

MAP 7 EAST CULTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ZONE (Figure 62)

Develop Dinsdale Park and Optimist Park into an Active Riverbank Recreation Zone that serves as a main community park for the east side of Brandon. Celebrate multicultural Brandon. Focus on New Canadian and Indigenous perspectives through formal and informal recreation amenities in this zone.

Enhance Dinsdale Park over time to include renovated washrooms, new family picnic shelters, expanded day camping sites, regenerated river bottom forest, upgraded music based play areas, and an enhanced 1st Street entry experience. Foster partnerships with the Brandon Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Council and the Federal Government to transform Optimist Park into Spirit Park - a place to connect mind, body and spirit with the river landscape through indigenous traditions. Develop the existing hill into powwow grounds and campsite while re-shaping the previous soccer fields in Optimist Park into a naturalized landscape that celebrates the Assiniboine River flood plain.



MAP 7 - EAST CULTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION ZONE

Figure 62



7a. DINSDALE PARK (Figure 63)

Watersports Docks and Parking: Extend seasonal water ski docks adding 2 more modules. Reconfigure and expand boat trailer parking on the north end of the Park. Clearly mark the extents of the water ski course with buoys.

Campsites, Fishing Docks and Informal Trails: Develop 20 day campsites complete with a small clearing, barbecue and seating stumps along the riverbank. Connect these sites with informal dirt-packed trails. Add four portable and seasonally removable fishing docks along the riverbank.

Washrooms: Renovate existing washrooms to meet provincial accessibility guidelines.

Expanded Parking: Expand parking to 60 cars by widening the existing loop road to accommodate three 20-car perpendicular parking areas.

Reshape Central Park Space: Raise the existing greenspace inside the internal loop road at the center of the Park by building a series of landscape mounds whose tops are above the primary flood line. Place high value amenities such as picnic shelters, play areas and garden spaces at these higher elevations.

Trails: Add crushed stone trails to the central area to connect all new amenities. Upgrade the underpass below the 1st Street Bridge elevating the trail and extending bank stabilization rip-rap 10 meters further east and west. Add accessible switchback route from redeveloped 1st Street Bridge into the Park per Map 2 Transportation.

Picnic Shelters: Remove existing damaged and unsafe picnic shelter. Add three new shelters; 2 small (6m x 9m) and one large (9m x 18m). Shelters to be open air structures complete with HSS metal framing, metal roof and stone fireplace/BBQ.

Playground Upgrades: Upgrade existing playground to reflect a 'global mosaic' theme replacing pea gravel safety surfacing with wood-fiber surfacing. Add two musical play nodes in the elevated central part of the Park.

Gardens and Seasonal Market/Festival Spaces: Work with local immigrant groups to develop a multicultural garden on top of one of the new berms in the center of the Park and to program seasonal vegetable markets, craft sales and ethnic festivals in the Park.

Vegetation: Allow the riverbank vegetation to regenerate over time with some live-staking and bare root planting in highly visible areas per Map 3 Vegetation. Weed and over-seed manicured lawn areas throughout the Park and begin low-mow maintenance in these zones per Map 3 Vegetation.

Trees: Add deciduous tree species tolerant to fluctuating water levels throughout the interior of the Park to provide shade and better microclimate to Park users. Add coniferous trees on higher ground along the 1st Street Bridge embankments to buffer noise from 1st Street and to provide increased winter wildlife habitat in the Park.

Train Display: Work with CP Rail to find a more appropriate location for the existing locomotive in the northeast corner of the Park.

1st Street Bridge Gateway Experience: Add terraced seasonally changing hardy plantings to the new 1st Street Bridge embankments. Naturalize large lawns on the approach to the 1st Street Bridge to grasslands per Map 3 Vegetation.

Lighting: Add solar powered light standards at regular intervals in the center of the Park.

Signage: Upgrade the 3rd Street Dam interpretive signage. Add riverbank recreation history interpretive signage highlighting previous uses of the Corridor for fishing, swimming and boating near the expanded docks. Add a new Park sign along southbound 1st Street north of the park access road so vehicles can absorb this wayfinding information with enough time to turn into the Park before they have already driven past it (as occurs now).

Public Art: Work with local arts groups and the City's Public Art Policy to commission a series of vertical markers that celebrate the growing cultural diversity in Brandon along 1st Street on the approach to the 1st Street Bridge.

7a - DINSDALE PARK

- a1 EXPANDED SEASONAL DOCKS
 - a2 WATER SKI LAUNCH
 - a3 REORGANIZED BOAT PARKING
 - a4 NEW DINSDALE PARK SIGNAGE
 - a5 RIVER BOTTOM FOREST REGENERATION
 - a6 FAMILY DAY CAMPSITES
 - a7 EXISTING PARKING (granular)
 - a8 NEW PARKING (granular)
 - a9 PLAYGROUND UPGRADES (Around the World theme)
 - a10 MUSIC PLAY NODES
 - a11 CULTURAL MOSAIC GARDEN
 - a12 SMALL PICNIC SHELTER
 - a13 LARGE PICNIC SHELTER
 - a14 MULTICULTURAL PUBLIC ART INSTALLATION (flags)
 - a15 NEW 1ST STREET BRIDGE ACCESS (by others)
 - a16 TERRACED GATEWAY PLANTING
 - a17 NEW TRAILS (crushed stone)
 - a18 INFORMAL TRAILS (dirt)
 - a19 WATER SKI COURSE LIMIT
 - a20 EXISTING RAPIDS
 - a21 EXISTING WASHROOMS (upgrade)
 - a22 NEW HILLS TO BRING KEY FEATURES ABOVE FLOOD LEVEL
 - a23 RAPIDS OVERLOOK
- — — APPROXIMATE FLOOD LIMIT



MAP 7a - DINSDALE PARK

Figure 63





7b. SPIRIT PARK (Figure 64)

** Note: The proposed Spirit Park would amalgamate the abandoned Optimist Soccer Park and the large hill just north of it into one entity. Spirit Park would be developed and operated by the Brandon Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Council and First Nations groups in the region with the support of all three levels of government and Brandon Riverbank Inc.

North Hill Powwow Grounds: Develop the top of the existing hill into a large gathering space for outdoor celebrations complete with a 30m diameter circular powwow structure, cardinal direction markers, a central hearth, and a permanent tipi village. Fully service the site with water and hydro and add a washroom facility on top of the hill. Naturalize the entire hill to tall grass prairie per Map 3 Vegetation.

Sweat Lodge and River Use: Develop a sweat lodge and ceremonial water access at the foot of the powwow hill. Reserve this riverbank area for sacred ceremonies. Develop the rest of the riverbank with informal trails, one fish-cleaning shelter and two portable fishing docks that can be pulled in and out of the river seasonally.

Access Roads and Parking: Use and build upon the existing Optimist Park service roads. Build a new paved access road and elder drop off loop to the top of the powwow hill. Gate off the access to the top of the hill. Add a 65-car parking lot at the base of the hill in the northwest corner of the park. Upgrade the existing access and overflow parking lot on the south end of the Park complete with a turnaround loop and 20 pull-through boat launch parking stalls. Add a row of regular car parking along the north edge of this lot to service the new nature park (42 cars).

Water Access: Install a new 9m x 18m boat launch east of the refurbished parking lot. Protect the boat launch with rip-rap. Add a control gate at the entry to the boat launch parking lot.

Water-Earth Nature Park (Former Soccer Fields): Use the existing sunken topography of the soccer fields in the abandoned Optimist Park to reshape this entire zone into a series of wetlands, ferns and upland prairie landscapes. Allow seasonal flood waters to enter the site via an upgraded control structure due east of the new boat launch. Use this seasonally changing landscape for traditional knowledge and nature education in all seasons. Add a winter tipi campsite in a clearing on high ground due south of the powwow hill and a 10m high lookout tower on a forested hill along the west edge of the park.

Trails: Install 1.8m paved trails between the powwow grounds, nature park, and parking lot. Use the top of the existing dike on the east end of the abandoned soccer zone to develop a permanent crushed stone trail between the new powwow grounds and the boat launch. Provide access through the nature park via a network of informal dirt packed trails and footbridges.

Re-purpose Concession Building: Remove all mechanical and electrical equipment and services from the existing building. Gut the building interior and clean all concrete block surfaces. Re-purpose two-thirds of the building for nature park maintenance and programming storage. Convert one-third of the building into a screened in outdoor classroom and makers studio space.

Vegetation: Do not remove deadfall along the riverbank as it provides regeneration environment and valuable habitat. Allow the riverbank vegetation to regenerate over time with monitoring and weeding program and install wetland and prairie throughout the nature park per Map 3 Vegetation.

Trees: Add deciduous trees throughout using appropriate flood tolerant species in the lower lying zones. Install a coniferous shelterbelt in the southwest corner of the park to screen out 1st Street Bridge traffic noise.

Lighting: Add hard-wired lighting to the powwow grounds and off-the-grid solar powered light standards at regular intervals in the nature park and boat launch areas.

1st Street Bridge Gateway Experience: Add terraced seasonally changing hardy plantings to the new 1st Street Bridge embankments. Naturalize large lawns on the approach to the 1st Street Bridge to grasslands.

Signage: Add self-guided ethno-botanical and cultural interpretive content throughout the Park. Add a new Park sign along northbound 1st Street south of the Park access road so vehicles can absorb this wayfinding information with enough time to turn into the Park before they have already driven past it.

Public Art: Empower local First Nations artists, artisans and builders to develop permanent and ephemeral public art installations throughout the Park that reflect traditional and contemporary indigenous art.

7b - SPIRIT PARK

- (b1) EXISTING ACCESS ROAD (granular)
 - (b2) CONTROLLED ACCESS GATES
 - (b3) NEW PARK SIGNAGE
 - (b4) BOAT LAUNCH & FISHING PARKING
 - (b5) BOAT LAUNCH WITH RIP RAP
 - (b6) POWWOW GROUNDS PARKING
 - (b7) POWWOW HILL ACCESS ROAD & ELDER DROP-OFF
 - (b8) POWWOW CIRCLE
 - (b9) SUMMER & WINTER CAMP
 - (b10) PRAIRIE OVERLOOK
 - (b11) TRAILS (granular)
 - (b12) FISH CLEANING SHELTER
 - (b13) SWEAT LODGE
 - (b14) RIPARIAN FLOOD PARK WETLAND BASIN
 - (b15) TALL GRASS PRAIRIE
 - (b16) EXISTING HILL
 - (b17) CONVERT CONCESSION TO STORAGE BUILDING
 - (b18) WINTER CAMP SITE & ORIENTEERING NODE
 - (b19) FOREST HILL & LOOKOUT TOWER
 - (b20) INFORMAL TRAILS (winter cross country)
 - (b21) FOOTBRIDGE
 - (b22) RIVER BOTTOM FOREST REGENERATION
 - (b23) EXISTING ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION TRAIL
 - (b24) NEW 1ST STREET BRIDGE ACCESS
 - (b25) TERRACED GATEWAY PLANTINGS
- APPROXIMATE FLOOD LIMIT



MAP 7b - SPIRIT PARK

Figure 64



