



MEDIA RELEASE

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE
1 Municipal Centre Drive
Fort Erie, ON
L2A 2S6

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: August 23, 2018

MEDIA CONTACT: Melissa Marshall, Communications Advisor

TELEPHONE: 905-871-1600, ext. 2217

Construction on Schedule at Bay Beach

Bay Beach is currently under construction, this large undertaking with a total construction cost of \$3,000,000, the Region generously contributed \$850,000 towards this amount.

The construction will help to turn Bay Beach into a community/family destination that includes: a multipurpose festival square, open air pavilion for gatherings, washrooms, lockers, change rooms, accessible ramps to the beach and water, new playground including an open play area, shade pergola and sidewalks connecting the beach to parking and local commercial district.

The Town including Mayor Redekop and Town staff, have been fielding calls from concerned residents regarding construction, alcohol on the beach, parking and improper conduct of individuals visiting the beach. As Mayor Redekop states "the Town takes all of these concerns very seriously and has taken steps to help alleviate these issues. These steps include hiring off duty Niagara Region Police Officers to patrol the beach to monitor conduct and issue fines for alcohol offences; posting signs at the beach entrance notifying visitors that alcohol, tents and fires are prohibited on the beach. The Town has added a full-time By-Law Enforcement Officer to the staff compliment, who has been assigned during a large part of the summer to issue parking tickets in and around Bay Beach to help deter parking non-permit areas. As a result of the hot summer the beach attendance has well exceeded anticipated numbers which has made it difficult for staff and the local residents, we understand the inconvenience and aggravations experienced by residents in the vicinity of the beach, and agree that is been unacceptable. We appreciate their patience. For the balance of the summer, the Town will continue and strengthen enforcement of beach rules and parking regulations and we will be starting the process to develop long-term strategies for beach management."

This winter the Town will be reviewing Bay Beach to assemble a plan that will allow the Town to best deal with parking, monitoring the number of people on the beach, a fee for beach access and enforcing the prohibition of alcohol, tents and barbeques on the beach, through private security or off duty police officers.

Currently Bay Beach is on schedule in regards to construction, with a completion date scheduled for the end of this year.

For more information please contact Rick Brady Planning and Development Services at 905-871-16000.