



Policy 11.7  
Adopted: August 15, 2005  
Amended: May 8, 2006  
Amended: September 13, 2010

File No. 5450

## ***Highway Naming Policy, 2010***

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### **Purpose of the Policy:**

This policy is intended to assist emergency service providers and to commemorate Sooke Veterans.

Emergency dispatchers responding to calls from Sooke also respond to calls from across the Capital Regional District. Same names or similar sounding names across the CRD are a challenge for dispatchers and consume valuable time and resources. The District of Sooke will coordinate with emergency service providers to ensure that highway names are optimal for emergency response.

Veterans have provided an immeasurable contribution to Canada and the World and deserve to be recognized for their bravery, service and sacrifice. The District of Sooke will work with the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 54 to identify Sooke Veterans who will be commemorated through the naming of highways.

### **Definition:**

**Sooke Veteran** is defined as a man or woman who has served in a war or as a peacekeeper and is from the District of Sooke and who has served with distinction, is nominated by the Sooke Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, and is not necessarily deceased.

**Highway** is defined as a street, highway, road, lane, bridge, viaduct and any other way open to public vehicular use, including bare land strata roadways, but does not include any other private right of way or easement on private property.

### **Policy Statement:**

1. The District of Sooke reserves the right to make the final decision on highway names.
2. Developers will be advised to provide a list of proposed highway names in order of preference at the beginning of the subdivision application process.

3. Staff will review proposed highway names before final approval to ensure that wherever possible:
  - a. Highway names are not duplicated or similar sounding to highway names in the Capital Regional District;
  - b. Highway names are reviewed for the purpose of emergency dispatch and response.
4. Highways should generally be named after people, places, events and things related to the District of Sooke. Proposed highway names should meet one of the following criteria:
  - a. To honour and commemorate a Sooke Veteran;
  - b. To commemorate local history, places, events or culture (names may be reviewed by the Sooke Region Historical Society to ensure historical accuracy);
  - c. To strengthen neighbourhood identity;
  - d. To recognize native wildlife, flora, fauna or natural features related to the community and District of Sooke.
5. The District of Sooke shall require developers to name for a Sooke Veteran a minimum of one highway where two or more highways are created as a result of a subdivision and use a commemorative highway blade (Schedule 1). A list of eligible Sooke Veterans will be provided and maintained by the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 54.
6. Highway names to be avoided include:
  - a. Highway names being a duplicate of an existing Highway in the District of Sooke or other communities within the Capital Regional District or any other emergency service dispatch area;
  - b. Similar sounding names such as Beach Avenue and Peach Avenue;
  - c. Cumbersome, corrupted or modified names, discriminatory or derogatory names, from the point of view of race, sex, colour, creed, political affiliation or other social factors; and,
  - d. Names that could be construed as advertising a particular business.

7. Highway Type Designations:

Highway type designations, depending on highway function, length and configuration exist to define the character of a highway. The following designations should be consulted:

- a. Highway, Street, Avenue, Road, Boulevard – for major thoroughfares or highways of several blocks in length;

- b. Drive, Trail, Way – for highways which are winding or curved;
  - c. Terrace, Gardens, Grove, Pathway, Heights – for minor or short highways;
  - d. Lane, Mews, Close – for narrow highways generally used for service;
  - e. Crescent – for highways which form a crescent;
  - f. Court, Place – for cul-de-sacs;
  - g. Circle – for highways that are circular;
  - h. Gate – for a short highway that provides an entrance to a subdivision.
8. Qualifying words may be used when a newly created highway is in actuality an extension of an existing highway which cannot be renumbered or for which no municipal numbers are available. North, South, East, West and Upper or Lower are appropriate qualifying words.

STANDARD DISTRICT OF SOOKE  
HIGHWAY BLADE



VETERAN COMMEMORATIVE  
HIGHWAY BLADE

