

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
MINNEKHADA WILDFIRE SPARKS RECOVERY FUND**

Coquitlam BC, October 5th 2022: Minnekhada Regional Park will benefit from an emergency fund created in response to an ongoing wildfire.

The purpose of the Minnekhada Recovery Fund is “to invest in restoring this landscape by replanting trees, rebuilding trails, and adding more native vegetation to help Minnekhada Regional Park's ecosystem recover,” Janet Antonio explains.

Antonio is the Executive Director of Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation (MVRP Foundation), a charity dedicated to the protection, enhancement and restoration of local regional parks, which has stepped up to create an emergency fund that will aid the rebuilding of Minnekhada Regional Park.

With its sought-after trails, rocky knolls, towering trees, thriving marshland, and an abundance of birds and wildlife, Minnekhada Regional Park has been a beloved green space in the Coquitlam community for decades. In early October 2022, Metro Vancouver residents likely noticed hazy skies, dense smoke and hazardous air quality levels due to a wildfire that ignited 14 hectares of iconic forest around the park.

The park's new recovery fund is launched in partnership with Minnekhada Park Association.

"It will take some time to assess the damage and make an action plan, but we know we will need a lot of support to ensure the recovery and revitalization of Minnekhada," adds Antonio. "Once the flames are extinguished, the work to restore our beautiful parkland will begin."

Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation is calling on the surrounding community (and beyond) to help bring new life to Minnekhada Regional Park through this fund.

In the coming months, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks will develop a restoration plan. With the help of donors, park staff, partners and volunteers, MVRP Foundation plans to work tirelessly over the coming years to:

- Replant trees & add more native vegetation to help the ecosystem recover;
- Restore trail access & facilities for park visitors;
- Monitor & support wildlife that calls Minnekhada home;
- Create a more climate-resilient park for tomorrow.

MVRP Foundation is dedicated to nurturing nature, protecting parklands and connecting people with nature in the regional park system.

[Donate to the Minnekhada Recovery Fund:](#)

mvrpfoundation.ca/minnekhadarecovery