



Encouraging the appreciation, study, and conservation
of all components of the natural world.

Dennis Urquhart Business & Policy Planner
The City of Calgary Parks
7th Floor, Calgary Public Building
205 - 8th Ave SE
Calgary, AB T2G 0K9

09 July 2012

Re: Imagine Parks Public Input

Dear Mr. Urquhart,

I appreciated the opportunity to participate in one of the Imagine Parks input sessions in June.

I would like to put on record the position which Nature Calgary takes on this issue.

We believe that Parks should be taking all measures necessary to protect the biodiversity of our natural areas as well as providing opportunities for Calgarians of all ages to learn about and appreciate these areas.

We are concerned at the continuing loss of natural habitat in the city. For example, over the last 20 years all of the ground-nesting birds have vanished from Nose Hill.

Specifically we would like to see

- inclusion of the Parks Department in early-stage planning for new communities
- separate fenced dog areas to take pressure off pathways and natural areas
- better control of invasive plant species in all natural areas not just the major ones
- better education of the public to appreciate natural area parks and not just treat them as giant off-leash areas
- that new natural areas be incorporated in any expansion plans that the city has

Yours sincerely

Andrew Hart (acting president – Nature Calgary)