



**Agenda Item:** Discuss East End Lagoon Development Plan (Kelly de Schaun, 15 Minutes)

**Background:** The long-term success of the preservation of the East End Lagoon Nature Preserve necessitates a financial model that allows the Park Board or City to fund on-going land management costs, as well as to provide for health and safety measures on a minimal level.

The offering of amenities and facilities on site increases annual maintenance costs and may necessitate on site staff as well.

Over the life of the EEL Preserve, both the City and Park Board have funded development plans. The first plan focused on environmental education and outreach, had significant municipal owned buildings, limited parking and relied heavily on grant and philanthropic contributions.

The second plan (attached) envisions heavy reliance on outdoor recreational activities such as for fee camping and fishing that would offset costs for environmental education and outreach programs. These development opportunities would ideally be funded through public private partnerships, or potentially self-funded by the Park Board. The Park Board would seek outside grant funding for construction projects, like the recently awarded RESTORE project.

Last year, the committee prioritized the development of channel fishing as a potential initial project. This project depends heavily on the Park Board's ability to navigate the highly regulatory environment of coastal waters.

The Board of Trustees has asked EEL to review again the proposed development plans with the purpose of recommending priority projects that can help to offset operational costs and create unique experiences for visitors. Discussions should focus on identifying those projects that are priority projects, determining and obtaining Council's support for a development plan and important outlier items that will dictate the success of the project (such as the rehabilitation of Boddeker Drive).