



Denman Conservancy Association

NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 60, Denman Island, B.C. V0R 1T0

March 2006

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OF THE DENMAN CONSERVANCY
ASSOCIATION WILL TAKE PLACE ON

March 27, 2006.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in
the Denman Conservancy Room of the Marcus
Isbister Old School at:

7:30 pm on Monday, March 27, 2006

The AGM business will include:

- ❖ The Coordinators' Report, Treasurer's Report, Committee Reports, and announcement of Awards.
- ❖ A Report on the progress of the settlement of our legal case against 4064 to secure conservation covenants on the Railway Marsh and the Komas Bluffs
- ❖ A Special Resolution to purchase the 147 acre Central Park property on Denman Road, across from the Old School.
- ❖ Election of Directors

We hope to see you at the AGM!

Proposed Acquisition

Central Park Nature Reserve

For some years the Acquisitions Committee of Conservancy has been seeking suitable properties on Denman for purchase. Our aim has been to secure large blocks of land that can contribute to conservation of the natural ecosystems on Denman by their current natural values and their potential for linkage with other areas to form a protected area network.

DCA made several unsuccessful offers to purchase the Chickadee Lake parcel. However with the passage of time, some large conditional grants that would have supported that purchase, expired. The last attempt was made at the end of 2003. Since then the Committee has made a sustained effort to reach agreement with current owners of some other desirable blocks and has now secured an agreement to purchase the Central Park property, subject to the approval of the membership.

Central Park is strategically located both for public access, across from the Old School on Denman Road, and as a linchpin in a Protected Area Network for the Island. It is indeed central, as part of a chain of natural areas along the spine of the Island. Immediately to the northwest are major Crown Land blocks, Inner Island Nature Reserve and the approximately 160 acres of former 4064 lands that is part of the agreed legal settlement. Central Park also has the potential to link across the Island towards Beadnell Creek and Fillongly Park. Its major ecological assets are the long wetland areas, one of which is visible from Denman Road, at the Graveyard Marsh. Ctd. over...

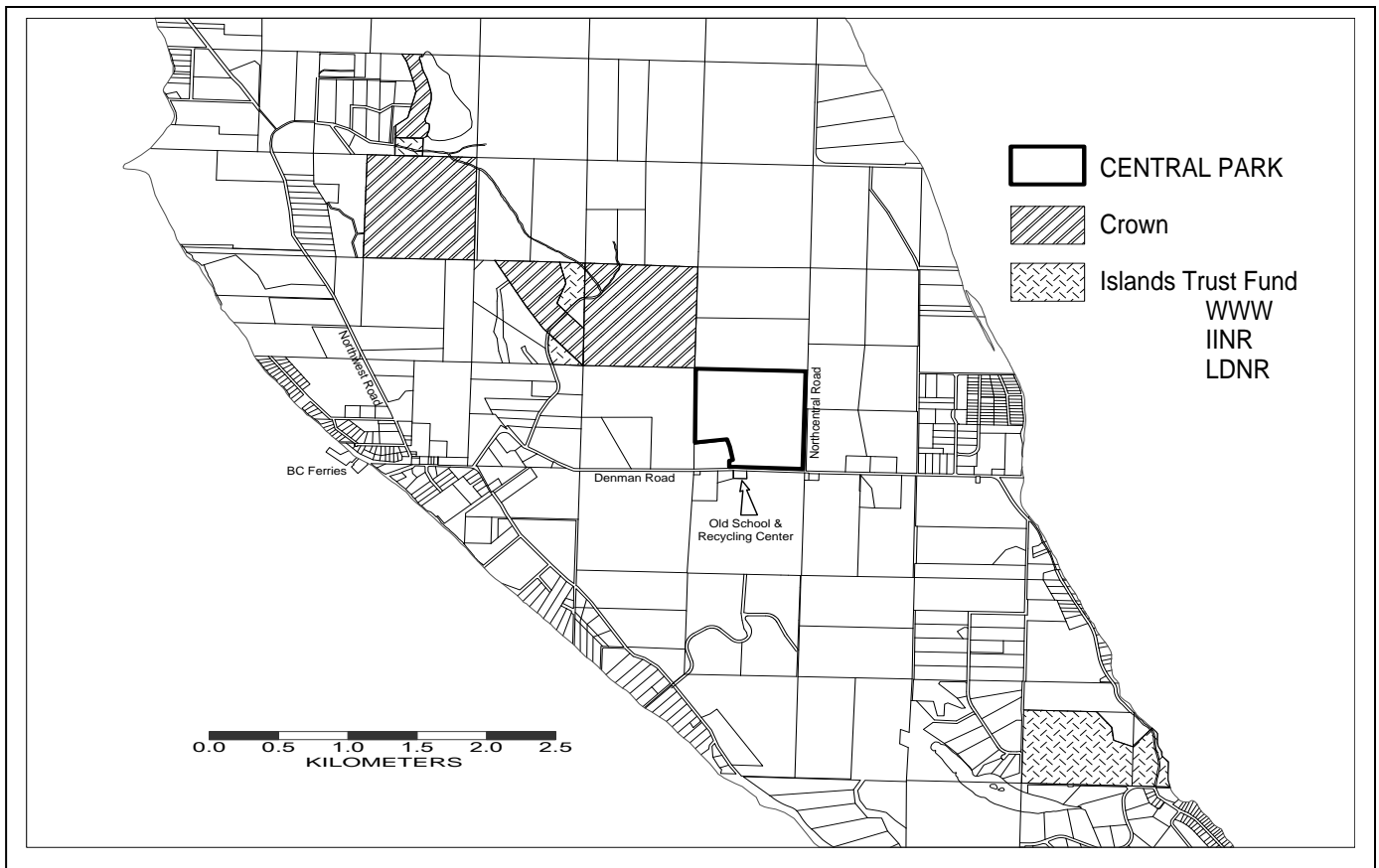
The Central Park block was logged around the year 2000, with leave trees in the riparian areas. Owing to the favourable soil conditions forest growth is regenerating remarkably well. Young firs are thriving and most of the skid roads and landing areas scraped bare by logging are already clothed with head-high alders.

Denman Conservancy proposes that Central Park uses will include conservation and public walking trails. We have also told the cemetery search group that we would consider favourably a request to dedicate a small area across from the existing Cemetery for expansion. The whole property is in the Agricultural Land Reserve.

Plans that the DCA Board has made, and that are reflected in the Agreement to Purchase, are for DCA to provide about half the purchase price from its existing cash reserves, to raise another \$56,000 prior to closing the sale at the end of September and to grant a mortgage back to the vendor for \$200,000. The vendor has generously agreed to take the mortgage on terms most favourable to DCA. An appraisal by Wm. S. Jackson & Associates Ltd. on February 9, 2006 set the value of the property at \$500,000.

The Board of the Denman Conservancy Association recommends the membership support the purchase of the Central Park property, and pass the enabling resolution at the AGM on March 27th.

Thanks to Denise MacKean, John Millen, J Thornton and Patti Willis for contributing to this Newsletter



**Denman Conservancy Association
Annual General Meeting
will be held Monday, March 27** at the
Marcus Isbister Old School Centre.

The Board will propose a special resolution to purchase the 147 acres Central Park property.
The doors open at 7 pm. Those who want to join or need to renew their memberships can do that before the meeting will be called to order at 7:30.