



Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Council Report

Report Number: MLEO 23-07

Subject: Parking Report 2023

From: Carol Hopkins, Chief Bylaw Officer

Date: November 27, 2023

Recommendation:

THAT Council receives MLEO report No. 2023-07 Parking Report for 2023, as information

AND THAT the report be uploaded to Let's Talk NBP (Bang the Table) for thirty (30) days for public comment,

AND THAT a subsequent report is brought back to Council for discussion and amendments to the parking/paid parking program.

Background:

At the end of every paid parking season, the Bylaw Department documents and monitors paid parking and parking throughout the year, and a report is prepared and brought forward to the Council with recommendations for improvements to the parking and paid parking program within the Municipality.

The current paid parking system helps reduce the impact of parking on historic sites by creating a smaller, more organized parking area, and pedestrian safety and residents' safe access to their driveways are some items the Municipality strives to achieve. In addition, having an attendant monitoring the reservation and paid parking areas provides information such as reservations, parking times, and rates. This year, parking

enforcement staff have been equipped with counters to monitor the number of vehicles redirected from high-traffic areas such as McCurdy, Little Cove, Big Tub Rd, Dorcas Bay, Grant Watson and Dunks Bay. This will give Council numbers of vehicles redirected from already-at-capacity lots.

This report should be posted on Let's Talk NBP (bang the table) to reach the community and allow their comments to be considered for consideration for the 2024 parking/paid parking season.

Attached are maps outlining the current parking/paid parking for Tobermory, Big Tub Road, The Gap, Grant Watson Drive, Dunks Bay, Little Cove, Dorcas Bay Road, Dyers Bay, Borchardt Road, Carter Road, Lion's Head and McCurdy Drive.

Comments:

Tobermory Paid Parking:

Since the implementation of Paid Parking in 2017, the program has been evaluated at the end of every parking season. As a result, Tobermory's paid parking has been proven successful, with no changes to the paid parking program within the core of Tobermory.

Complaints were received this year regarding the operation of the machines and the lack of change machines in the harbour area, thus burdening the local businesses to supply coins. When paid parking was implemented, it was investigated, and there was no secure location to accommodate a change machine.

Upon further investigation of these complaints, it was noted that user error was the most significant complaint, as many visitors were using bank cards or Visa/Debit instead of the recommended credit card (Visa, Mastercard and American Express). All the machines are equipped with three methods of payment: credit cards, coins, and the third option scan the QR code and pay through the app.

The Tobermory Chamber of Commerce has brought forward a request that Paid Parking be removed after Labour Day.

It should be noted that if paid parking is removed in Tobermory after Labour Day, it would be expected that the paid parking program in Lions Head and the Reservation systems for both McCurdy Drive and Little Cove Road would also be deactivated to provide consistency throughout the Municipality.

With the busy fall season that the Municipality already experiences, ending paid parking after Labour Day would not benefit the Municipality.

Below is the potential loss of revenue due to shortening the Paid Parking and Reservation system by 36 days (Labour to Thanksgiving, inclusive), leaving many problem areas in the Municipality unenforced during the fall season, such as Big Tub Road, Little Cove, and McCurdy Drive.

A more in-depth report will be brought forward from the Treasurer once all the expenses have been allocated.

Shorter Parking Enforcement Contract	\$9,676
Seasonal Enforcement Officers	\$8,153
Secure Park Enforcement App	\$1,040
Precise Parklink Communications	\$2,200
Credit Card fees	\$ 779
Fuel	<u>\$1,094</u>
Total expenses	\$22,578

Tobermory	\$27,000
Little Cove	\$12,900
Lion's Head	\$ 6475
McCurdy Drive	\$30,580
Parking infraction	<u>\$23,402</u>
Total revenue	\$100,357

Potential loss of revenue	\$77,779
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Recommendation:

THAT the Paid Parking Program in Tobermory remains status quo, and

THAT Council provides direction for the Paid Parking and Reservation system timeline for the 2024 season.

Big Tub Road:

As a result, over the years since 2017, changes to the parking have taken place, with each year reducing the parking to the current alterations in the spring of 2022 to enlarge the parking lot and turnaround area, making it easier for vehicles to access the site and to turn around safely. This is the second year that the parking times for Big Tub Road have been reduced to a 3-hour maximum, along with a parking attendant at the location

to park vehicles, monitor paid parking and redirect visitors to other sites once the parking is at capacity has helped minimize traffic congestion and driveways being blocked.

This year, from May 15 to October 15, approximately 5165 vehicles were redirected from this site. With the tremendous success of the Park Pass Reservation system in other areas of the Municipality, Big Tub Road, along with added signage, would benefit from the reservation system by reducing the number of vehicles travelling up and down the road.

Recommendation:

THAT 3-hour max Paid Parking on Big Tub Road remains status quo, and

THAT Big Tub Road will be added to the Park Pass Reservation system in 2024 for a one (1) year pilot project.

The Gap:

The Gap has remained free of parking within the road allowance since 2001, with foot traffic to access the water and the St Edmunds Anglican Church and Bruce Anchor Motel & Cruises properties.

Recommendation:

THAT the Gap free of parking remains status quo.

Grant Watson Drive:

In 2021, the Council designated the parking lot as Residents Only 3-hour Maximum parking, and signs were added accordingly. With the added Parking attendant for July and August, 116 cars were redirected, and to date, no issues have been noted for 2023.

Recommendation:

THAT the resident only 3-hour max parking and added parking attendant for July and August remain status quo for the Grant Watson Drive site.

Dunks Bay:

Paid Parking was implemented in the small parking lot in 2021. At that time, the Council also designated Resident/Cemetery 3-hour maximum parking on the south side of Dunks Bay Road from Almack Beach Lane to the entrance of the Cemetery. The area has become busier than usual, as the visitors expect a larger beach area and more parking. With the addition of a Parking Attendant in peak times throughout July and

August, it has helped with the congestion. A total of 1537 vehicles were redirected from this site between July 1 and September 3.

Recommendation:

THAT Paid parking and the added parking attendant for July and August remain status quo at the Dunk Bay area.

Little Cove Parking Lot:

In March 2022, the Council implemented 4-hour online parking reservations for the 28 parking spaces within the lot, signage was placed, and the reservation process was advertised in the local paper, on the Municipal website and on Facebook to advise visitors of the changes to the parking at Little Cove. At the time of implementation, it was deemed necessary to have a parking attendant in the parking lot to inform and help visitors with online reservations and assure compliance with the fire route and No Parking regulations.

The total number of visitors to Little Cove between May 15 and October 15 was 4989, with a gross revenue of \$94,080.00, and 1591 visitors purchased the Parks Canada Discovery Pass gross revenue of \$26,643.00 and the total number of vehicles redirected was 7014.

The reservations system at Little Cove and the parking attendant have proven very successful.

When this report was completed, the reservation system was left open and free of charge to collect data on the number of visitors using the site in the off-season (October 16 to November 7). So far, Little Cove has had 186 visitors and 62 groups registered on the reservation platform.

Recommendation:

THAT the 4-hour reservation parking and the added parking attendant remain status quo at the Little Cove Parking lot.

Dorcas Bay Road:

Dorcas Bay Road originally had roadside parking, but over the years, recommendations were brought forward to the Council, and parking was removed from both sides of the road to improve pedestrian safety and to allow residents to enter and exit their driveways safely.

This year, a Parking Enforcement Officer was added to Dorcas Bay Rd on high traffic times on weekends through July and August to enforce the Stopping and Parking of vehicles on the side of the road near the Singing Sands entrance. Having an Officer stationed and redirecting vehicles has dramatically reduced the number of resident complaints of illegal parking and blocking driveways between July and August. The total redirected vehicles were recorded at 1469, and fewer violations were issued by doing this.

Recommendations:

THAT no parking/no stopping at the Dorcas Bay Road site and the added parking attendant remain status quo.

Dyers Bay:

Paid parking was implemented in 2021, with only one alteration occurring, and this was due to the lack of cell service in the parking lot at the top of the hill. The paid parking machine was moved to Dyers Bay Road and Bartley Drive for better cell service, and signage was put in place directing visitors to pay before parking within the designated parking lot at the top of the hill.

The Bylaw Department regularly patrols this area two to three times per shift between May 15 and September 15, checking the parking lot and the No Parking/Fire Access area at the dock. Over and above regular patrols, seven (7) calls from the after-hours service between August 1 and September 3 were investigated. The investigations revealed vehicles were parked in the No Parking area on Dock Lane, and violations were issued for non-compliance. Most of the complaints stemmed from vehicles exiting the ramp and stopping to secure the boat before travelling up Dyers Bay Hill or lining up to launch a boat, thus causing congestion.

On Monday, September 11, 2023, and Monday, October 10, 2023, Council received correspondence from two residents regarding the lack of parking enforcement, illegal parking on Dock Lane, dock usage and the times the dock is utilized. Within the correspondences, recommendations were included: regulate the hours of usage, add a Harbour Master between the hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. to monitor marine access and safety and collect fees for launching boats.

The Dyers Bay dock is not owned or operated by the Municipality but falls under the jurisdiction of the Department of Ocean and Fisheries (DFO) and is a free launch to its users. With the most recent improvements to the dock by DFO, it has become more user-friendly and used by more visitors. Addressing the residents' concerns by adding a

Harbour Master, regulating user times and charging a launch fee must be forwarded to DFO for further comment.

Recommendation:

THAT Paid Parking remains status quo at the Dyers Bay site.

Borchardt Road:

This area was designated as paid parking in 2021 and is a small parking area at the end of Borchardt Road with access to Devils Monument and the Bruce Trail, accommodating approximately twenty (20) vehicles. To date, no parking issues have been noted for 2023.

Recommendation:

THAT paid parking remains status quo at the Borchardt Road site.

Carter Road:

In July 2021, this small parking lot for approximately ten (10) vehicles was designated as a Paid Parking. It was created to alleviate vehicle parking on Carter Road and within the designated Fire Route. To date, no issues have been noted for 2023.

Recommendation:

THAT Paid Parking remains status quo at the Carter Road site.

Lions Head:

Paid parking was implemented in May of 2021 in Lions Head and reassessed in the fall, and input from the local businesses was implemented in 2022. The Bylaw Department has not received any concerns from the local business regarding the parking or the paid parking areas within Lion's Head.

In 2023, the Lions Head Arena was added to the reservation list, allowing visitors to park and access the shuttle and removing congestion from the downtown core. Between June 30 and September 4, the arena parking lot saw 499 reservations and 1728 visitors.

Recommendation:

THAT Paid Parking in Lion's Head remains status quo, and

THAT Lion's Head Arena reservation remains overflow parking and shuttle pickup for the McCurdy trial.

McCurdy Drive:

With the implementation of reservation parking in 2021, with 4 and 8-hour time slots and the addition of a parking attendant present to inform and help visitors with their online reservations and to ensure compliance with No Parking and the blocking of private driveways along Moore Street.

The total number of visitors to McCurdy between May 15 and October 15 was 23,347, with a total reservation of 7774 and a total number of vehicles redirected 6121.

The number one concern residents expressed this year was traffic speed due to the vehicles being turned around and coming back to Town to find a parking space. To alleviate this in peak times (July and August on Saturdays, Sundays, and holiday Mondays), block Moore Street off at Joseph to redirect the overflow traffic to alternate parking areas within Lions Head. This would alleviate the traffic impact on Moore Street and accommodate a safer walking environment for foot traffic. This could be a pilot project for 2024, and if proven successful, arrangements could be made to install a gatehouse to protect the parking attendant from the elements.

When this report was completed, the Parkpass reservation system was left open and free of charge to collect data on the number of visitors using the site in the off-season (October 16 to November 7). So far, McCurdy Drive has seen 1121 visitors and 413 groups registered on the reservation platform.

Recommendations:

THAT the 4-hour and 8-hour reservation time slots remain status quo at the McCurdy Drive site, and

THAT during peak times in July and August (Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Holidays), the parking attendant be moved to Moore and Joseph Street to redirect overflow vehicles more effectively.

Attachments:

1. Tobermory Paid Parking
2. Big Tub Road
3. The Gap

4. Grant Watson
5. Dunks Bay
6. Little Cove
7. Dorcas Bay Rd
8. Dyers Bay Road
9. Borchardt Road
10. Carter Road
11. Lions Head
12. McCurdy Drive

Budget Implications:

The items noted above have been allocated within the 2024 budget.

A treasurer's report regarding the Parking Meter revenue and expenses for the 2023 season will be brought forward once all the expenses have been calculated.

Municipal Strategic Commitment:

1. Creating a strong & resilient economy
2. Maintaining a transparent & responsible government

Respectfully submitted:

Carol Hopkins,
Chief Bylaw Officer

Approved by:

Peggy Van Mierlo-West,
Chief Administrative Officer

Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Existing Parking Program - Tobermory



Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Existing Parking Program - Big Tub Road



Existing Parking Program

- No Parking
- Paid Parking
- Parking Machines



Produced by: Municipality of
Northern Bruce Peninsula (KS)
Date: October 2023

Source: Bruce County, Municipality of
Northern Bruce Peninsula, SWOOP
Projection: NAD83 TM Zone 17N
Software: ArcGIS Pro 2.8.0



Description: Road segments are coloured to indicate the existing parking program on specific road segments and as described in the legend. All measurements shown are approximate and based on the best available information.

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Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Existing Parking Program - The Gap



Existing Parking Program

- No Parking
- Paid Parking
- Shuttle Bus Loading Area
- Parking Machines



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Bruce County, Municipality of
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Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula

Existing Parking Program - Grant Watson Drive



Existing Parking Program

- No Parking
- Resident Only (3 Hour Max)



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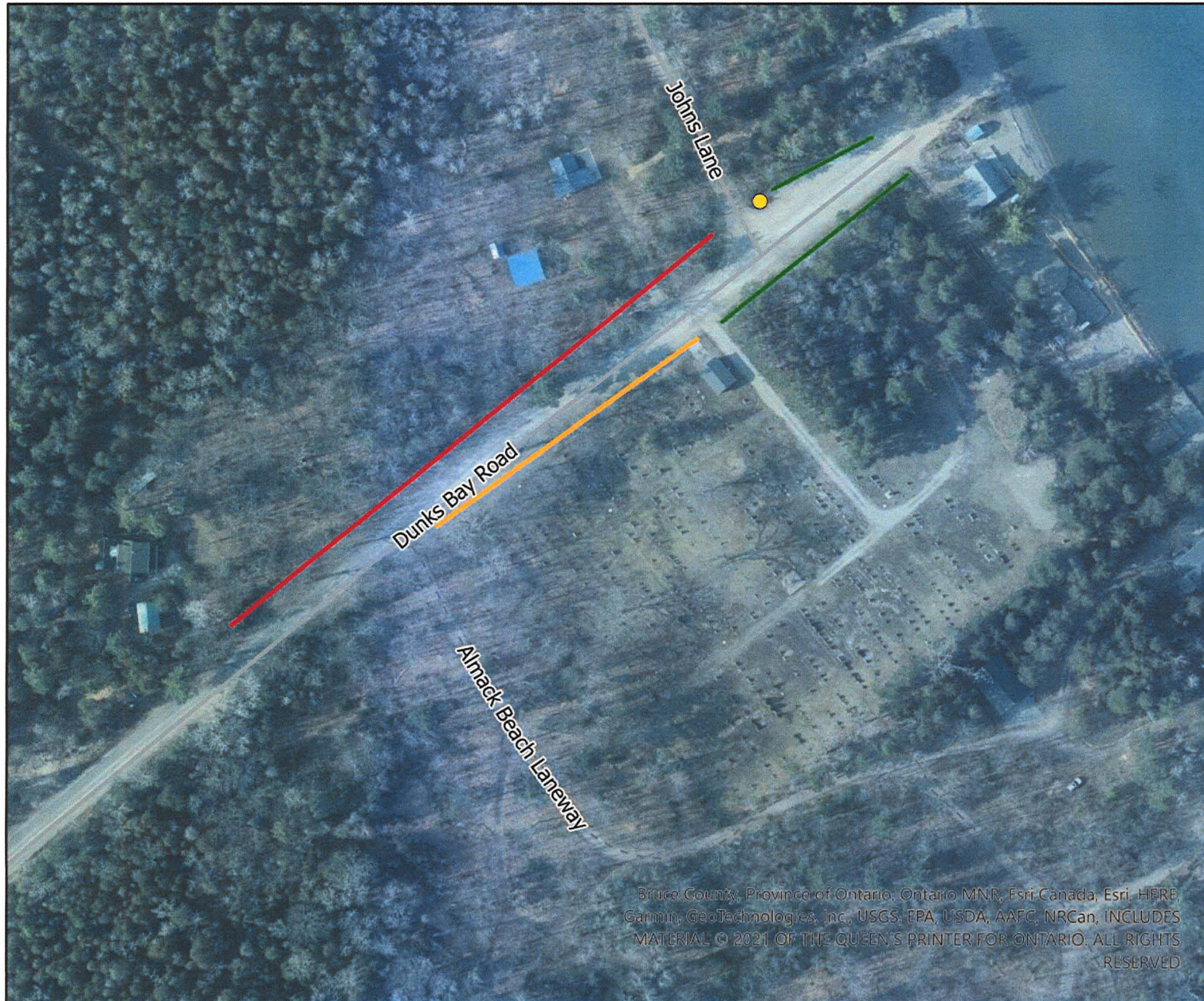
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Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Existing Parking Program - Dunks Bay Road



Existing Parking Program

- No Parking
- Paid Parking
- Resident Only (3 Hour Max)
- Parking Machines



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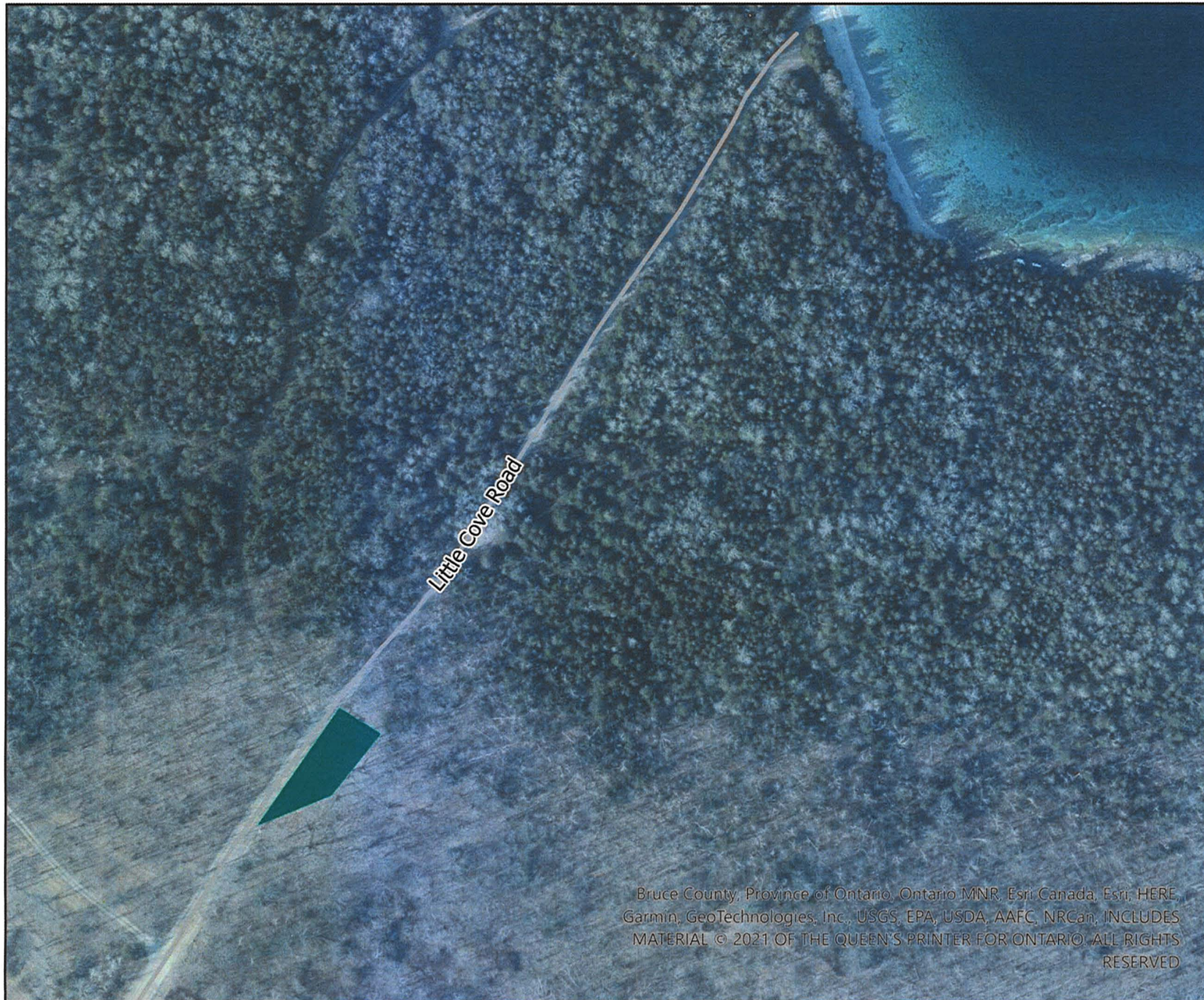
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Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula

Existing Parking Program - Little Cove Road



Existing Parking Program

 Park Pass Reservation Parking (4 Hours)



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Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Existing Parking Program - Dorcas Bay Road



Existing Parking Program

— No Parking, No Stopping



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Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Existing Parking Program - Dyers Bay Road



Existing Parking Program

- Paid Parking Lot
- Parking Machines



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October 2023

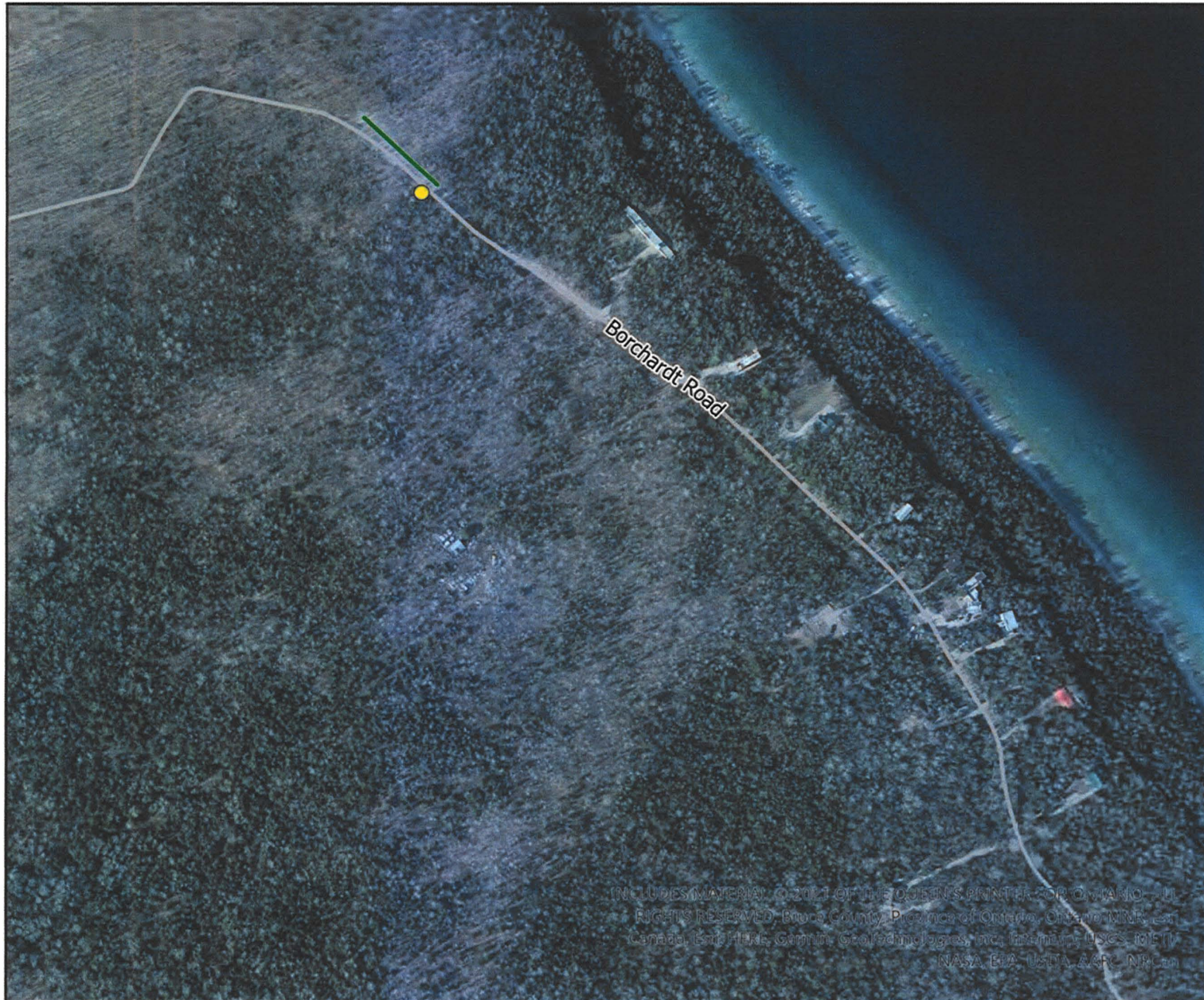
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Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Existing Parking Program - Borchardt Road



Existing Parking Program

— Paid Parking



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Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Existing Parking Program - Carter Road



Existing Parking Program

-  Paid Parking Lot
-  Parking Machines



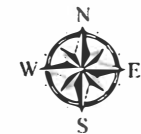
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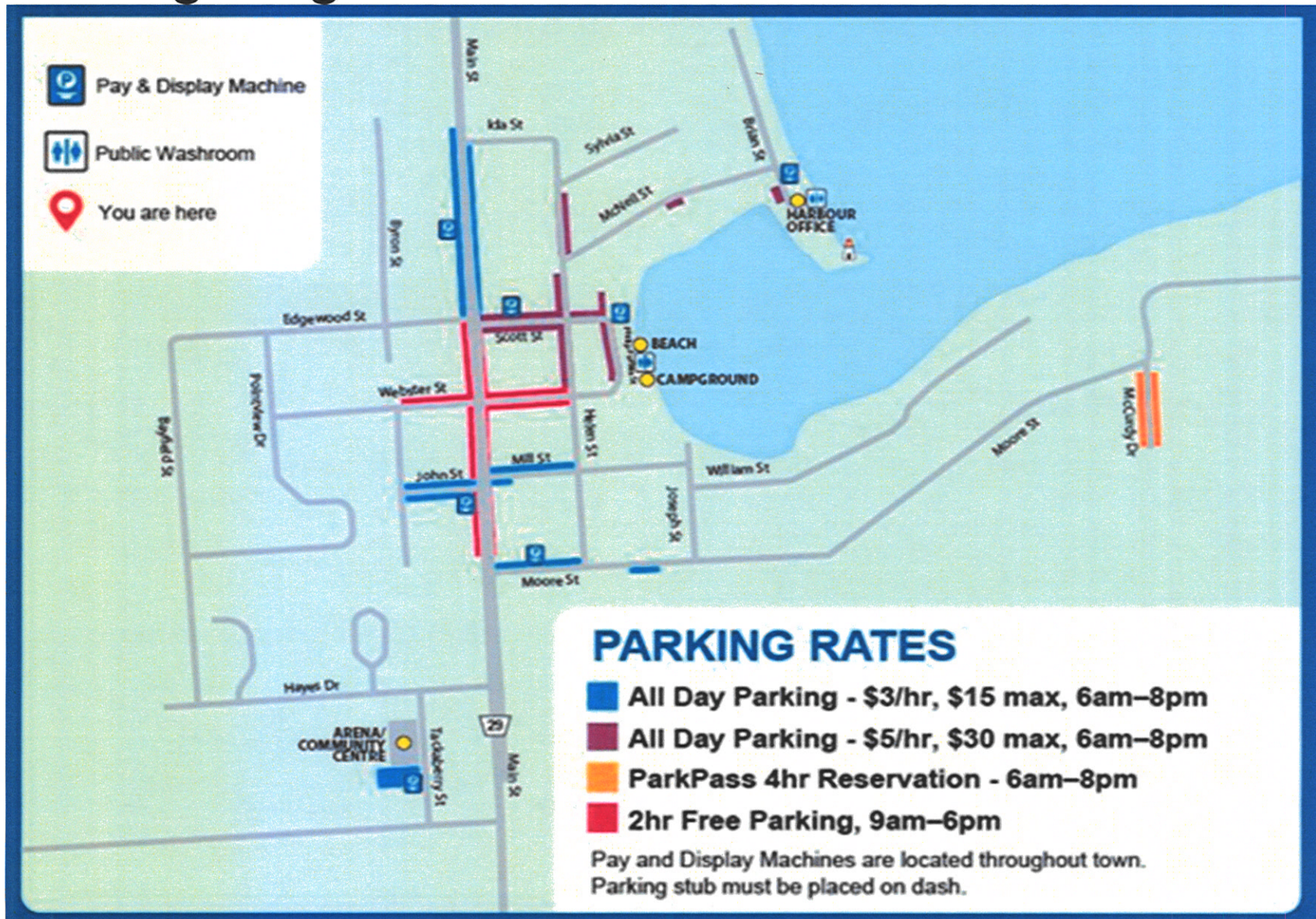


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Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Existing Parking Program – Lion's Head



Municipality of Northern Bruce Peninsula Existing Parking Program - McCurdy Drive



Existing Parking Program

■ Park Pass Reservation Parking (4 or 8 Hours)



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