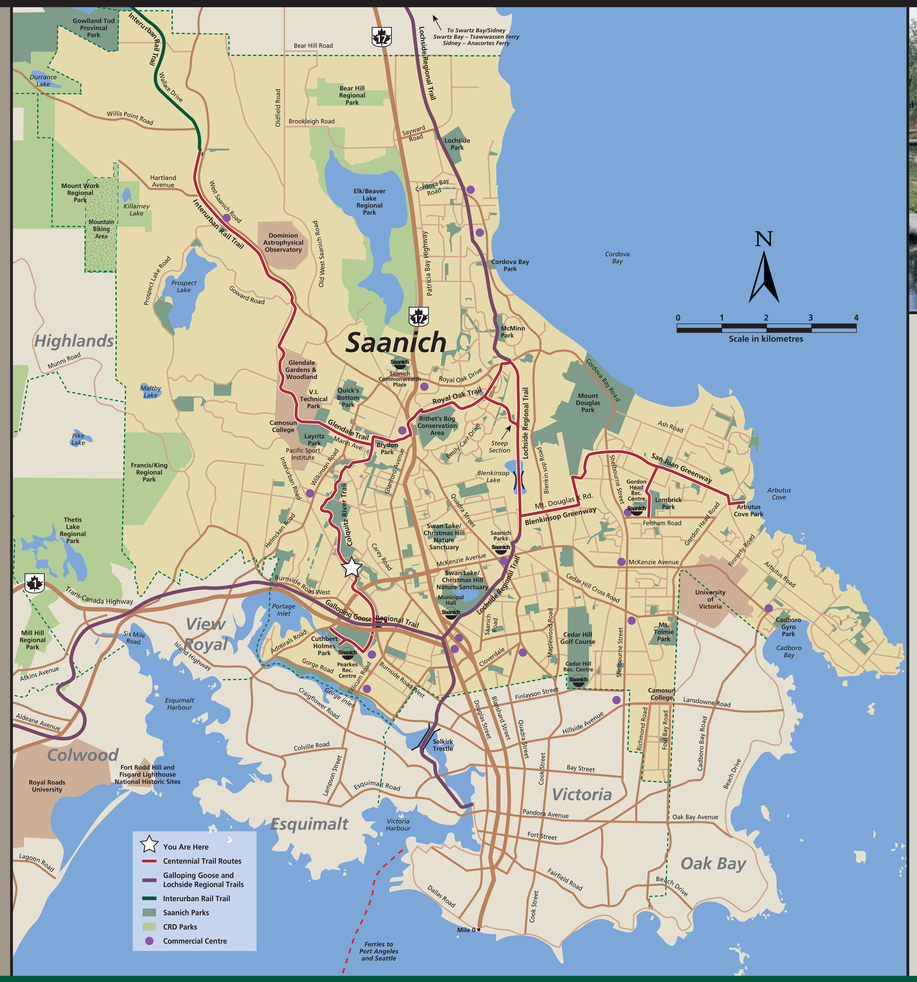
SAANICH 1906 100 2006

CENTENNIAL TRAILS

COLQUITZ RIVER TRAIL

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.

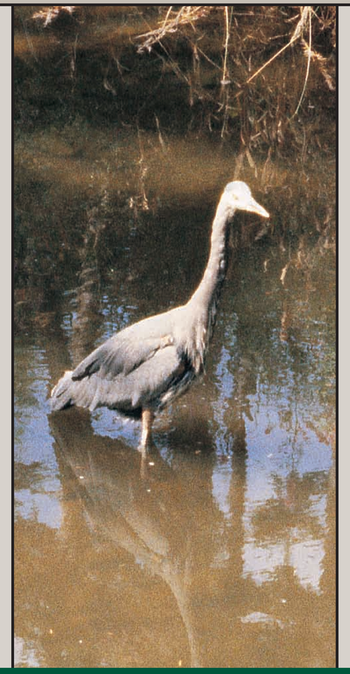
The trails and walkways in Saanich are diverse and provide opportunities for recreation, transportation, exploration, and education. They also provide an important connection between rural and urban Saanich, and the cultural richness of our community.

DISTRICT OF SAANICH – Stepping Stones

DISTRICT OF SAANICH – Idyllic river setting, circa 1980

COLQUITZ RIVER TRAIL

In 1967, the Colquitz River Trail system was envisioned by the Municipality of Saanich as one of the first efforts to protect urban streams at a local government level and was initially constructed with funding from the Provincial Capital Commission. Saanich Council endorsed the long term concept and began the land acquisition process – a process that continues today. The Colquitz River Trail connects neighbourhoods and commercial areas along the meandering Colquitz River from G. R. Pearkes Recreation Centre and Cuthbert Holmes Park to Brydon Park and beyond to Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park. When complete, the Colquitz River Trail system will include 25km of trails. This trail, through its close connection to the river and the varied riparian vegetation, provides a constant reminder of nature's changing seasons.



THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

As you move north you will encounter Hyacinth Park, Panama Hill Park, Copley Park, and more of the Centennial Trails system. At Mann Avenue, the Glendale Trail heads west and further north. At Lindsay Street, the Royal Oak Trail heads east to Brydon Park. To the south, you can follow the original Colquitz River Trail that was developed in the late 1970's, following the Colquitz River to Cuthbert Holmes Park and Portage Inlet. To the east, you can follow the Swan Creek Trail. Further east, by using some on-street connections, you can make your way to the Saanich Municipal Hall and Swan Lake/Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary, connecting with the Galloping Goose and Lochside Regional Trails.

DISTRICT OF SAANICH – Great Blue Heron – *Ardea herodias*

Saanich