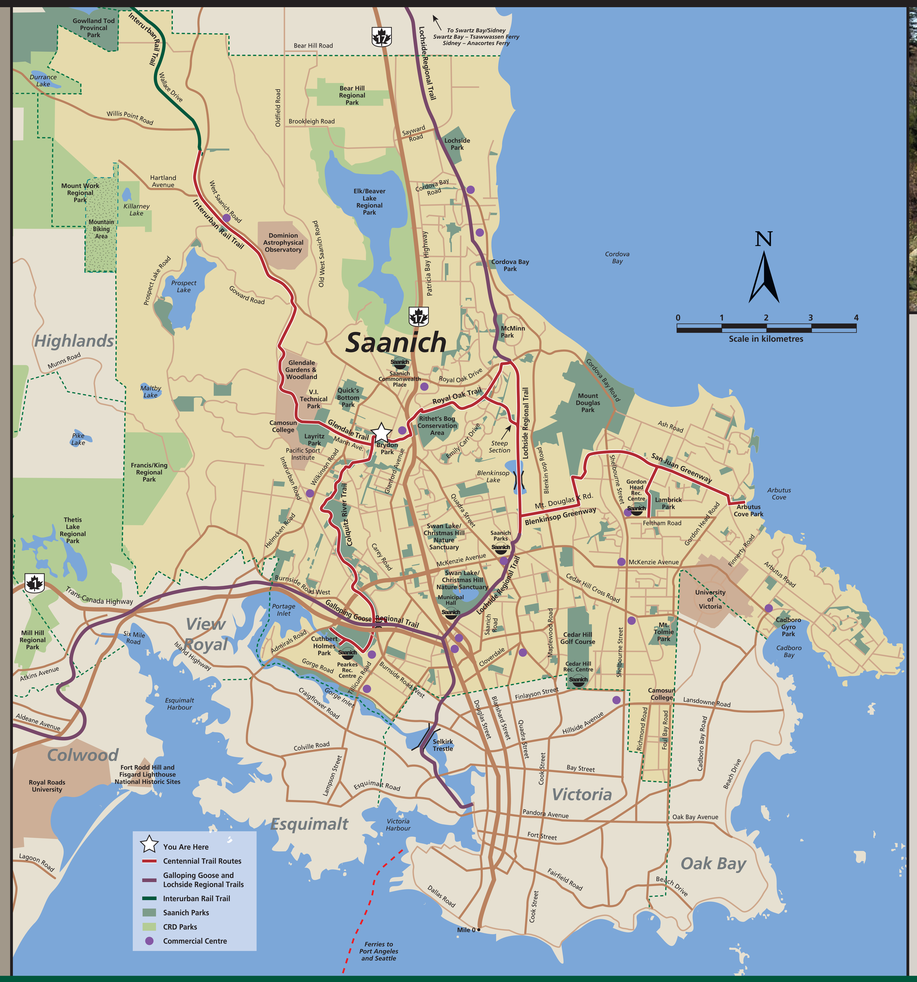
SAANICH 1906 100 2006

CENTENNIAL TRAILS

ROYAL OAK 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.

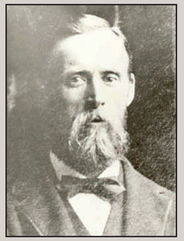


SAANICH continues to have a long-standing belief in the value of trails and greenways dating back to the 1960's. The Centennial Trails plans build upon the successes of existing trails and greenways such as the Colquitz River Park, the Galloping Goose Regional Trail, the Lochside Regional Trail, and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

BRYDON PARK



SAANICH ARCHIVES – Thomas Bydon

Thomas Brydon was a native of Selkirk, Scotland who immigrated to Canada with his wife, Mary Ann Malcolm in 1884. During Thomas' time in Victoria, he took up an interest in municipal politics and after moving to Saanich in 1906 became the first Reeve (Mayor) of Saanich. The Brydon home was built on 30 acres of land located between Mann and Glanford Avenues. He cleared the land and planted fruit trees on his acreage known as Craigo Park Farm. Brydon served a one year term as Reeve of Saanich before Frederick Quick assumed the responsibilities. By 1912, the Brydons had built a larger home on Mann Avenue and it was there that Thomas Brydon passed away at the age of 64 in 1921.*

Brydon Park, a 1.82ha (4.5 acre) neighbourhood park close to the geographic centre of Saanich was developed in 2005 to include a playground, sportcourt, trails, landscaping and improved lighting. The climbing rock is the first of its kind in a Saanich playground.

*Taken from Pages From The Past (Saanich News) article by Valerie Green, 29th March, 2006.

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

Brydon Park is directly connected to the Colquitz River Trail, the Royal Oak Trail and a number of local bikeway connections. From here you are a short distance away from Saanich Commonwealth Place to the north, and two distinct natural areas, Rithet's Bog Conservation Area to the east and Quick's Bottom Park to the west. Also, to the west are the Vancouver Island Technology Park, Camosun College Interurban Campus and the Glendale Gardens and Woodland.

MICHAEL VANLNSBERGHE – camas lily – *Camassia sp.*

Saanich