let's talk squamish



Ravenswood Park

What We Heard

Public Engagement Summary
District of Squamish
September 2026

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Project Overview

This report summarizes what we heard from the community around public engagement for Ravenswood Neighbourhood Park, as reflected on Let's Talk Squamish. It reflects both shared priorities and differing perspectives and will help inform future design decisions.

In December 2025, Council allocated $100,000 including the soft costs (design work, site survey, etc) of Community Amenity Contributions (CAC funds) to activate Ravenswood Park in 2026, as part of overall District budget discussions. This is a limited budget for neighbourhood park improvements. In order to understand what the neighbourhood saw as priorities in activating the park space, the District created a neighbourhood survey – the results of which are below.

How We Heard from the Community

Digital Engagement

The Ravenswood neighbourhood was invited to share their input through a short survey to inform the development of a park concept plan and cost estimate for the park. The survey presented park activation options with ranking and multiple-choice questions.

• 119 survey responses were collected between April 16 and May 6, 2026.

• The majority of participants live in or near Ravenswood neighbourhood (90% of respondents).

• Children under 12 were most commonly identified as the primary users (76%), followed by adults (45%) and dogs (28%).In addition, residents were invited to let the District Planning Department know if there was any interest in becoming a "community champion" through volunteering, fundraising, or collaborating with staff to expand the opportunities to improve the park. A couple of residents have expressed interest. District staff encourage more people in the neighborhood to reach out if there is interest in being involved.

In-Person Engagement

Staff also welcomed the neighbourhood to attend a Ravenswood Park in-person pop-up to speak with planners and answer any questions on April 29th, 2026, from 4-6pm. Approximately 40 community members attended the pop-up (plus children) and discussed their priorities for the park. Popular discussion topics at the pop-up were: address drainage, ensure new trees have an opportunity to

survive and thrive, create a space that can be shared among all users (children, seniors and pet-friendly), and maintain some open grass area for free play.

Key Insights

While responses to the survey varied, several clear patterns emerged:

• Ravenswood Park is viewed as an important neighbourhood park space with unmet needs for children's play.

• Drainage and site conditions are a barrier to use.

• Flexibility and open space are highly valued; and free play is a top priority.

• There is no single consensus vision; feedback reflects different expectations.

• A park design will need to balance competing priorities and trade-offs.

Communications

The Ravenswood engagement was supported by communications and outreach efforts via Let's Talk Squamish, social media, and email.

Let's Talk Squamish

- Total page views: 491
- Unique visitors: 417
- Project page visits: 305

E-News

- District E-News: April 17 (1968 recipients) and April 24 (2105 recipients)



LetsTalk: Ravenswood Park Update

Ravenswood neighbourhood residents are invited to fill out a community survey, seeking input to help us prioritize activations for the Ravenswood Park within available funding.

The District also encourages neighbourhood residents to reach out if there is interest in volunteering, fundraising, or collaborating with staff to expand the opportunities to improve the park. If you are interested in becoming a neighbourhood champion to enhance the park, please reach out to: planning@squamish.ca.

We welcome the neighbourhood to join us in-person to chat about ideas, concerns, and priorities for Ravenswood Park. We will have snacks and activities for kids!

Date: **Wednesday, April 29, 2026**
Time: 4 – 6 p.m.
Location: 39296 Falcon Crescent

More information at:
letstalksquamish.ca/ravenswood.

Social Media



Facebook Post

Facebook Post – April 15

- **Views**: 5.6K
- **Viewers**: 3.2K

Instagram Post – *April 23*

- **Views**: 2.5K
  Reach: 1.4K

Flyer





Hand delivered to 140 residences in the neighborhood.

What We Heard – By the Numbers

A total of **119 responses** were received, with strong participation from residents living in or near Ravenswood (90%).

Key Findings

- **77%** identified children under 12 as primary park users
- **Nature play features** ranked as the top priority overall
- **Drainage improvements** were identified as a key need
- **Open grass, trees, and seating** ranked as important supporting features
- **Dog off-leash use and specialty features** ranked lowest

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1. Who would use the park?

Question: *Who in your household would most likely use the park?*

- **75.6% (90 respondents)** – Children under age 12
- **45.4% (54 respondents)** – Adults
- **27.7% (33 respondents)** – Dogs
- **11.8% (14 respondents)** – Youth (12+)
- **5.9% (7 respondents)** – Seniors

Key takeaway: The park is primarily viewed as a **space for children and families**, with secondary use by adults and dog owners.

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2. Top-ranked park features

Question: *Which park features are most important? (ranked)*

Highest priorities (by average ranking score):

- **Nature play (logs, rocks, etc.)** – Ranked #1 overall
- **Drainage improvements** – Frequently ranked as a top need
- **Open grass area (free play)** – Consistently mid-to-high priority

Moderate priorities:

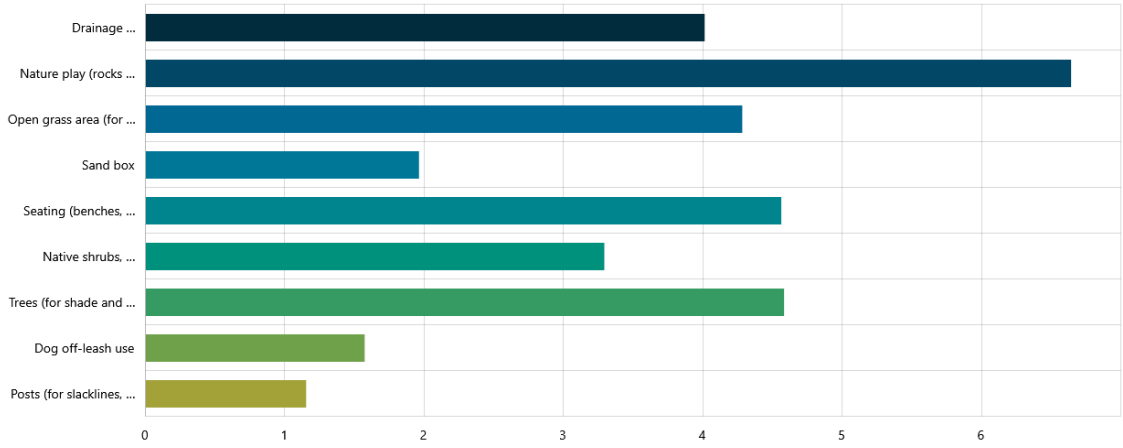
- Trees (shade and screening)

- Seating (benches, tables)

Lowest priorities:

- Dog off-leash use
- Slackline posts and similar features

Key takeaway: Responses show a preference for **simple, flexible, and nature-based improvements**, alongside essential site upgrades.



3. Open-ended feedback themes (quantified)

Question: *Do you have any other ideas or comments?*

Top recurring comment themes included:

- **25%** – Activate the park for children
- **24%** – Trees and shade
- **24%** – Play equipment
- **14%** – Open field / shared space

Key takeaway: Written feedback reinforces priorities around **children's play, basic amenities, and usability improvements**.



What We Heard – Key Themes

Five key themes emerged across survey results overall, based on the options provided for park features and open-ended responses:

1. Strong interest in a park that supports children and families

Many participants highlighted the need for more child-focused play opportunities in the neighbourhood. Children under 12 were identified as the primary users of the park (76%), and "activate for children" and "play equipment" were among the most common comment themes.

Residents described a lack of nearby playgrounds and emphasized the importance of informal, accessible play spaces:

- "There is no playground within walking distance."
- "Priority should be for features children can play on."

At the same time, some participants expressed concern about increased activity levels:

- "This should remain a quieter neighbourhood space."

Overall, there is strong support for making the park more useful for children, alongside sensitivity to potential impacts on nearby homes.

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2. Maintaining open and flexible green space is a shared priority

Across both rankings and written responses, participants consistently valued open grass space for informal use. Open grass ranked as a mid-to-high priority feature and was frequently referenced in comments.

Residents described the importance of maintaining flexibility for a range of uses:

- "Keeping a part of the park open for free play is really important."

Open space is currently used for a variety of activities, including casual sports play, gathering, and dog use. Many participants emphasized that any future improvements should retain enough open area to support these uses.

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3. Drainage and site conditions are a major barrier to use

Drainage improvements were identified as one of the top priorities in rankings and were repeatedly raised in comments, including concerns about standing water, uneven ground, and usability.

Participants described how current conditions limit use of the park:

- "It becomes a pond during rain periods."
- "The ground is uneven and hard to use."

Improving drainage and levelling the site was often seen as a foundational step that would make the park more usable, regardless of other upgrades.

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4. Support for natural features, trees, and amenities

There was broad support for adding trees, landscaping, and seating to improve comfort and usability. Trees and seating both ranked consistently as mid-to-high priorities.

Nature-based play features (e.g., logs and rocks) were the highest-ranked feature overall, reflecting interest in lower-cost, flexible play opportunities.

Participants highlighted the value of these additions:

- "Some shade would be great."
- "Would love an area for kids to play and/or climb and some trees for shade."

Comments also emphasized the importance of durability, maintenance, and ensuring plantings can thrive in site conditions.

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5. Different perspectives on park use and intensity

Feedback reflected a range of perspectives on how the park should function, particularly related to:

- Dog use
- Level of activity and noise
- Type of amenities provided

While some participants rely on the space for dog exercise, others preferred limiting off-leash use. Dog-related features ranked among the lowest priorities overall.

- "We rely on this space for our dog every day."
- "There is already an off-leash dog area nearby."

There were also differing views on whether the park should remain a quieter green space or become a more active destination for families.

This reflects a broader need to balance competing expectations in a relatively small, residential park setting.

What Happens Next

The District will use this input to inform design development and future decisions for the park.

Updates on the Let's Talk Squamish Ravenswood Park page will be shared with the community as the project progresses.