Witch’s Hut
- Formal Gardens

### Recommendations:

- Improve orientation for users with consistent and clear signage. This could be in the form of entry kiosks that serve as landmarks, or entry signs that are complemented by plantings and paving.

## CONNECTIVITY TO THE RIVER

Currently, there is not a clear route from the pathway system within the park to the active transportation route along the river. The river is not highlighted as a feature within the park.

### Recommendations:

- Improve existing pathway system connection to active transportation route (river path) with new paths and signage.
- Celebrate the presence of the river and encourage connection and views through the creation of lookouts and nodes along active transportation route (river path).

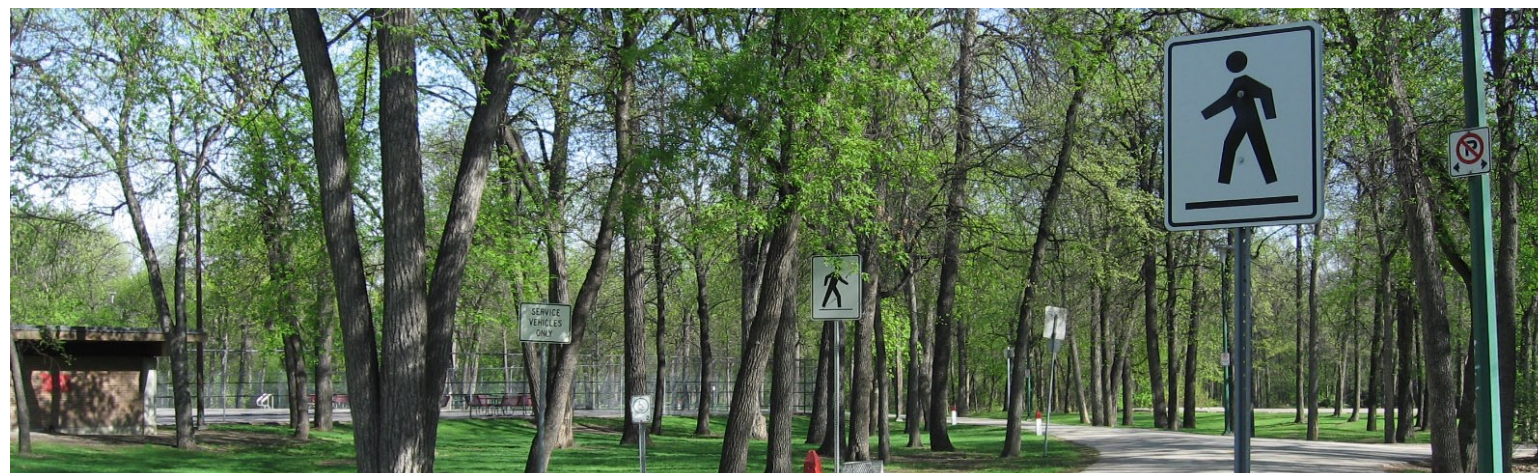


Image Sources: Cory Gurman; [www.z-mation.com](http://www.z-mation.com); [www.flickr.com/photos/yewenyi/3096866783](http://www.flickr.com/photos/yewenyi/3096866783); [www.capital2.capital.edu/admin-staff/dalthoff/adventures](http://www.capital2.capital.edu/admin-staff/dalthoff/adventures); American City Landscape Elements, Liaoning Science & Technology Publishing House.

## MAJOR ENHANCEMENT & DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

As identified in the Character Area Recommendations (section 6.0), four areas within the park have been identified as in need of major enhancement. These areas include:

- Wayfinding & Signage
- Lord Selkirk Creek Restoration
- Forest Playground Upgrades
- Peguis Pavilion and Site Renovation



Existing Circulation & Wayfinding. Image Source: SMM.



Existing Lord Selkirk Creek. Image Source: SMM.



Existing Playground. Image Source: SMM.



Existing Peguis Pavilion. Image Source: SMM.

# FOUR DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

-  **WAYFINDING AND SIGNAGE**  
(ENTRIES, ORIENTATION & CIRCULATION AND LIGHTING)
-  **B FOREST PLAYGROUND UPGRADES**
-  **C PEGUIS PAVILION AND SITE RENOVATION**
-  **LORD SELKIRK CREEK RESTORATION**





Image Sources: [www.flickr.com/photos/umbertones/1268423246/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/umbertones/1268423246/); Urban Identities by Gail, Deibler & Finke; [www.flickr.com/photos/laxin/3032793457/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/laxin/3032793457/); Urban Identities by Gail, Deibler & Finke; [www.flickr.com/photos/mrulster/3455685922/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/mrulster/3455685922/); [www.flickr.com/photos/posterestante/14542559/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/posterestante/14542559/); Urban Identities by Gail, Deibler & Finke; [www.flickr.com/photos/gnomeza/4079589775/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/gnomeza/4079589775/).

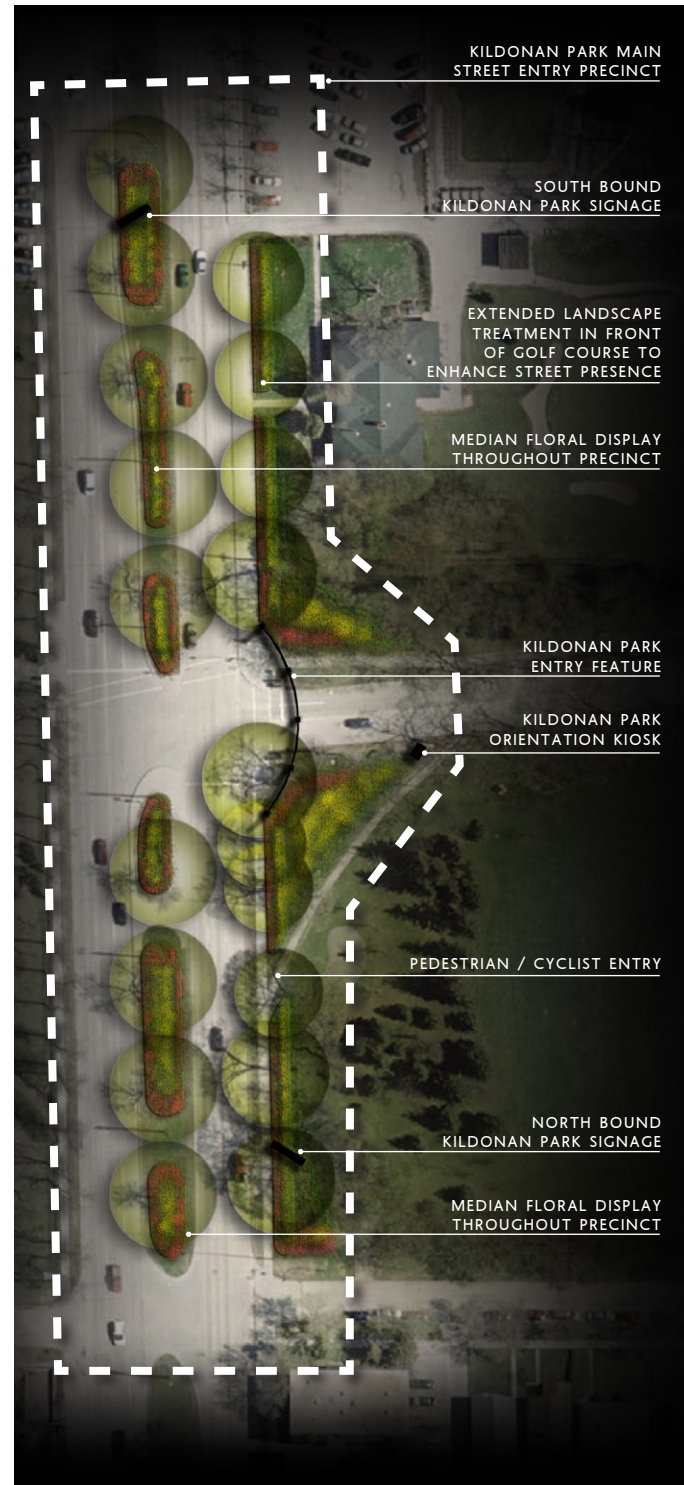
## 1) WAYFINDING & SIGNAGE

Currently, Kildonan Park lacks an adequate wayfinding system. As a regional park, Kildonan Park has little presence along Main Street; upon approaching the park, either by vehicle or as a pedestrian, there is no signage or visual cues to indicate that one is approaching a major park. Improved wayfinding will allow park users to orient themselves and navigate into and within the park. A clear and distinct wayfinding system will improve the experience for park users while reinforcing the overall theme of the park.

Wayfinding must be consistent within the park, making use of visual and physical cues defined by materials, graphic communication and signage. An improved wayfinding system will help integrate and unify the park while acknowledging the diversity within it.

The three recommendations for an improved Wayfinding System include:

- a) Enhanced Park Entries
- b) Improved Orientation & Connectivity
- c) Improved Lighting System



## A. ENHANCED PARK ENTRIES

### PARK ENTRY & SIGNAGE RECOMMENDATIONS:

To achieve the goal of enhancing the image Kildonan Park, increasing the identity of the park within the surrounding neighbourhood and city beyond is critical.

In order to do this, an increased “street presence” along Main Street is required. The “Main Street Entry Precinct” must incorporate a greater area that extends both north and south of the existing park entry on Main Street in order to provide visual cues to vehicular and pedestrian traffic that the entry into Kildonan Park is approaching.

The creation of the “entry precinct” will encompass a new, more prominent sign in a strategic location so that it is highly visible both day and night, in all four seasons, to both vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Throughout the entry precinct, there needs to be a consistent vocabulary of materials, colours, and plantings. These elements must be appropriately scaled so that they are readable to both the fast moving vehicular traffic along Main Street, yet are welcoming to cyclists and pedestrians. The palette within the precinct must be unique from the surrounding neighbourhood to ensure high visibility of the Main Street Entry, indicating that one has arrived at Kildonan Park. The incorporation of a new, more prominent entry gate will define the entry and signal to visitors that one has officially entered the park.

To a lesser degree, the entry into the park at Scotia Street should make use of the same materials, colours and design principles, only on a scale better suited to the residential street environment (slower and less vehicular traffic and more cyclists and pedestrians). However, the Scotia Street entry must still signal that one is entering the park.

At each entry, orientation maps, for both vehicular and pedestrian traffic must be present and highly visible to ensure that one’s “park experience” is pleasant right from the outset.

Main Street Entry Precinct - Conceptual Plan and Images





Image Sources: [www.brunswickme.org-path\\_marking](http://www.brunswickme.org-path_marking); [www.edmonton.ca](http://www.edmonton.ca)



## B. IMPROVED ORIENTATION & CONNECTIVITY

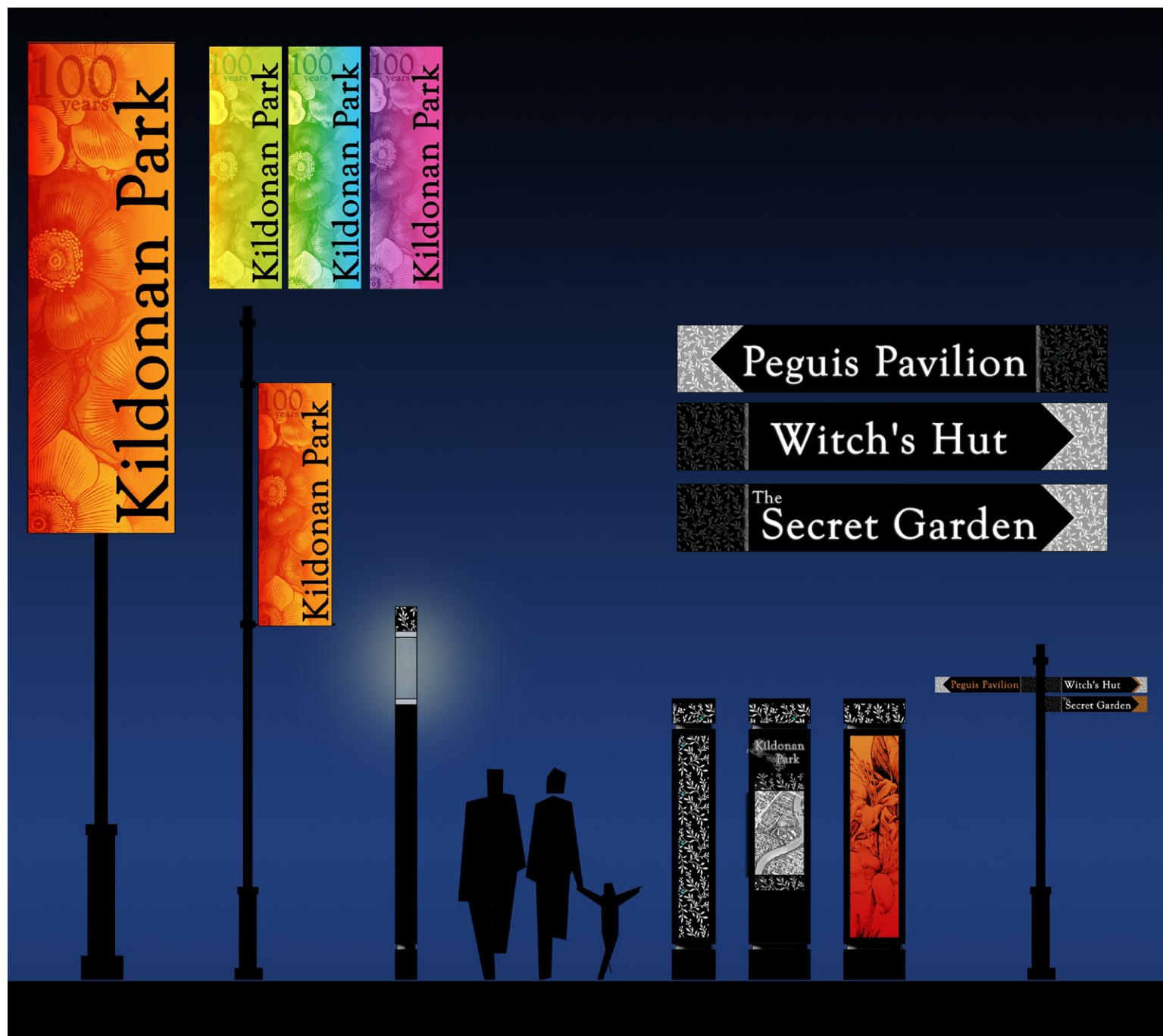
The primary concerns with the existing circulation at Kildonan Park are linked closely with wayfinding issues. It is difficult for park users to successfully navigate from one destination to another; the existing system lacks visual cues to clearly communicate directions and routes to follow.

An overall hierarchy of routes needs to be established to define:

- vehicular routes
- shared vehicular and cyclist routes, including the active transportation route from Scotia Street through the park connecting to Chief Peguis Trail
- shared cyclist, roller blader and pedestrian routes
- pedestrian trails

Three strategies recommended for improving orientation and connectivity include:

- 1) New Park Signage System
- 2) Establishing a Pedestrian Promenade
- 3) Improving connectivity for pedestrians on existing pathways



Conceptual Signage Imagery

## 1. NEW PARK SIGNAGE SYSTEM

Signage needs to be updated and consistent throughout the park to improve both the experience for the pedestrians navigating the park and for people who are travelling in a vehicle. Many of the existing signs already orient vehicular traffic, but lack consistency in terms of placement and design. The current pedestrian pathway signage system is almost non-existent; a new system must address both the needs of visitors in vehicles and pedestrians.

The recommendations for the new signage system includes:

- Street signage and banners
- Navigational signs (directional to help guide visitors to venues)
- Parking (directional)
- Information kiosks with maps (to be located at each entrance, the Formal Garden, Peguis Pavilion and Rainbow Stage)
- Destinations (places such as the Peguis Pavilion, swimming pool, Rainbow Stage and the Witch's Hut, Secret Garden, picnic shelters, athletic fields, lookouts, etc.)





## 2. PEDESTRIAN PROMENADE

To help reinforce the hierarchy within the park for pedestrian users, a main pedestrian promenade should be established. The creation of a grand pedestrian pathway along McKay Drive (that would continue along Riverview Drive) will accommodate pedestrians, roller bladers and cyclists. Treatment through materials, site furnishings, lighting, signage and an increased width (3 metre minimum) will help to clearly define this main route within the park. With strategically located signage and information kiosks, this artery would serve as a link to key destinations and routes within the park.



pedestrian pathway

roadway

*Conceptual Section of Pedestrian Promenade*



### 3. OVERALL CONNECTIVITY FOR PEDESTRIANS TRAVELLING WITHIN THE PARK

Many of the existing pedestrian walkways ‘dead end’ at vehicular routes. Pedestrians are then expected to follow vehicular roads to a destination or try to connect to another pedestrian path. These connections, when crossing vehicular roads to join another pedestrian path, are ambiguous and potentially dangerous.

Recommendations to improve connectivity include:

- Adapt existing vehicular routes to include a pedestrian pathway
- Shared roadway signage (for vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians)
- Re-alignment of some existing pathways
- Unification of pedestrian paving materials (establishing a hierarchy of pathways and trails)
- Directional signage to show routes to destinations

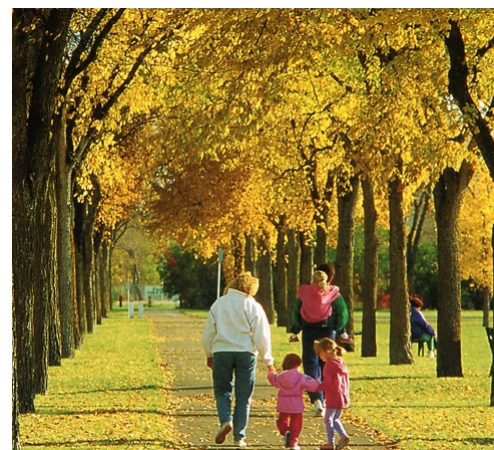


Image Sources: SMM; Henry Kalen; SMM.

# VEHICULAR & PEDESTRIAN SIGNAGE

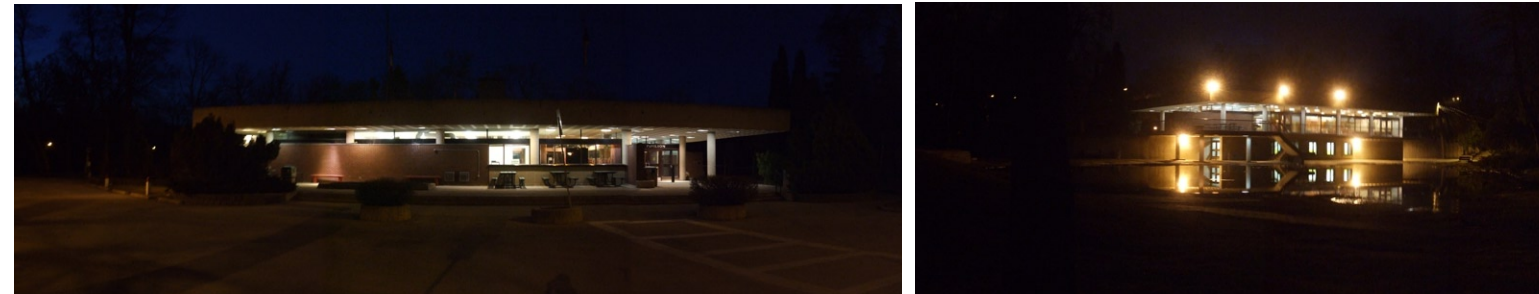
- INFORMATION KIOSKS
  - 1 Main Street Entry - Welcome Kiosk
  - 2 Kildonan Park Formal Garden Kiosk
  - 3 Pavilion Kiosk
  - 4 Scotia Street Entry - Welcome Kiosk
  - 5 Rainbow Stage Kiosk
  - 6 Family Picnic Area Kiosk

- SIGNAGE - IDENTIFY DESTINATIONS & INDICATE DIRECTIONS

- SIGNAGE - ROADWAYS & INTERSECTIONS

- P SIGNAGE - PARKING DIRECTIONS
  - 1 Formal Garden Parking
  - 2 Pavilion Parking
  - 3 Rainbow Stage Parking





Existing Lighting at the Peguis Pavilion Image Source: SMM



Lighting Recommendations Image Sources:  
[www.enchantedforest.org.uk/photo\\_gallery](http://www.enchantedforest.org.uk/photo_gallery); <http://www.flickr.com/photos/tackyshack/4359126063/sizes/l/>; [www.cache2.asset-cache.net/xc/20030641](http://www.cache2.asset-cache.net/xc/20030641); <http://www.flickr.com/photos/85625337@N00/501832633/>; [http://www.flickr.com/photos/ruairidh\\_munro/274155001/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/ruairidh_munro/274155001/)

## C. IMPROVED LIGHTING SYSTEM

The current lighting system in Kildonan Park caters primarily to vehicular traffic and is sufficient. The light standards are metal and are painted green. There are cobra standards in the Rainbow Stage and Peguis Pavilion parking lots. The Lord Selkirk Pond, the pool and Rainbow Stage are illuminated with flood lights, however these lights are not used to highlight and define any features or create “landmarks”.

Some pedestrian routes are lit with a modified version of the street lights, but many of the pedestrian routes are not adequately lit and would benefit from a new lighting scheme.

### **Recommendations:**

In order to take full advantage of the park in the evening and winter months, lighting for pedestrians must be integrated into the enhanced wayfinding system. Light bollards and pedestrian scale light standards (see illustration - page 30) will help to bridge the seasons and increase the connectivity and level of activity within the park. At key destinations, custom lighting may be used to enhance the site; areas such as select groves of trees in the enchanted forest would benefit from flood lighting to up-light the tree canopy.

A proposed lighting master plan would include enhancements in three key areas:

- **Seasonal Lighting** - Lighting along the creek in the winter months to illuminate the skating area will improve the overall ambience of the creek and will likely increase levels of use. The seasonal lighting could also continue through the “Forest Playground” area to better connect to the children’s play area.
- **Promenade Lighting** - Lighting along select areas of the pedestrian promenade will help connectivity from the Pavilion to Rainbow Stage, key during summer productions.
- **Feature Lighting** - New lighting at the Main Street entrance, within the Formal Gardens, at the Peguis Pavilion and Rainbow Stage will define these areas as destinations and landmarks within the park.

# LIGHTING RECOMMENDATIONS

## EXISTING LIGHTS

- Roadway Light
- Walkway Light
- ▲ Area Light
- ▼ Floodlight

## PROPOSED LIGHTING MASTER PLAN

- Seasonal Lighting (Winter)
- ◇◇◇◇ Promenade Lighting
- Feature Lighting





Image Sources: Kildonan Park History and Development, 1972; SMM; [www.flickr.com/photos/fotokraffe/3913912731/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/fotokraffe/3913912731/); SMM

## 2) LORD SELKIRK CREEK RESTORATION

Once a vibrant and thriving watercourse, the historic Lord Selkirk Creek has been drastically altered from its original state. In the early part of the 1900's, the creek was a significant element of north Winnipeg and was responsible for draining expansive areas west of the park and Main Street. Currently the creek is essentially non-existent, except through the park, where it is then reduced to a mere ditch on the bordering Kildonan Golf Course property.

These changes to the creek's form and condition have had negative impacts on the health of this riparian system as well as on the overall aesthetics of the park. Today, there is significantly less water moving through the system than in the past, resulting in a creek that is often dry throughout the summer. Where the creek reaches the pond at the Pavilion, the water becomes very shallow and stagnant, creating foul odours as well as an eye-sore. Additionally, during times of flooding, the Red River causes the creek to back-up and creates the potential to flood-out the lower level of the Pavilion should City crews not be able to close the gates and start the pumps in time.

### **Recommendations:**

The removal of the golf course ditches, and the re-grading and re-vegetation of the creek, will greatly improve the overall quality and function of the Lord Selkirk Creek water system. The creation of a series of ponds in both the park and golf course will increase the amount of water moving through this now-closed system, helping to restore its intended purpose.

The intent is to re-establish Lord Selkirk Creek as a significant and functional component of Kildonan Park. There are numerous benefits to rehabilitating the Lord Selkirk Creek, including:

- Renews an attractive and historically important landscape feature of Kildonan Park
- Provides for new and enhanced habitat for riparian species (animal and plant)
- Allows for the inclusion of visually pleasing water features such as a waterfall at the Pavilion
- Additional flow through the creek, ponds, and a waterfall feature will help aerate the water, thereby reducing stagnation and odour
- Creation of ponds in the park and on the golf course will accommodate overflow, increasing water-holding capacity during flood times

The restoration of the creek system will create new and aesthetically pleasing focal points, as well as re-establish the integral connection between Lord Selkirk Creek and the Red River, to Kildonan Park.



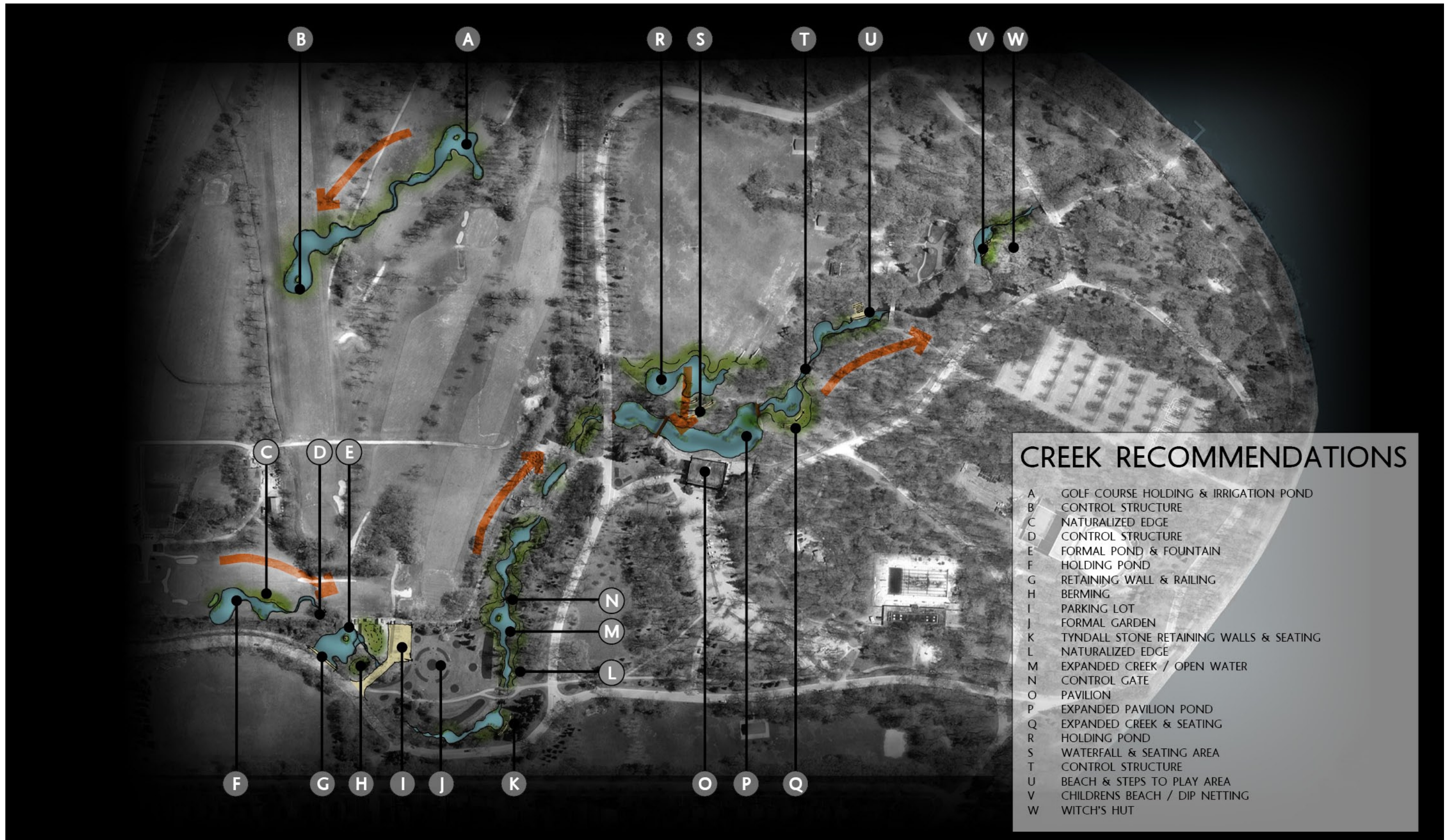




Image Sources: [www.corocord.com](http://www.corocord.com); [www.flickr.com/photos/7954439@N06](http://www.flickr.com/photos/7954439@N06); [www.flickr.com/photos/elf\\_girl/1470324675](http://www.flickr.com/photos/elf_girl/1470324675); [www.wordpress.com/2009/05/log-stairs](http://www.wordpress.com/2009/05/log-stairs); [www.farm4.static.flickr.com/3343/3291992295\\_1fbd26dd06](http://www.farm4.static.flickr.com/3343/3291992295_1fbd26dd06); [www.panoramio.com/photo/10137262](http://www.panoramio.com/photo/10137262); [www.flickr.com/photos/londonlooks/4348422654](http://www.flickr.com/photos/londonlooks/4348422654).

### 3) FOREST PLAYGROUND

The existing playground at Kildonan Park is in need of a complete renovation. Considering it is a key destination within the park, the playground does not offer anything out of the ordinary. It is not large enough in size and variety of activities to accommodate several groups of children. The play equipment and safety surfacing is outdated and in need of replacement. The goal is to make the playground a premier destination within the park.

#### Recommendations:

1. The playground would respond to the different types of outdoor play. These types generate specific developmental challenges for the users of all ages and abilities.

These types include:

- **Physical**
  - Rough and Tumble Play
  - Locomotor Play
  - Exploratory Play
- **Intellectual Play**
  - Imaginative Play
  - Role Play
  - Deep Play
- **Interactive Play**
  - Recapitulative Play
  - Social Play
  - Communication Play

2. The redevelopment should include ties into the 'Forest' theme of the park.
3. The playground should explore the significance of the forest to the history and culture of Kildonan Park.
4. The playground is to be expanded and include the space in front of the pool and toward the picnic grove.
5. The playground will be inclusive and designed for all ages.



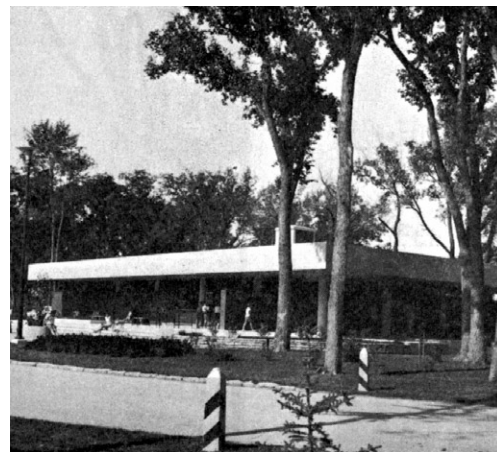


Image Source: Kildonan Park History and Development, 1972.



## 4) PEGUIS PAVILION & SITE RENOVATION

The Peguis Pavilion and its grounds have traditionally been the social hub of Kildonan Park. The entire site is aging and requires an upgrade to revitalize this important area of the park. Renovating the pavilion provides the opportunity to enhance Kildonan Park's image as a 'park for all seasons' and to support its extreme popularity as a winter destination.

The Pavilion is part of the larger 'enchanted forest character area'. The enchanted forest includes the stands of mature trees that comprise the fabric that makes Kildonan Park unique. Their stature and presence help to create a mood of intrigue, nature discovery and timelessness. The enchanted forest weaves its way throughout the park. The new 'Forest Pavilion' will become a modern icon that is set in the midst of this natural landscape that surrounds it.

### A. PEGUIS PAVILION - THE BUILDING

The building was constructed and opened in 1965 and is in need of complete modernization. Programming options need to be explored to take full advantage of this as one of the main attractions in the park. The building is in need of a complete overhaul of the electrical, mechanical and plumbing systems. Upgrades to the restaurant, kitchen area and concessions are recommended to attract patrons and special events year round.

New elevator service will be required to make the building universally accessible. Currently, the only washrooms are located on the lower level and, with new accessibility, these washrooms will serve as the general public washrooms. Main level washrooms are recommended to serve the restaurant patrons. With enhancements, the lower level will continue to act as a warm up and skate change area during the winter and can potentially be "opened up" during the summer, increasing the connection to the outdoor environment.

The building will become the new home of the 'Park Ambassadors', increasing their presence and making them more accessible to the public.

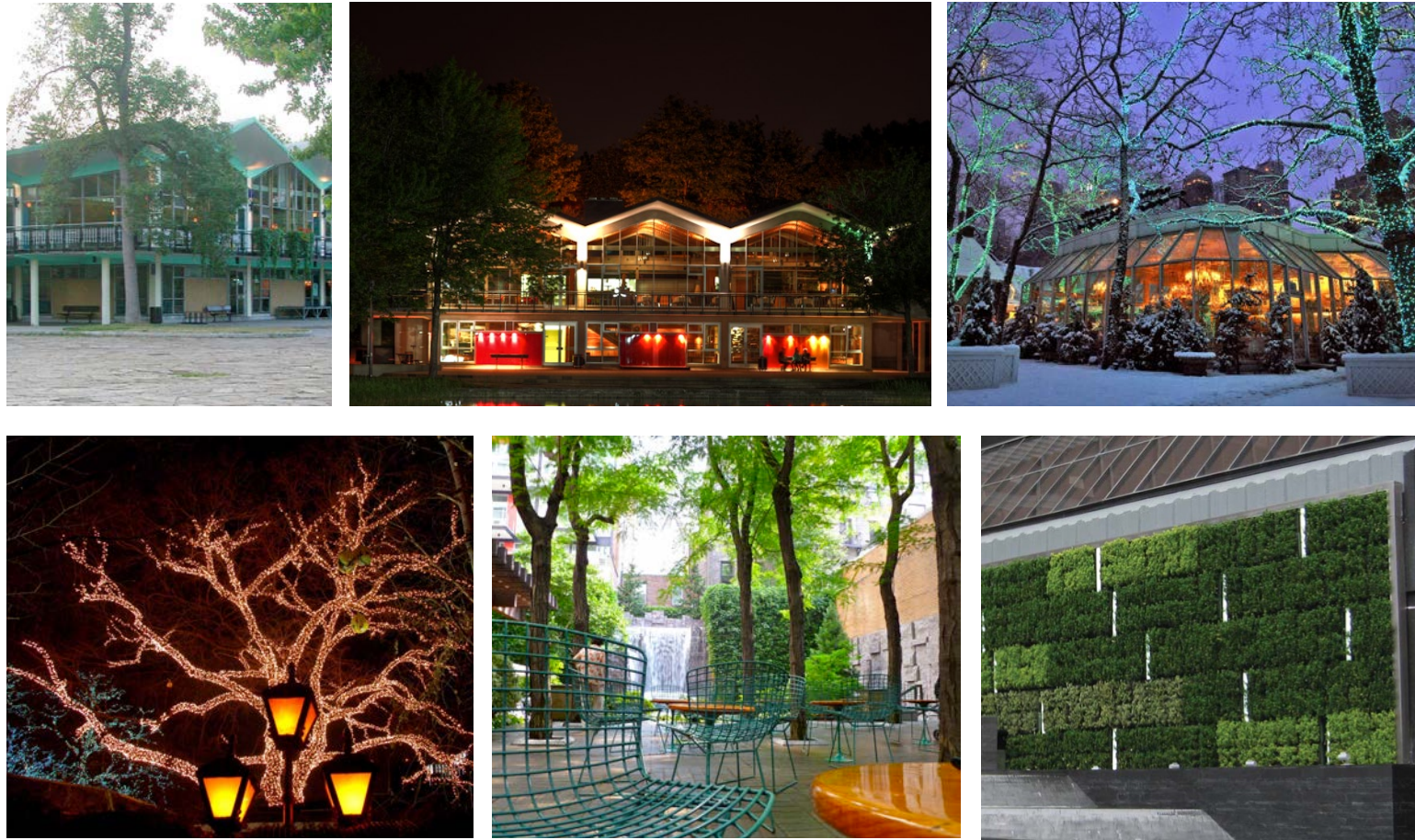


Image Sources: [www.flickr.com/photos/mtlweblog/1496802853/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/mtlweblog/1496802853/); [www.flickr.com/photos/phil404/3626243793/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/phil404/3626243793/); <http://www.flickr.com/photos/36941202@N03/3897243068/sizes/l/in/photostream/>; <http://www.flickr.com/photos/36941202@N03/3897243068/sizes/l/in/photostream/>; <http://www.flickr.com/photos/reston2020/4819407698/sizes/l/in/photostream/>; [www.g-sky.com](http://www.g-sky.com)

## B. PARKING LOT

The existing parking area services the Pavilion, playground and pool. The recommended upgrades to the parking area include enhancing the sense of arrival to the Pavilion and creating a more organized entry with improved access and circulation.

The existing vehicular exit borders the playground and affects the level of safety (or perception of) in the play area. Recommended improvements to the vehicular circulation include:

- Convert the existing entry road to a two-way street, allowing the existing exit road from the parking lot to McKay Drive to be closed, thereby allowing the playground area to be expanded and become a vehicle free zone.
- Establish one-way vehicular circulation within the parking lot and convert the perpendicular stalls to angled parking.
- Create a defined “drop-off” area at the front of the Pavilion.
- Develop a new pathway on the west side of the parking lot to safely direct pedestrians to the building entry.

## C. ENTRY PLAZA

The existing entry plaza to the building lacks definition and does not have established formal boundaries between the roadway and plaza area. The recommendation is to create a new entry plaza that acts as a focal point for the public and is a space to be used by the public for waiting and gathering.

The plaza would provide seating for visitors waiting to be picked up and dropped off as well as a place for casual lunches at small cafe style tables. The “enchanted forest” would weave its way through the entry plaza with groupings of shade trees defining informal seating and casual eating areas while allowing people to move through the space with clear direction to the entry.

The Chief Peguis sculpture would be relocated to this premier location allowing it to have more prominence on the site.



Image Source: SMM

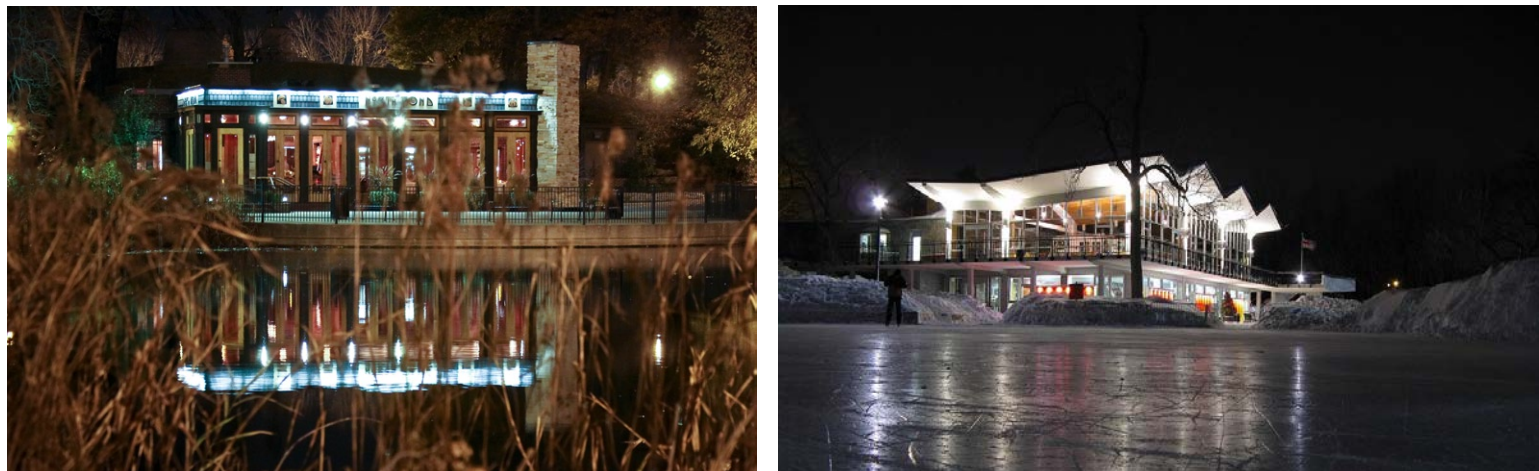


Image Sources: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/druidabruxux/5136925327/sizes/l/in/photostream/>; <http://www.flickr.com/photos/29295318@N08/3581917458/>; <http://www.flickr.com/photos/29295318@N08/3581917458/>; <http://www.flickr.com/photos/fcormier/2269485011/sizes/l/in/photostream/>

#### D. POND AND POND PLAZA

The pond and adjacent plaza area require a complete re-design and reconstruction. The plaza and existing access ramps and stairs do not meet accessibility standards; pavement has cracked and shifted and surrounding retaining walls are failing; and there are no gathering and seating areas for visitors at this lower plaza level. The pond is too small and, therefore, it has no ability to absorb run-off from the adjacent golf course and park areas during heavy rains and spring melt, resulting in poor water conditions and flooding of the Pavilion's lower level.

The main goals of the re-design are:

- to increase the health and function of the pond by expanding the pond area and volume (holding capacity) as well as naturalization along the pond edge,
- to enhance the connection between the Pavilion's interior and exterior,
- to create more, accessible gathering spaces, and
- to create a beautiful setting for the redeveloped Pavilion by enhancing the viewing opportunities to and from the Pavilion.

Expansion of the pond (in conjunction with the restoration work of the Lord Selkirk Creek) will allow it to function better ecologically. The larger pond area will also maximize winter use such as skating (on the pond and creek) and also by providing a better connection between the toboggan slides and the renovated warm-up area in the lower level of the Pavilion.

Naturalization of the pond edge will occur in strategic areas to maximize viewing opportunities and access points to and from the plaza area while maintaining the ability to deal with surface water run-off from surrounding areas. The naturalization of the pond edges will also provide a transition from hard landscape immediately adjacent to the Pavilion to the forest setting and redeveloped Lord Selkirk Creek.

Along the Pavilion and plaza side, the pond edge will be raised to provide a continuous seat wall along the pond. This will not only provide much needed casual seating in the area, but it will also provide additional flood protection to the lower level of the Pavilion.

On outdoor fireplace will be incorporated into the lower level plaza. In combination with the expanded pond, better accessibility to the toboggan slides, and the introduction of seasonal lighting displays, the Peguis Pavilion and pond will become a true, year-round attraction, making it the key destination in Kildonan Park.



# FOREST PAVILION

- A PEGUIS PAVILION HOLDING POND
- B THE "GROTTO"
- C PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE AND LOOKOUT
- D PAVILION AND POND LOOKOUT
- E TYNDALL STONE SEATING WALL AROUND POND
- F PLANTING TIERS
- G SERVICE / DELIVERY DROP-OFF
- H PAVILION PLAZA CAFE
- I CHIEF PEGUIS SCULPTURE
- J RAISED PEDESTRIAN CROSSING TO PAVILION
- K PEDESTRIAN ARRIVAL NODE
- L REMOVABLE POND LEVEL BRIDGE CROSSING
- M ROCK OUTCROP AND POND VIEWING AREA
- N EXPANDED POND
- O ACCESSIBLE MID-LEVEL SEATING AREA
- P ACCESSIBLE SLOPED WALKWAY TO POND
- Q PEGUIS PAVILION ENTRY WALK
- R PEGUIS PAVILION SIGNAGE
- S WALKWAY CONNECTION TO FOREST PLAYGROUND

A

B

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D

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S

THE FOREST PAVILION & POND

