



Future of Armour's Beach not black and white

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Armour's Beach is the current centre of controversy in Gibsons as Council seeks public input on proposed designs that would revitalize the favourite swimming spot with new floats and updated shoreside amenities.

The Town's first Municipal Hall, built in 1929 when the Village of Gibson's Landing incorporated, dominates the site. After the offices moved to the current site on South Fletcher, the Town leased the building to various community groups – most recently, as the clubhouse for the Gibsons Rugby and Athletic Club (known as 'The Pigs.')

Although a recent report to Council by Parks Director Wendy Gilbertson included removing and replacing the structure among its recommended options, the future of the former Town Hall remains to be determined. In need of structural repair, and a seismic upgrade, the cost of the building's replacement versus renovation will be reviewed by Council through a future staff report – as will the usage of this or any future facility on the site.

Staff and Council will be available to discuss the concepts, proposed changes to site buildings as presented to Council, plus placement of a proposed twinned swimming float, the area's ecological and archeological sensitivity and other community concern at an upcoming Open House at the Town's Council Chambers on Wednesday, January 8 from 3 to 7 p.m.

Heather Jeal

Jan Poynter design concept