



# Bend in the Bow.

Design Development Plan  
Phase 2: Pearce Estate Park

What We Heard #1:  
Vision & Programming  
March–April 2016

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Report prepared: April 2016

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# What is Bend in the Bow?

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The City of Calgary has begun a long-term project to connect the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary (IBS), Pearce Estate Park and the adjoining green spaces along the Bow River—this project is called Bend in the Bow.

The goal of the project is to explore and address ways to preserve, enhance and celebrate the only urban-centred, federally-recognized bird sanctuary in Canada, while retaining the historic significance of the other lands located within the new area boundaries. The Design Development Plan (DDP) will integrate the various areas of the two phases into one cohesive and well-functioning landscape unit.

Phase 1 of this project is completed. It focused on the IBS and the Inglewood Wildlands. Please go to [calgary.ca/bendinthebow](http://calgary.ca/bendinthebow) for a review on what was discussed and heard at the engagement sessions, and how the preferred design concept evolved.

Phase 2 of the project is now underway. Phase 2 focuses on Pearce Estate Park and the adjoining green spaces along the Bow River towards the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary.

Building on Phase 1, Phase 2 will continue with the vision of “a park that tells stories,” with a focus on balancing the core values of nature, culture and education. Phase 2 will include habitat enhancements and multi-use programming, incorporate active recreation opportunities, education planning, and celebrate the cultural history of the site.



Figure 1: Bend in the Bow Timeline



NEED YEAR Round washroom!  
1st bridge! Brrr!

Take swimming River!!!

More/Better Playgrounds

Agree! bridge needed!

Please ~~be~~ OFF LEASH DOGS. More picnic tables with tables please!!

Walking My Dog

DOG

WALKING My DOGS XENA & SHILO CHASING SWIS!! THERE WAS A FENCE OFF LE

Map + 10 and kids were here

Dog Walking and Picnicing!

WATCHING DUCKS

More (any) off leash dog areas!

Walking out d and picnic 😊

Year long opened Bathrooms Please! 😊

NATURE WALK

Cross country SKIING

Relaxing by river! skipping stones!

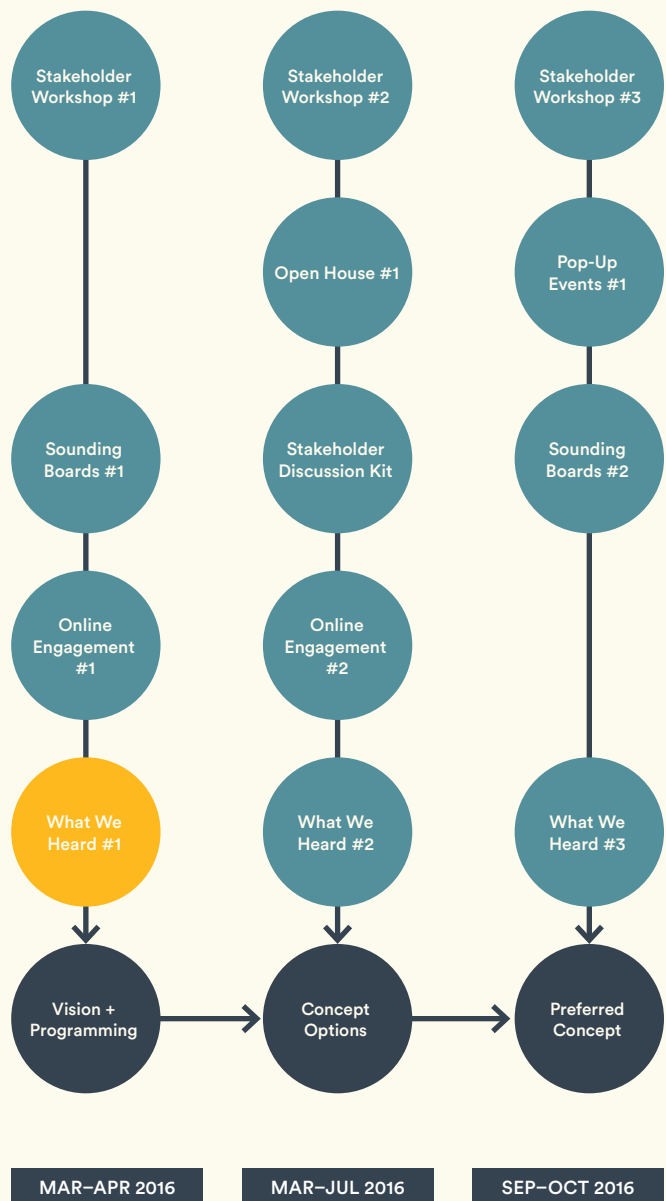
# Engagement Overview

Phase 2 engagement for the Bend in the Bow project has been broken down into three parts: Vision and Programming, Concept Options, and Preferred Concept.

Opportunities for key project stakeholders and the public to get involved and provide input in the project are outlined in Figure 2.

For the purposes of this What We Heard Report, the discussion will focus on the activities we took and the feedback we received to set the vision for Phase 2, and the type of programs citizens want to see incorporated into the design.

Figure 2: Bend in the Bow Engagement Process & Opportunities



During the Vision and Programming engagement process, we sought to understand what the most important existing site uses and elements are in Pearce Estate Park and the adjoining green spaces, and what our stakeholders and park users want to remain or see changed. The feedback will be used to help verify that the needs and desires for new and improved park and green space in the area align with the project's core values of nature, culture and education.

A variety of engagement activities were deployed to reach out to stakeholders and the public, such as a stakeholder workshop (March 2016), online engagement (April 6-20, 2016), and in-the-park sounding boards (April 13-20, 2016). Key stakeholder groups were selected based on their current use of and interest in Pearce Estate Park and the adjoining green spaces along Bow River towards the Inglewood Bird Sanctuary. This also included groups/ governing bodies that currently own land in proximity of the project site.



Figure 3: Bend in the Bow Phase 2 Engagement Network

*“The original Sam Livingston Fish Hatchery operated into the 1960’s from the basement of the old Molson Brewery across 9 Ave.*

***My parents took me there  
for Sunday walks.***

*The same great groundwater aquifer flows under both the old and the new location.”*

# What We Asked

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Stakeholder Workshop

## Stakeholder Workshop:

Participants at our Stakeholder Workshop (held in March 2016) were asked:

**What are your three best ideas for Phase 2 of Bend in the Bow? Why?**

**How would you prioritize these ideas?**

**How do these ideas build on the values (nature, culture, education)?**



Online Mapping Tool

## Online Mapping + Sounding Boards:

Through online engagement and in-the-park sounding boards, park users and the public were asked questions to help us understand what's working, what could be improved, and what they think the priorities are for Phase 2 of the project. To capture this understanding, citizens were asked to complete the following statements:

**I currently use this area for...**  
81 comments received

**I wish this could be...**  
265 comments received



Sounding Board in Pearce Estate Park



# What We Heard

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A high level of citizen engagement and interest in the project was demonstrated through the number of comments we received through our engagement activities. In total, just under 350 thoughts and creative ideas were shared.



**58**  
ideas from the sounding board + onsite map



**11**  
comment cards from the sounding board



**164**  
geo-tagged ideas from the online map



**2**  
emails to the project team



**63**  
comments from the workshop



verbal comments recorded by a note taker at the workshop

# What We Heard

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We heard a lot of feedback (81 comments) about how people are currently using the park. Here are some examples of the verbatim comments we received (more verbatim comments can be found in the appendix):

*“Jogging and walking”*

*“Cross-country skiing”*

*“We take our participants with disabilities here several times a week.”*

*“The catch and release pond is such a magnet for happy children engaged in an adventure. What a great resource.”*

*“I regularly cycle along the Bow River pathway through the park.”*

*“Relaxing by river!  
Skipping stones!”*

*“The swimming hole/beach created by the 2013 flood is well used.”*

## I currently use this area for...

*"Walking with my love!"*

*"Snowshoeing!"*

*"I use this area to park and change out of my clothes and into my paddling gear before hiking up to Harvie Passage rapids."*

*"An important bird habitat and watching area."*

*"Eating lunch... yummm"*

*"I use this park to walk my dog and socialize with other nature lovers. Watch the birds and ducks."*

*"Smelling the forest while strolling."*

*"I love to visit the fish hatchery."*

*"Since 2001, approximately 6000 Calgary science students each year leave their school buses and gear up with life jackets at the Inglewood Ball Diamonds. Students then walk across the baseball field to access the Cushing Boat Ramp to board river rafts."*

*"I walk an autistic child here weekly and he studies the plants."*

*"Dog walking and picnicing!"*

# What We Heard

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Examples of verbatim comments regarding how people wish they could use the park in the future (265 comments) are below, based on frequency of occurrence. More verbatim comments can be found in the appendix.

*“Provide spaces for unstructured activities; no single-use activities.”*

*“Harvie Passage... is a major sport, recreation and tourism facility that will be a world class attraction. BITB needs to put Recreation/Sport as one of the key pillars of this Park.”*

*“Enhance wildlife corridor between Pearce + IBS.”*

*“Manage/mitigate damage caused by recreation usage.”*

*“Educational information for water safety + use.”*

*“Increase walkers/users to increase safety perception.”*

# I wish this could be...

*“Winter activities + educational opportunities that can be used in winter.”*

*“Beautiful and currently peaceful site for picnics and family enjoyment. Cannot imagine MORE going on in this already complex space.”*

*“There needs to be a proper parking area and change room for paddlers.”*

*“Opportunity to design/create a true barrier-free area for Calgarians.”*

*“A space to showcase historical significance of the park space.”*

*“The naturalizing work and new habitat already completed at Pearce Estate Park should be preserved, protected and enhanced in light of any new development plans.”*

*“Public access to the boat launch needs to be reinstated.”*

*“The new channel will be used extensively as an education facility to teach canoeing, kayaking, & river safety. This should be reflected in the Education plan for the Park.”*

*“Playground is well used, but requires updating. Variety and accessibility should be key considerations.”*

*“Cultural amenities: a small performing arts space.”*

*“Reintroduction and protection of nature, processes and vegetation.”*

*“The Bow Habitat Station – hatchery, visitor centre, natural area – is such an amazing, world-class resource, it absolutely has to be front and center of any park planning addressing education, culture and environment.”*

*“Collaborative education programs between Bow Habitat + Calgary Parks + external education.”*

*“The educational value of the treatment wetlands and interpretive signage should be preserved and enhanced in Pearce Estate Park.”*

# What We Heard + What We Will Do

The feedback falls into three main categories:

- » Planning, programming, management suggestions
- » Physical improvements to the park
- » Recommended collaborations and partnerships

The following tables summarize what we heard, listed by most frequently heard for each category:

## Planning, Programming, Management

<i>Sub-categories</i>	<i>What We Heard</i>	<i>What We Will Do</i>
<b>General planning/ programming suggestions</b>	Provide spaces for unstructured activities; no single-use activities	» Maintain existing flexible use areas, and create new ones where suitable.
	Provide educational opportunities for all and facilitate school usage as part of physical education and learning programs	» Initiate discussion about collaboration with civic partners. Incorporate new education opportunities not currently represented.
	Tell stories about many different aspects about the lands	» Include a diversity of narratives and histories about the site to enrich the concept of “a park that tells stories.”
	Habitat enhancements: enhance and restore wildlife corridors, restore river edge, plant native species, Central Island is a wildlife refuge	» Incorporate ecological design principles into the Phase 2 concept. Focus on critical areas for habitat enhancement and conservation.
	Include recreation and sports as a key program element in Pearce Estate Park	» Active recreation opportunities will be included, with a focus on maintaining a balance between nature, culture and education.
	Increase access to the water, particularly for water craft	» Provide new locations where users can “touch the water.” Evaluate locations for water craft.
	Bend in the Bow River Use and Management Plan	» Although outside the scope of this project, it may be recommended as a topic of further study
	Bend in the Bow River Sustainability Plan	» Although outside the scope of this project, it may be recommended as a topic of further study
	Larger gathering area next to river (intersection of regional path and river)	» This area will be considered for flexible use in the concept options.



<b>Improve user-conflict strategies</b>	Develop strategies to manage shared access for pedestrians and cyclists	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Consider managing conflict through signage and education.</li> <li>» Evaluate user separation in key areas.</li> <li>» Consider new trails / pathways in key areas.</li> </ul>
<b>Improve surveillance and safety</b>	Concerns about bike paths, speed + use, location along river	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Concept design will address how to better manage conflict and safety. Recommend signage and wayfinding strategy, and review path locations</li> </ul>
	Some areas feel unsafe at night	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» To be reviewed further, safety assessment may be recommended for further study if deemed appropriate.</li> <li>» Consider lighting in key areas of concern.</li> </ul>
	Harvie Passage: safe entry channel and rescue staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» This comment is beyond the BITB project boundary, this feedback will be shared with the Harvie Passage project design team.</li> </ul>
<b>Maintenance and Management</b>	Dog bylaw not enforced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Out of scope of this project.</li> <li>» The project team has shared this feedback with Parks Operations.</li> </ul>
	Washroom: longer hours and year round	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Out of scope of this project.</li> <li>» The project team has shared this feedback with Parks Operations.</li> </ul>
	Ongoing monitoring to understand environmental impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Out of scope of this project.</li> <li>» The project team has shared this feedback with the Urban Conservation portfolio within Parks.</li> </ul>

# Capital Improvements

<i>Sub-categories</i>	<i>What We Heard</i>	<i>What We Will Do</i>
<b>Big moves (Create a destination)</b>	Create a provincial/national watersports centre (eg. world class whitewater park)	» This is currently outside the scope of the BITB project. Ideas such as this will be recorded as “big ideas” in the design development plan.
	Build cultural/multi-use amenities for opportunity to host festivals and larger events. Add in flexible picnic sites	» Feasibility and need for new cultural amenities will be considered in the conceptual design.
	Celebrate nature by developing a viewing, interpretation celebration centre for bird + other wildlife attracted to feeding zone on the river	» Feasibility and need for new natural amenities will be considered in the conceptual design.
	Create a new space that showcases historical significance of park	» Feasibility and need for new historic amenities will be considered in the conceptual design.
	Create a family-oriented recreational opportunities (eg. nine-hole disc golf course)	» Feasibility and need for new recreation amenities will be considered in the conceptual design.
<b>Park amenities (new)</b>	More and updated washroom facilities near the parking lot, at the Ball Diamonds, bankside	» Feasibility and need for new recreation amenities will be considered in the conceptual design.
	Facilities for Harvie Passage activities (change rooms, boat storage, education room)	» Feasibility and need for new recreation amenities will be considered in the conceptual design.
	Parking (more) for cars and trailers	» Feasibility and need for new recreation amenities will be considered in the conceptual design.
	Playground (new): consider adventure or natural playground, splash park, Pooh sticks bridge	» Feasibility and need for new recreation amenities will be considered in the conceptual design.
<b>Furniture/ accessories</b>	Doggie poop bag dispensers	» Comment will be included in recommendations for maintenance of facility.
	Bird food dispenser	» The mandate of The City of Calgary Parks does not allow the active feeding of birds.
	Lighting: more, potentially solar-powered	» To be recommended as part of Detailed Design Plan.



	Trash cans (more)	» The project team will evaluate the quantity and location of site furnishings.
	Fire pits and BBQs	» The project team will evaluate the quantity and location of site furnishings.
<b>Rebuild/renew/ rethink</b>	Cushing boat launch: reopen to public	» The project team has shared this feedback with Calgary Roads and Transportation Planning.
	Rebuild Harvie Passage	» Out of scope of this project. » Currently in the design stage under Provincial jurisdiction.
	Playground: update for variety and accessibility	» Feasibility and need for new recreation amenities will be considered in the conceptual design.
	Enhanced educational facilities that tell the story of the physical transformation of the lands in Phase 1 and Phase 2	» Opportunities to educate visitors about the natural and cultural history of the study area have been included in the concept options.
	Parking lot (fix existing—poor grading has resulted in large pooling during rainy weather)	» Improvements to the existing parking lot are being evaluated, including onsite management of stormwater.
	Pathways: more accessible for people with reduced mobility, mitigate pedestrian/cyclist conflicts, move away from river to protect edge and for pedestrian safety	» Where appropriate, measures to reduce conflict between users are being evaluated.
	More signage to mediate conflicts, educational and interpretive opportunities, to guide people to amenities	» Incorporate signage and wayfinding strategy into the concept design.
<b>Connectivity</b>	A walkway connecting 19 Street interchange/bus stop and River Pathway along the south side of 17th/Blackfoot to open up access	» Public access to 19th street in this corridor is being evaluated.
<b>Park amenities (opposition)</b>	No single use recreational areas	» Feasibility and need for new recreation amenities will be considered in the conceptual design.
	No access road	» Access for emergency and maintenance vehicles is required throughout the park. The appearance and location of this road will be considered during concept design.

## Partnerships and collaborations

Many of the comments suggested creating partnerships or collaborations with other organizations, civic entities, and regulatory groups including:

- » Bow Habitat Station regarding educational programs (potentially also with education groups)
- » City of Calgary (other Business Units)
- » Inglewood Bird Sanctuary
- » The Province (to plan Harvie Passage and associated amenities)
- » Fish hatchery
- » Education groups (for enhanced delivery of programs)
- » Summer camps
- » Research programs
- » Whitewater sport and other recreational experts

The suggestion to collaborate with other entities builds on the core values of Nature, Culture, and Education, and fosters a strong sense of community pride. Calgary Parks will begin or continue conversations with these groups to grow a stronger connection in the facilitation of park networks into the future.

*“During the naturalization of  
Pearce Estate Park,  
RiverWatch staff planted*

***hundreds of balsam  
poplar cuttings***

*along the coldwater and effluent streams.”*

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## What do you think are the best ideas?

As part of the stakeholder workshop, participants were asked to prioritize and group their ideas around the core values. The following list provides key ideas under each value that were developed through this exercise:

### Nature

- » Habitat enhancement + appreciation
- » Appropriately balance usage/ access/interpretation and celebration of water
- » Breedings Bird Survey of Pearce Estates and Biodiversity Monitoring Ongoing
- » River Use Plan
- » Balance between wild-ness density + safety, addressing factors such as: *regular patrols, speeding bikes, camps*

### Culture

- » Tell Pearce's story to ensure legacy
- » Balance nature/culture/education
- » River Use Plan
- » Opportunities for existing irrigation story as part of heritage landscape story
- » Archeology opportunity: find the story beneath our feet

### Education

- » Education opportunities for: *cultural stories, natural history, connection of space, river flooding, water education, wayfinding, archeology/gemology, gravel beds/ flooding strategy*
- » Reduce pressure on Inglewood Bird Sanctuary through collaborative programming with Pearce Estate
- » Habitat enhancement + appreciation
- » River Use Plan
- » Tell Pearce's story
- » Documentary feature

### Recreation

Pearce Estate Park and the adjoining green spaces along the Bow River provide new opportunities for active recreational use. Because of this, participants at the stakeholder workshop were asked to consider recreational opportunities.

The following list provides key considerations:

- » Multi-use amenities + usage/visitation balance
- » River Use Plan
- » Provide spaces for unstructured activities; no single-use activities
- » Better facilities to support Harvie Passage such as: *better river access for boaters, bridges to island (two potential locations identified), toilets near river, changerooms*
- » Parking + clubhouse for Harvie Passage activities (change rooms, boat storage, education room), river right or left

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### What We Will Do

This comprehensive feedback and set of ideas will help to guide the development of the concept options. The aim is to show a balanced level of programming and variety of design ideas that reflect what citizens have expressed as important in this areas and within the park and green spaces.

*“Before the flood and destruction  
we used to do*

## ***swiftwater rescue training***

*here. We also had a weekly evening session  
where we introduced newer paddlers safely  
to a white water environment.”*

## **Building on the Vision: “A park that tells stories”**

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To build on the vision for Bend in the Bow as “a park that tells stories”, citizens were encouraged to share their stories and memories of the parks.

Some of the suggested ideas that were brought forward through engagement include telling stories about:

- » William Pearce and his contribution to the city, the province and western Canada
- » Transformation of the landscape (past, ongoing and future)
- » The 2013 flood, flood processes and functions
- » Grand Trunk Railway
- » Old Headworks

Citizens also presented various suggestions for ways to share these stories with citizens and visitors:

- » Creating a documentary feature and sharing through an onsite kiosk and/or online
- » Geocaching
- » An interpretive app for mobile phones

These stories will continue to inform the development of the program and design as the project evolves.

# Next Steps

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The ideas and feedback we collected to help support the vision and types of programming for Phase 2 will be used to inform the concept options (to be presented in May 2016). Through an iterative process of design, evaluation and revision, the project team will develop options that strike a balance between the values of nature, culture and education.

The following items are out-of-scope and cannot be directly influenced by this project:

- » Harvie Passage
- » Bow Habitat Station
- » Bend in the Bow River Use and Management Plan
- » Bend in the Bow River Sustainability Plan  
(including environmental impact monitoring)
- » Maintenance and management issues  
(such as bylaw enforcement, washroom hours)
- » Existing public art
- » Creating a recreational hub
- » Boat launch / River use

Any feedback collected through this project process on the above items will be shared with the appropriate management groups.

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To keep up to date on the project information and opportunities for public participation, visit [calgary.ca/bendinthebow](http://calgary.ca/bendinthebow).

# Appendix: Verbatim Comments

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## Comment Cards

1. We take our participants with disabilities here several times a week - Also bring grand babies here. My husband and I come here often as we live near the park. Beautiful park.
2. I use this park to walk my dog and socialize with other nature lovers. Watch the birds and ducks. I walk an autistic child here weekly and he studies the plants. I would like to see doogie poop bags available like other parks also, an outdoor lost + found. Mailbox or container for lost toys, scarfs, leashes, gloves etc., I along with other females, have had a few scary experiences with a flasher who tries to sound like an owl, it would be nice to have a bird food dispenser, also have pet charity parties in the park. Maybe a food truck outside on the weekends and undercover security?
3. Love the park. We walk our on leash dog everyday. Too many off leash dogs need to be patrolled.
4. It's a nice place. It is well used but the parking lot, it is a disgrace! It's seldom swept and the leaves etc. have accumulated along the curbs for years literally turned to compost. Much of the curbing needs repair and some of this black top. In rainy weather a pond exists at the south end – I mentioned it a year ago it was 80 feet end to end. Cat-tails were growing in it. I walk my dog here 2-3 times weekly have done so for years. Please clean up this parking area. Thank you.
5. Reserve picnic areas
6. Pooh sticks bridge please
7. Open the bathrooms all year round! Thanks mom with 3 little kids
8. Pooh sticks bridge
9. Pooh sticks bridge
10. You should open the bathroom in the morning
11. Pooh sticks bridge

## Verbal Comments

1. “Safety: bike paths, speed + use, location along river and relation of homeless camps  
Space: unstructured  
Usage: Access, integration of walk”
2. “Too many school groups: over subscribed at IBS – redirect to Pearce Estates and Bow Habitat Station (education opportunities – work together with IBS and Bow Habitat)  
Facilities: Club house; change rooms/washrooms close to parking lot, boat house  
Pearce Estates: Want more of the story, to be more educated in the history”
3. “Habitat Enhancements: Under planting native species, Central Island is a wildlife refuge.  
Multi-use Amenities: Flexible picnic sites – music and paddle festivals  
Educational Opportunities: Collaborative with Bow Habitat, City of Calgary; fish hatchery, disc golf and other water sports, cultural, heritage; Grand Trunk Railway”
4. “Better Access to the River: Harvie, boat access, facilities, washrooms  
Enhanced Education Opportunities: Use of double sided signs for disc golf and education on the history and culture of site (example of B.C. disc course)  
Habitat Restoration  
Short Documentary: People can go and press a button and watch a short 20 min feature on the history of site – also available online.”
5. “Access to the river: opening up Cushing Bridge  
Retaining existing natural growth: Keep the ugly trees, which owls and other birds use for their nests  
Increase school usage  
Weir: Public art piece is not CPTED, it is unsafe at night, as people gather there to do illicit activities  
More information on Pearce: Put interpretation signs on the land  
Sensitive to the habitat that supports the bird sanctuary”



## Sounding Board

1. More/Better Playground
2. Picnic Shed. Be responsible with your dogs
3. Wish there was a bridge
4. Agree! Bridge needed!
5. Me too
6. More (any) off leash dog areas!
7. More BBQ Stand/Picnic Table...Pls. pick-up the dog pooh. pls
8. Kids Park!
9. Pooh sticks Bridge
10. Less children
11. Year long opened Bathrooms Please! :)
12. Walking my 2 dogs xena & shady. <3 ED
13. Chasing squirrels wish there was area with fence off leash
14. Do not agree
15. More lighting into and around park. To pathways!!! Solar powered ???
16. Ditto!
17. Need year round washroom
18. Yes Please!
19. Or here (bridge)
20. Sex house
21. Need a year round washroom please
22. More garbages fill over park
23. Me too. Bathroom Needed!!
24. Need a better parking lot - more stalls
25. Washrooms year round
26. A larger parking area (w/o water closing many parking spots half of the year)
27. Bathroom really needed Please!!
28. Year round washroom
29. Year round bathroom
30. Geo-caching
31. Bridges to cross river
32. Free gay sex house!!
33. Sun Tan
34. Walking with my Love!
35. Matteo and Lucca Were Here
36. Dog walking and picnicing!
37. Walk with Aunt!
38. Snow Shoeing!
39. Walking with my friends :)
40. Hike
41. And toilets open all year. Love the park and all the maintenance you put into it GREAT!
42. Cross country skiing
43. Jogging and walking
44. Nature Walk
45. I love to visit the fish Hatchery
46. Walking our dog and picnics :)
47. Please no off leash dogs! More picnic tables with fire pits please :)
48. Does not agree
49. Agrees
50. Use fire pits for weekend BBQ's + playground
51. Relaxing by river! Skipping stones!
52. Take dog swimming in river!!!
53. Accessing the Riverwalk
54. The play ground and wild life (my toddler loves it)
55. Smelling the forest while strolling love the squirrels
56. Eating lunch... yummm
57. A natural teaching area
58. Coolest part
59. Awesome!

## Stakeholder Workshop

1. Provide spaces for unstructured activities; no single-use activities
2. School usage of disc course as part of phys ed.
3. Multi-use amenities + usage/visitation balance
4. Recreation amenities ie. BBQ pits to go with picnic tables
5. How will increased visitation to the site be managed? People created their own paths to Harvie Passage (when open). Dog vs people/conflict wildlife/water.
6. Parking lots is maxed
7. Viewing, interpretation celebration centre/go to location for bird + other wildlife attracted to feeding zone on the river (weir + rapids area) - Pelicans, Cormorants, Merganser fish
8. Possible infrastructure to interface with the river
9. Natural Play space
10. Small festival site
11. Cultural amenities: a small performing arts space
12. Re-introduction and protection of Natural processes, riparian species and wildlife; bio-engineering banks, use of riparian species
13. Overarching theme: Habitat enhancement and protection

14. Education opportunities
  - cultural
  - natural history
  - collaborative
  - connection of space
  - river flooding
15. Redirect some (20%) of school groups from IBS to Pearce Estates Take some pressure off of IBS
 

Education:

  - Survey Story
  - water education
  - wayfinding
  - archeology/gemology
  - gravel beds/flooding strategy
16. Collaborative education programs between Bow Habitat + Calgary Parks + external education
17. Off water - inland historical centre ie Will Pearce
 

And other elements in the area including Grand Trunk Railway

Old Headworks a part of the experience?
18. Education + rest nodes between Pearce Estate + Inglewood Bird Sanctuary/Wildlands
19. A space to show case historical significance of the park space
20. Need to coordinate where groups / education messages so there isn't conflicts
21. Education Centre about River flooding
22. Story telling of cultural/historical elements
23. Integrate the river
24. Concept only: winter activities + educational opportunities that can be used in winter
25. River Use Plan
26. Overarching Theme
  - Better facilities to support Harvie Passage
  - Better river access for boaters
  - Bridge to island x 2
  - Toilets near river
  - change-rooms
27. Parking + clubhouse for Harvie Passage activities (change rooms, boat storage, education room )
 

River right or left
28. Tell Pearce's story - it's currently lost in the fish
29. Documentary feature (check YouTube)
30. Appropriately balance usage/access/interpretation and celebration of water
31. Breedings Bird Survey of Pearce Estates
 

Biodiversity Monitoring Ongoing
32. Balance between wild-ness density + safety
  - regular patrols?
  - Speeding bikes
  - Camps
33. Balance nature/culture/education
34. Barrier free access including river
35. Enhanced Educational Operations
 

Commemoration of contribution of Will Peace to Calgary, Alberta and Western Canada

  - at all levels
  - Use of media, apps, signage (dual purpose)
36. Ongoing monitoring on impacts to nature
37. 2005 BIA (sandy has a copy)
38. Remove the weir public art - I don't go there anymore because it is a CPTED nightmare
39. Share the Pearce story
40. Targeted education programs which focus on flood/flood processes and functions
41. Enhanced angling access and opportunities in PEP, and a long the Bend in the Bow corridor
42. Enhanced delivery of educational programs ie. School programs, guided walks, interpretive signage through the park and Bend in Bow Corridors
43. Incorporate bioengineering technique to re-vegetate banks and provided habitat for fish and wildlife
44. Sheltered picnic areas
45. More picnic tables throughout the park
46. Repopulate park with younger trees
47. More use by summer camps from inside the city
48. Connection to IBS program
49. Connection to IBS wildlife corridor
50. Focus on nature not man, no access road
51. Increase walkers/users to increase safety perception
52. Family oriented 9 Hole Disc Golf course
53. Possible use of connect or portion for disc golf
54. Habitat enhancement+ appreciation
55. Rehab of river edge to accommodate wildlife corridor
 

Includes, every time moving pathways back from water
56. Need to plant native tree species in park. Many of the trees are at the end of their life and dangerous
57. Keep as much of the existing natural vegetation as possible
58. Open up the "pinch point" under Cushing bridge for the wildlife corridor
59. Generally keep the wildlife corridor as clear of use as possible
60. Retain 'old growth' 'ugly' trees for nesting for owls and ducks

61. Keep regional pathways for passive activity
62. Opportunities for student education field trips
  - Hatchery
  - wetlands
  - weir; history - irrigation
63. Better pathways for use by Elderly and Wheelchair access
64. Frisbee golf
65. Wayfinding
66. More updated public washroom facilities
67. Room + capacity for larger events (reinforced turf??)
68. Larger gathering area next to river. It gets popular as it's the intersection of Regional Path + river
69. Changerooms located adjacent to parking lot (did you know that the parking lot is a popular 'cruising' spot. Gross)
70. Kayak + Canoe storage at parking lot in Pearce Estate (then we won't have to drive there!)
71. Educational information for water safety and use. (so many member for public approach kayakers. What a great opportunity)!
72. Archeology opportunity find the story beneath our feet
73. Discussion more about the people who came here first
74. Opportunities for existing irrigation story as part of heritage landscape story
75. Tell the story of the gravel bed islands (changes), historical overlays, geology, flooding etc.
76. Swiftwater rescue staff on site at Harvie Passage for safety and education.
 

A better use of funds than the CFD "safety boom". The fire department is unable to respond in a timely manner. They also waste resources "responding" unnecessarily
77. Canadian Slalom kayak championship hosted at Harvie Passage 2018
78. Amphitheatre on the island for music, etc.
79. Enhance wildlife corridor between Pearce + IBS
80. Upgrade parking lot
  - seasonal pond (large) at south end due to settlings
81. Manage/mitigate damage cause by recreation usage
82. Integration of east side of river bank development into bend in the bow Phase 2
83. Toilet, changing rooms at bank Side
84. Plan for bend in the bow into a river management
85. Adequate truck/trailer parking in park - bank side
86. Integrated boat access to the river from Pearce Park
87. Improve cover for wildlife at pinch points
88. Opportunity to design/create a true barrier-free area for Calgarians and disabilities
89. Access and celebrate "the bow" the water
90. Address main path problems - cyclist, walkers
91. No single use areas in Pearce Estates, outside of trout pond. le disc-golf uses increased space
92. Better river access for boaters
93. Many people come to Peace Estate to enjoy the river bank and to watch the recreational boaters on Harvie Passage. To facilitate this we need:
  - 2 bridges to the island at Harvie Passage
  - viewing areas
  - benches along the river
94. A toilet and change room is require for the Harvie Passage users.
  - Change room located either at parking lot or right by the river
  - toilet needs to be located right by the river
95. Pearce Estate will/is the main access to Harvie Passage. Wee need a "close to river" boat drop off point/pick up point
96. An interpretive app. For mobile phones that interprets the history of the evolution of the landscape with in Bend in the Bow Phase 2 Area
97. Bridge access to what is now the gravel island
98. Reintroduce disc gold to Pearce Estate Park - handicap and senior friendly
99. Overarching theme: reintroduction and protection of nature, processes and vegetation. Revegetation using native riparian species of the phase 2 lands and linking to phase 1
100. Enhanced educational facilities: a series of dual purpose interpretive nodes that tell the story of the physical transformation of the lands in Phase 1 and Phase 2. Dual purpose: integrated with existing recreational facilities as appropriate.
 

Overarching Theme: commemoration of contribution of will Pearce to Calgary, Alberta, Western Canada

## Online

1. Bike/pedestrian connectivity from Pearce estates park, across the railtrack south of Pearce Gardens condo buildings, and going west until reaching 15 St East using the existing right-of-way/green space.
2. A walkway connecting the 19 Street interchange/bus stop and the River Pathway along the south side of 17th/Blackfoot would do a lot to open up access. Feels like a restricted dead-end on the south side of the road.
3. Harvie Passage is the first urban manmade whitewater park in Canada. It is a major sport, recreation and tourism facility that will be a world class attraction. Bend in the Bow needs to put Recreation/Sport as one of the key pillars of this Park.
4. I currently undress in the parking lot to get into my clothes for paddling and then after paddling change out of my wet gear back to my street clothes. There needs to be a proper parking area and change room for paddlers
5. Playground is well used, but requires updating. Variety and accessibility should be key considerations.
6. The interpretive themes and signage already completed by Alberta Ecotrust are very well done and should be preserved and enhanced in light of any new development plans for Pearce Estate Park.
7. Thousands of volunteer hours and \$millions have gone into the naturalization and interpretation of Pearce Estate Park. The amazing Bow Habitat station should not be impacted by any future recreational development.
8. Ensure that local experts from paddling clubs, centres, and organizations (e.g. The AWA) are properly involved in both the Passage redesign, and - relevant to this consultation - planning access, washrooms etc. in the BITB overhaul.
9. Public boat access needs to be made available below Harvie Passage. Maybe not at the previous location but at a point below the passage
10. Amazing one of a kind in city whitewater park. Ease of access. Great potential for future sport development.
11. Great facility for kayaking and canoeing! The City is very lucky to have this in such a central location!
12. Parking Area and boat launch area for Harvie Passage
13. Needs restoration conducted by experienced and knowledgeable individuals, not just the lowest bidder.
14. Access to a public boat launch would be great. Access to the Bow river within city limits is tough.
15. Needs amenities like washrooms/change rooms, parking, boat rentals/storage and landscaping to go along with the World Class Watersport Facility being rebuilt.
16. A boat launch below the weir, and a take-out above it, would be nice for recreation and fishing.
17. Though there is already a small playground on the Pierce Estates, it would be nice to see the addition of the new style "Splash Parks" for the kids. I believe it would draw a lot more people to the park and it would make it so much more fun.
18. Improved (ie. safe access) for pedestrians and cyclists from east side of Bow River.
19. Build a Provincial/National Watersports Centre here so that generations of Calgarians can enjoy the whitewater sport facility. Clubhouse, education centre, change rooms, boat storage, etc. Similar to the Calgary Canoe Club on Glenmore Reservoir.
20. Public access boat launch
21. Save for cyclists
22. Public boat launch and boat trailer parking
23. Boat access and parking for truck and trailer would be a useful tool for the people who enjoy fishing or floating down the river in the south part of the city
24. Boat trailer parking for nearby public boat launch/ takeout for city drifts
25. Boat launch parking could be here
26. The fishing community is in dire need of more boat launches for the river, we've been losing access for years.
27. A boat take out to replace the one that is locked and unused at princes island park
28. Boat access for river-worthy craft must be addressed. The Bow upstream of Fish Creek park is under-utilized by competent river users due to access challenges. This lack of access only promotes the use of unsafe float tubes and cheap dinghies.
29. Please ensure that recreational features are designed by knowledgeable consultants. Previous features on the north side of Harvie Passage were not friendly to users. Many friendly waves have been designed and are tourist attractions in the U.S.
30. The new Channel will be used extensively as an Education facility to teach canoeing, kayaking, and river safety. This should be reflected in the Education plan for the Park.
31. The parking and change room facilities for paddlers would be located here

32. Can you try to minimize the riprap along the edge of the river and create access points for people who want to recreate as well as those that want to spectate along the river? More riparian vegetation and less hard engineering would be nice.
33. Would love to see whitewater park experts involved in re-design of the Harvie passage rapids so the features are more practical for kayakers and rafters.
34. A public boat launch is needed below Harvie Passage. A boat ramp and parking lot on the east side of the river would be offer a good alternative to the boat launch on the west side of the river
35. Keep it wild! No more manicuring, please! No names of big business donors! It's tacky!
36. The playground here is very old, will need replacement soon. How about an 'adventure' or 'natural' playground? It's the perfect spot - lots of open space and parking for the crowds of kids that would surely be drawn to a unique playspace.
37. Better signage for directions would be very useful. Last time I was there, I didn't see much along those lines to tell us where we might like to go, or how to get back to the parking lot.
38. Can this area be uses as a parking lot for river boat access?
39. Provide a public boat take out above Harvie Passage for the safe exit of the river above the passage.
40. Test
41. The current service road could serve as a public vehicle access to the Harvie Passage Redevelopment
42. I wish
43. Plant trees to screen visual path between Deerfoot and the River. This would benefit people walking the riverside pathways and remove the issue of distracted motorists calling 911 when they see people using the Harvie Passage (when it reopens).
44. Vehicle parking and trailered boat access needed at the end of the Harvie Passage low flow channel
45. A boat take-out / put-in above Harvie would service the fishing community's need for a replacement for the boat access removed from Prince's Island.
46. Is it feasible to have public vehicle access at the back of the Habitat Station to the upstream side of Harvie Passage
47. Construct a new, longer portage channel with less white water for public to bypass the Harvie Passage structure. Could be built and incorporated into the area redevelopment
48. A boat launch up here would be nice. im sure this would bring revenue to the City as it would bring more visitors who want to fish new sections of the bow river
49. Drift boat access for anglers on the Bow River is minimal within the city limits. This could be a great location for a well maintained boat launch. Currently the only boat access south of the irrigation weir, and that access is less than ideal
50. Boat launch/takeout
51. I wish we could have a usable boat launch above and below the passage. I like to drift my trailered drift boat on the Bow River for Trout fishing, but the City has been closing all boat launches and access points along the Bow. We need more access
52. Boat launch please
53. An alternate location for a boat launch could be here
54. A whitewater park for paddlers would be great. Please consult with the whitewater community
55. Public boat launch
56. Boat Launch Please!
57. A viable safe entry channel down to the top of the Harvie Passage
58. This
59. A world class whitewater park. Designed by professionals experienced in building whitewater parks, instead of a handout to local contractor buddies of city council.
60. It would be great if City Parks could install and maintain a permanent washroom facility at the Inglewood Ball Diamonds for use by ball players and river paddlers. There is no space for such a facility at the Cushing Boat Ramp.
61. There is a row of trees in the ball park outfield, but they are separated from the river by a chainlink fence. The fence could b removed or moved further into the ball park with additional plantings to establish a wildlife corridor.
62. It would be great if paddling features in the low water channel were also compatible for the passage of fish and large rafts.
63. It would be great if the riverbank, street and fencing situation could be modified to improve a wildlife corridor between Pearce Estate and the IBS.
64. This facility has the potential to be a great place for Calgarians to come & learn the sport of paddling, as well as a place where those world-class paddlers who live in our city could come and train. Perhaps Calgary could even host the competitions

65. Please rebuild Harvey's passage, it was a great gathering place for people to take part in water sport.
66. A world class whitewater park like many smaller cities around the globe have. A venue like that could generate revenue for the city and would cost less than the peace bridge.
67. The educational value of the treatment wetlands and interpretive signage should be preserved and enhanced in Pearce Estate Park
68. The amazing native cottonwoods of Pearce Estate Park are aging and a sustainability plan could include an education and replanting program.
69. The 13 groundwater wells servicing the Fish Hatchery could be part of the interpretive natural and human history interpretation at Pearce Estate Park.
70. The naturalizing work and new habitat already completed at Pearce Estate Park should be preserved, protected and enhanced in light of any new development plans.
71. Please provide better boat access, toilets, & change rooms for Harvie Passage when it is rebuilt, and reopen the Cushing Bridge boat launch to public access
72. A whitewater kayaking play park with options for beginners to practice fundamental skills and holes/waves for intermediate/advanced playboaters. I firmly believe that this will require a specialized contractor to design and supervise construction.
73. The problem of homeless shelters along the southern boundary of Pearce Estate is an ongoing issue with a need for constant monitoring.
74. Ultimately, it would be best to include Ft. Calgary and the Calgary Zoo as components of the Bend in the Bow.
75. I would love to see a paved boat launch that also had some parking. The parking would not have to be that close, but having access to the river is critical for this development. Thank you for your consideration.
76. Restoring access for launching canoes at 17th Ave would be greatly appreciated.
77. Use this area for running/biking
78. Great area for a public beach
79. Islands in the Bow River represent important bird habitat protected from human and dog intrusion. Albeit a new island, this park space could be considered protected from human access without any bridge construction.
80. Some of the native cottonwoods in Pearce Estate look to be about 100 yrs old, perhaps correlating to seed propagation with the major floods of 1902, 1915, 1929 and/or 1932. This would make great interpretive content for signage or programs.
81. The plaque commemorating William Pearce - now located north of the regional pathway - might be better relocated near the parking lot where more people would see it as they begin their visit to the park. Additional interpretive signage could help.
82. RiverWatch hasn't conducted education programs in Pearce Estate Park for the past decade, in part because the washrooms are only open mid-May to mid-October and we begin operations two weeks earlier in May and run two weeks later in Oct.
83. The original Sam Livingston Fish Hatchery operated into the 1960's from the basement of the old Molsen Brewery across 9 Ave. My parents took me there for Sunday walks. The same great groundwater aquifer flows under both the old and the new location.
84. Kayaking surf waves that we cannot currently use. The flood damage needs to be repaired
85. Get rid of the giant puddle please.
86. We used to use this area for whitewater kayaking. It would be great if it was re-designed and fixed to allow us to use it again. Thank you
87. Really looking forward to Harvie Passage being rebuilt so I can canoe thru the easy channel again.
88. Need a boat launch with access road at end of Harvie Passage
89. A good location for a parking lot, boat ramp, toilet, and change room.
90. This section could be so much more (wave trains, boulder gardens ) the previous development was 80% elite kayaker use and 20 % average kayaker use. This needs to be reversed this time.
91. A good location for a parking lot, boat ramp, toilet, and change room.
92. Signs needed to guide people to the boat launches and to the toilets
93. It's a very long walk to carry a canoe to the river here!
94. Re-build Harvie Passage and restore the area.
95. Re-open this river access.
96. Keep this area natural.
97. Restore this area and develop strategies to manage pedestrian access.

98. The parking lot is TOO SMALL for current park use and is in need of major repair. Has very poor drainage, roads with potholes and space is very limited. Expansion is desperately needed.
99. Good background information on William Pearce can be read in Kevin Van Tighem's "Heart Waters" pg 202-203. More interpretive signage would be nice to augment the plaque now at this location.
100. Would be great if the playground could be more of a "natural play space" vs. traditional playground.
101. Brown sign on Black foot needs to be updated.
102. Brown sign on Blackfoot needs to be updated with current amenities!
103. Need better signage into Pearce Estate Park.
104. Winterized/year round washrooms are required for the amount of annual use Pearce Estate Park has!
105. Naturalized area needs to remain natural/space for biodiversity. Need a balance between use for people and wildlife. Fortunate that we have the amount of wildlife able to live in a green space close to the heart of the city - do not compromise this.
106. Access to the 17th Ave boat launch ramp or construction of another boat launch site below Harvie Passage would be great for recreational anglers, opening up this part of the river and taking pressure off other heavily-fished stretches further down.
107. On busy weekends in the summer, the parking lot is packed full of primarily picnic users. Needs an expansion or alternative parking nearby to accommodate any proposed additions to this area.
108. A boat launch for drift boats, canoes, kayaks and rafts that can be accessed by a truck and trailer.
109. Over the years, I've seen deer and a weasel use the pathway under Blackfoot Trail to move between Pearce Estate Park and the IBS. Is it possible to better enhance this pathway underpass as a better wildlife corridor?
110. There is currently a park bench 10m to the north of the Cushing Boat Ramp. It would be helpful if this bench were moved as it impedes vehicles maneuvering to back down the Cushing Boat Ramp.
111. Public access to the boat launch needs to be reinstated
112. Don't split the Bend issues from the Passage, and then announce that it is not possible to address the need for access, washrooms, etc. because the Bend has already been redeveloped. Fix the Passage to fit with the Bend's infrastructure too.
113. An important bird habitat and watching area. see:<http://ebird.org/ebird/canada/hotspot/L375278>
114. Development into dedicated kayak facility to foster the sport.
115. The area feels very natural. Wild creatures find haven there.
116. Harvie Passage for paddling. (before flood)
117. No dog bylaw enforced as the field is riddled with pet defecation.
118. Before the flood and destruction we used to do swiftwater rescue training here. we also had a weekly evening session where we introduced newer paddlers safely to a white water environment.
119. The boat launch need to be made available to the public as a put in and take out point
120. I park and walk with my kayak through the park to get to the river.
121. I regularly bird watch in the park and along the shore
122. I use this area to park and change out of my clothes and into my paddling gear before hiking up to Harvie Passage rapids
123. Fire pits and picnic sites are GREAT! I use this space with family and friends! Hard to find in the City and well used/loved by the public.
124. I regularly cycle along the Bow River pathway through the park
125. Birding
126. Birding
127. Parking
128. Beautiful and currently peaceful site for picnics and family enjoyment. Cannot imagine MORE going on in this already complex space.
129. The swimming hole/beach created by the 2013 flood is well used. This is not the appropriate spot for a boat launch. Closer to the bridge (old launch site) is better.
130. Since 2001, approximately 6000 Calgary science students each year launch their rafts onto the Bow River using the Cushing Boat Ramp.
131. Since 2001, approximately 6000 Calgary science students each year leave their school buses and gear up with lifejackets at the Inglewood Ball Diamonds. Students then walk across the baseball field to access the Cushing Boat Ramp to board river rafts.
132. The Cushing Bridge is the only cantilever bridge in Calgary and the design is interpreted to 6000 Calgary science students each year.

133. This 300m section of riverbank features concrete slab and rundlestone riprap used as erosion armourment and is interpreted to 6000 Calgary science students each year.
134. RiverWatch staff contributed many hours of consultation to help develop the BHS interpretive centre.
135. Portable toilets are installed by RiverWatch at the Inglewood Ball Diamonds for use by 6000 Calgary science students each year as they stage and prepare for a float trip on the Bow River, launching from the Cushing Boat Ramp.
136. The fish hatchery places no fish into the Bow River and the hatchery does not use river water to propagate fish. These are common misconceptions.
137. During 1995-2000, RiverWatch accessed the Bow River through a partnership with the Sam Livingston Fish Hatchery in order to launch student field studies below the weir.
138. Three times during the 2000's, RiverWatch students and staff partnered with the City to plant native vegetation along a rehabilitated riverbank. The 2013 flood erased 100's of manhours of volunteer work.
139. During 1995-2000, thousands of RiverWatch students began their river field study with a tour of the hatchery trout tanks.
140. Since 2010. RiverWatch has used space on the south side of the Inglewood Ball Park for vehicle parking prior to launching boats at Cushing Bridge. There is no parking space possible at Cushing.. We first off-load boats, then park and walk back.
141. During 1995-2000, thousands of science students began their RiverWatch field studies by launching just downstream of the weir. A landscape redesign made vehicle access to the weir impossible and we lost our boat launch site.
142. During the naturalization of Pearce Estate Park, RiverWatch staff planted hundreds of balsam poplar cuttings along the coldwater and effluent streams.
143. The poplar trees around the parking lot are male hybrid clones planted by the city to be fast growing without seed fluff. Native poplar trees are just metres away and contribute to a stark contrast in Pearce Estate Park..
144. The weir was a great location to view feeding pelicans, cormorants, mergansers and gulls until the Harvie Passage construction removed the bird habitat.
145. The 13 groundwater wells servicing the fish hatchery are the same reason the Molsen Brewery was built on 9 Ave - a great ground water aquifer.
146. During 1995-2000, RiverWatch sent thousands of science students by raft between the midstream island and Pearce Estate Park. The creation of Harvie Passage put a stop to navigability and our river route.
147. Dog walks through out the year
148. I drive this avenue with new staff and visitors to look at the row of houses that almost fell into the river during June 2013. The residents now have a great river view in the absence of the old cottonwoods.
149. The Bow Habitat Station - hatchery, visitor centre, natural area - is such an amazing, world-class resource, it absolutely has to be front and center of any park planning addressing education, culture and environment.
150. The catch and release pond is such a magnet for happy children engaged in an adventure. What a great resource.
151. RiverWatch used to stage 6000 students here annually for launching from Cushing Ramp until most of the park space was destroyed by erosion June 2013.