

Recipient: Victoria City Councillors, Premier John Horgan, Lisa Helps, Deputy Premier Carole James, Rob Fleming, Selina Robinson, Shane Simpson, Andrew Wilkinson, BC Housing, Chrystia Freeland, Justin Trudeau

Letter: Greetings,

Don't allow tents (temporary sheltering) in Pemberton Park

Comments

Name	Location	Date	Comment
Trisha Cunliffe	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-17	"My children play at this park!! It is too close to their school. This is not the place!!"
Mercedes Calvert	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-17	"People should be housed properly not set up in temporary shelters where kids and families play."
Rudy Marchildon	Victoria BC, Canada	2020-09-17	"Home encampments shouldn't be near schools!"
David Dallin	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-17	"Because its way too close to my kids school. My children transit that park to go to and from school everyday... do I now have to drive them to ensure their safety? Also, is 50m an actual safe distance from a school and what has the potential to have so many drug users, persons with mental health issues, and potential bike thieves?"
Gina Cuthbert	Victoria BC, Canada	2020-09-17	"This is a no brainer."
Carolyn Rogers	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-17	"School kids use this park all day every day. Perhaps, the campers won't come because there is no easy access to their drugs here. But, nevertheless, it is far too close to schools."
Susan Burnett	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-17	"Again, no consultation with the tax paying citizens of this city-despicable."
Shelley Thorsteinson	Canada	2020-09-18	"I want to keep our parks safe for children and adults and free from drug users and needles that can harm children and innocent people"
Sharon Logan	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-18	"Sharon Logan"
Shoshannah Sutton	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-18	"Shoshannah"
April Vesey	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-18	"This is a heavily used small park not appropriate for temporary housing"
Tamara Wichniewicz	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-18	"I dont believe in "City" approach to deal with homelessness and drug addicts issue. Dangerous, corrupting, polarizing the society but not dealing with issue at all."
Keith Watt	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-18	"I support local parks for safe neighborhoods."
Rhonda Newman	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-18	"Absolutely should not be used as a tent city! We need these parks for families especially now during Covid!!"
Lori Nagel	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-18	"Homeless do not belong in our parks. Send them back to where they came from"
Cynthia Swoveland	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-18	"My husband takes our dog here so that she can chase her ball and get some exercise. It is one of just a very few places he can take her. This would make it unsafe for her. Pemberton is also just across the street from a school. It has a well used childrens' play area. It is a

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			small park in an entirely residential neighbourhood! For pity's sake leave our parks for everyone to use!!!"
Ann Parker	Vancouver, Canada	2020-09-18	"Local authorities should be forced to deal with homelessness. Allowing local parks to be site for the homeless is an acceptable way to do this."
Adam vickers	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-18	"Because this is for kids (obviously) and kids don't go there anymore (obviously)"
Keir MacPherson	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-19	"My reason for signing...we'll...our Son, whose after school care uses Pemberton Park, came home this week stated that they found an abandoned camp with broken chairs, garbage, and human feces, which his best friend almost stepped in. Every single park that his after school care uses (Pemberton, Gonzalez, Hollywood) allow camping..what are they going to find next week??..."
Janice Williams	Victoria, British Columbia, Canada	2020-09-19	"City parks are not zoned for residential use and parks that are proximal to schools are particularly not suited to be used in this way. The city needs to implement appropriate shelters with access to hygiene and sanitation and must quit enabling anti-social behaviour and neglecting its duties to keep public spaces safe and accessible to the public. 24/7 sheltering in parks needs to end."
Anielle Forslund	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-19	"It is sad to see how city councils are being so careless with the community. Allowing homeless to stay in parks is not the solution for them, their problems won't be solved, not even temporarily."
Mike Nash	Shawnigan Lake, Canada	2020-09-19	"This park is definitely not suitable for this purpose nor is ANY neighbourhood park in the city. I will gladly sign any petition for the protection of any park in the city. I am not anti-homeless, just anti-bad policy. The mayor and council are letting ALL of us down. The latest "amendments" are merely bandaids to a wound that they inflicted upon all of us. There is a petition for Beacon Hill Park started some time ago...if you haven't signed that one yet please do so as well. Inner-city "ghetto-like" activity is ramping up in and around Cook St. Village. We need to have something left of our city as we crawl out of the pandemic!!! Enough"
M Genton	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-20	"I'm concerned about the safety of people kids and pets, and all the hikers who take the woodchip trail at the back of the park, which is part of a North-south route to Margaret Jenkins school. The park is also a newly-restored Garry Oak meadow with many new native plants, thanks to the efforts of volunteers."
Brittany MacPherson	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-20	"Pemberton park and all the other parks around my sons school (Margaret Jenkins) and out of school care program are now being used to house homeless, drug addicts and people with severe mental health issues. Let's NOT be naive and think that we won't be exposing our kids to used needles, human feces and potential harassment. In which, yes some of these instances already happened to my child on his first out trip to pemberton park. This is an absolute outrage! Parks are NOT hospitals, recovery centers or homeless shelters. They are where KIDS play and should feel safe. They are for sports teams to gather and play ball. Families to have picnics. These poor kids have already had enough taken from them

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			already. The government has now CHOSEN to take these parks away from our kids and the general population, when we need them the most. There are plenty of other government land away from the general public to house people in proper temporary housing, and give them the help they need (and no this shouldn't be a choice"
Tristin Gatey	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-20	"As far as I know this field is still a usable field for Bays United Soccer Association. Allowing homeless addicted to camp here would be a huge mistake. There are also protected areas in this park that will also be destroyed. It is also one of very few off leash dog parks in this city."
David Hayes	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-21	"I live in the area and we ride our bikes through this park in the way to taking our kids to school"
J Spark	Winnipeg, Canada	2020-09-21	"A public park should not be used as a homeless camp"
Marco Djoric	Toronto, Canada	2020-09-22	"is there anywhere else to locate them?"
Sarah Capes	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-22	"In 2016, Tent City at the Victoria courthouse was recognized as a hazard to the children at Christ Church cathedral school, located 350 m away. The province ordered it disbanded. Today, South Park school is suffering in the same way. It is unacceptable to allow homeless encampments anywhere near any school."
Jones Judy	Victoria, B.C., Canada	2020-09-23	"More green space ruined!! Have you all forgotten tent city on Burdett. The money to restore."
Michael Gains	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-23	"No homeless people over night camping in City Parks"
Don Mindus	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-23	"Sandra Mindus. Destroying city parks and exposing children and adults to dangerous and illegal activities is creating problems, not solving anything. Solve the problem of homelessness. Addressing the root cause of homelessness is necessary and urgent."
Leona Reimer	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-23	"They just seem to destroy every park that they tent in so it's got to be stopped"
Diana Morris	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-23	"It is disgraceful that city parks are now unusable due to the homeless tents and the numerous problems associated with them. Needles left indiscriminately in the park, garbage left all over, and verbal abuse from some of the tent owners. Not to mention the cost it will take to rehabilitate the land the tenters are using. The taxpayer will pick up the cost and the homeless need not take any responsibility!! DISGRACEFUL!"
Marc Storms	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-24	"It simply does not make sense or in the best interest in the homeless. We conflate homelessness as simply being without a home through no fault of the individual. And while that is sometimes true, most of these people have complex problems for which there are no services in our neighborhood. So how is this helpful for them?"
Eiglys Trejo	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-25	"Because it's a neighbourhood full of children who need the safe, healthy and open space for their recreation and health."

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Suzanne Weckend	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-29	"This park is used by my 3 children's elementary school. Additionally, they have also pulled invasive species in order to protect native plants."
Beatrice Frank	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-29	"I would like the park to remain safe for my kids and be there with my dog off leash. Hollywood park has changed since renting is allowed and I am not feeling sae to let my children play there. Thank you"
susannah garrett	victoria, Canada	2020-09-30	"My message to the municipal gov't - Provide proper housing to these people!! Stop the bandaids on a serious problem that affects us all. Everyone has a right to a home and it should not be in a park where kids play!! No child or parent should have to worry about garbage, needles, and crime in the place they go to play and unwind I am never voting for these councillors or mayor Lisa helps again if they don't do their job to adequately help folks in need"
Jesse Gough	Victoria, Canada	2020-09-30	"I don't think campers should be able to camp overnight where kids go to school and play. It's not fair to the children and it's not safe."
Michael Mackwood	Victoria, Canada	2020-10-01	"I empathize with the problem, but this park is an unsuitable choice for temporary camping given its location particularly close to two schools, having a toddlers playground and being heavily transited by young people....."
liesl fulton	vic, Canada	2020-10-03	"when will this destruction of our city stop? what will council do when there are no tourists. how will they pay their own wages when none of us can afford our taxes anymore and we are out on the street too? this is disgusting, stop it now"