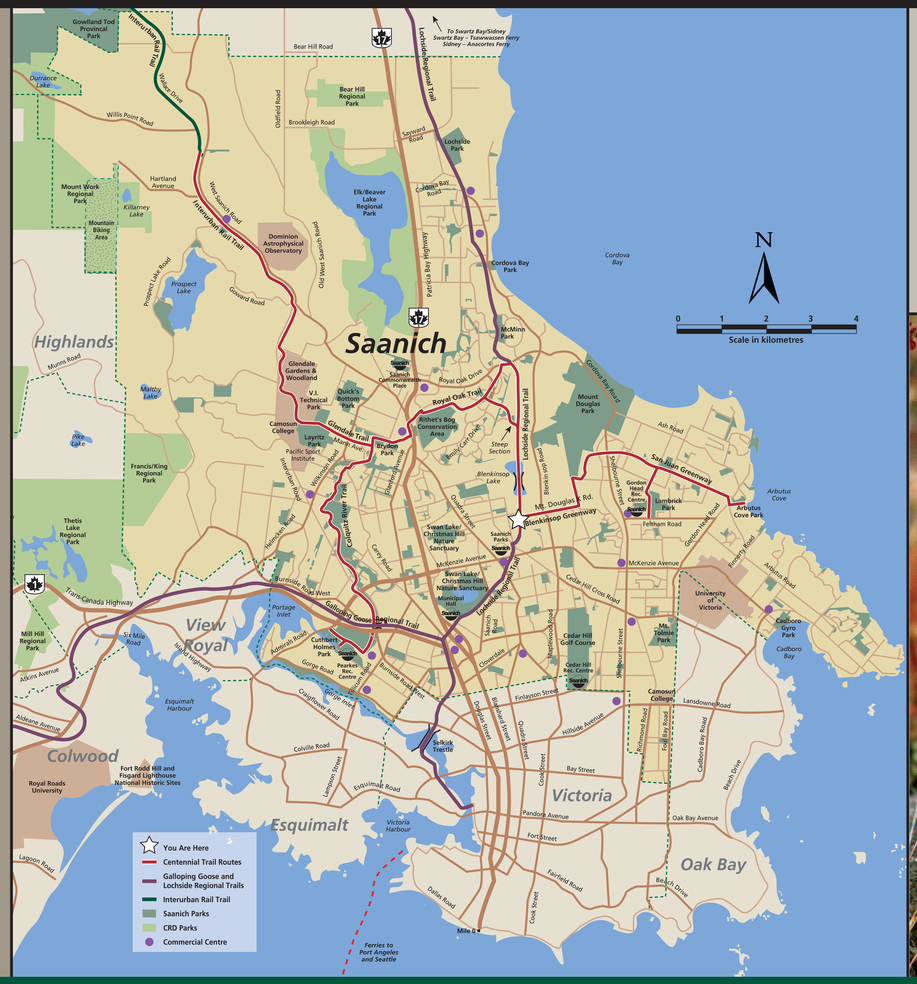
SAANICH 1906 100 2006

CENTENNIAL TRAILS

BLENKINSOP GREENWAY

The Corporation of the District of Saanich celebrated its centenary on March 1st 2006. To honour this milestone, a significant trail and greenways project was envisioned. The "Centennial Trails 2006 and Beyond" is a multi-year plan to develop or improve nearly 45 km of trails by making connections north-south and east-west to all geographic areas of the community.



SAANICH continues to have a long-standing belief in the value of trails and greenways dating back to the 1960's. The Centennial Trails plans build upon the successes of existing trails and greenways such as the Colquitz River Park, the Galloping Goose Regional Trail, the Lochside Regional Trail, and many neighbourhood trails.

The trails and walkways in Saanich are diverse and provide opportunities for recreation, transportation, exploration, and education. They also provide an important connection between rural and urban Saanich, and the cultural richness of our community.

DISTRICT OF SAANICH – Blenkinsop Lake Bridge

MICHAEL VANLNSBERGHE
Northwestern Alligator Lizard – *Elgaria coerulea principis*

BLENKINSOP GREENWAY

The Blenkinsop Valley is a unique area of fertile farmland which is highly valued for its agricultural lands, farm stands, serenity and beauty, wildlife and natural habitat, open space, parks and trails, ponds, lakes, marshes, and proximity to urban amenities. The combination of all these aspects gives the Blenkinsop Valley a special 'sense of place' in Saanich. With the generous cooperation and support of the Eng Family, the Galey Family and the Furtado Family, the development of the trail across the Blenkinsop Valley became a reality. They each recognized the value this trail link would have for the community. The connection through to the Mt. Douglas area and beyond to Gordon Head will open paths to new recreation and transportation opportunities for many generations.

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

From here, you can venture north across the Blenkinsop Lake and enjoy the view to Mount Douglas Park or continue to Central Saanich and Sidney. To the south, the Lochside Regional Trail takes you past Swan Lake and the Saanich Municipal Hall where the trail connects with the renowned Galloping Goose Regional Trail. To the east, take the Blenkinsop Greenway across the Blenkinsop Valley to Mount Douglas Park and beyond to Arbutus Cove Park with its spectacular views of Haro Strait and the San Juan Islands.

SAANICH ARCHIVES – Woman milking her cow in Saanich, circa 1900

Saanich