

trip report: Mary Hill/ Colony Farm Oct. 15

Inbox



Barbara Waldern

10:17 AM (30 minutes ago)

to me

Despite all the warnings about heavy rain that day, it was a golden morning in Port Coquitlam. After all the shuffles in the hours leading up to it, there were four BOC members on this trip. We started from the fabulous Port Coquitlam Recreational Center after a quick look at its offerings.

We picked our way through the old-style homes of Mary Hill. From that vantage, we caught views of Coquitlam and the peaks of the Cascades Range. One delightful discovery was pretty Settlers' Park where we took our first break. Our goal was Castle Park, though, where we could cross the highway via the pedestrian "draw bridge" to get to the Fraser River shore. That's where we chose to take lunch. The view of the Fraser and its surroundings from the boardwalk was lovely --looking toward Pitt River and the opposite direction toward the Port Mann Bridge and Surrey.

The entrance to Colony Farm wetland and conservation area was not far from there. We passed the grasses and shrubs noting that most of the waterfowl had left. We enjoyed the sight of the peacefully winding Coquitlam River, nonetheless. As a couple of paths were closed, we ended up taking the longer route along Colony Farm Road to find paths connecting back to the Poco Trail. The sections along the rivers we covered are parts of the 25-kilometre Poco/Traboulay Trail that encircles the Poco town centre. We continued into Gates Park and its sports complex where many soccer and softball teams were playing.

After covering 16 km, it was time to cut through the town centre and get back to the vehicle parked at the Rec Centre. We escaped the coming rain, taking off under the gathering clouds.