



BC Parks

Accessible parks

OXD Gastown Gumberoos hackathon 2024

By OXD, BC Parks Information Service dev team
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**Users' accessibility needs
vary considerably**

The challenge

“
Accessible design is not design
for people with disabilities, it’s
just better design.”

Brad McCannell, Vice President, Access and Inclusion, Rick Hansen Foundation

Visitors' accessibility needs vary considerably

- Mobility disability
- Temporary disability
- Limited vision
- Neurodivergence

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Park Accessibility Information



BC Parks are for everyone. BC Parks partnered with [SPARC BC](#) to survey almost 2,000 British Columbians to find out how we can remove barrier to their use of park. To learn more, read the [accessibility research report \(PDF 1.39MB\)](#).

As part of our Commitment to Inclusion, we are dedicated to improving accessibility to the recreational facilities, trails, and natural features in BC Parks. Our vision is that B.C.'s provincial parks are welcoming and meaningfully accessible to all.

To learn more about our commitment, visit the [Commitment to Inclusion](#) page.

To learn more about our facility guidelines, read the [BC Parks Universal Design Guide for frontcountry parks \(PDF 4.94MB\)](#).

To find accessibility information about a park, make a selection from the drop-down:

- select a park area -

Accessibility in BC Parks



The challenge

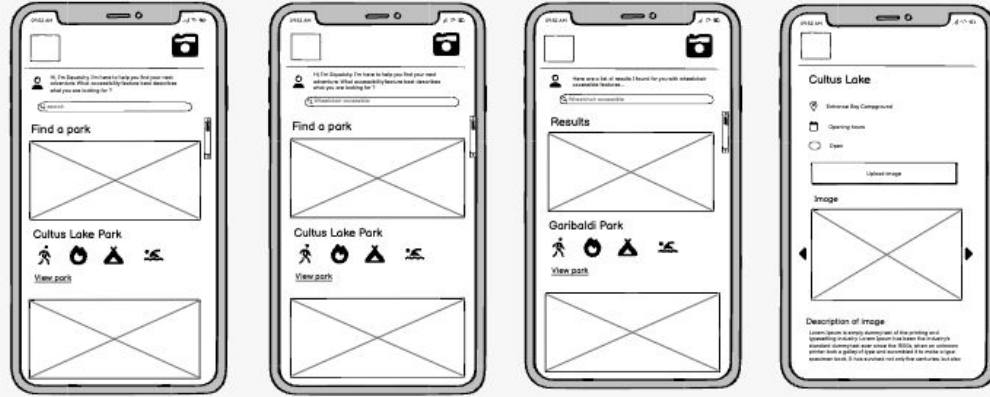
- accessibility.bcparks.ca is a website on old infrastructure
- The design of the website does not meet modern web accessibility standards (WCAG 2.2)
- The content is outdated and many new trails and accessible features have not been added (e.g. Spirea trail, Golden ears)

Our solution

What we decided to do

- Mobile-first web app to crowdsource information
- Use existing data from accessibility.bcparks.ca
- Use AI to tag user inputs and to return relevant search results
- Use relational db queries to bring back parks where the park tags match the search query tags

Park Search Flow



Feedback Flow



Technology

- OpenAI
- Django/DRF
- Vue.js
- PostgreSQL
- Docker
- AWS (ECS, S3)

Demo

Future possibilities

Future possibilities

- Make the feedback collection more granular so it can pertain to a specific area of the park.
- Refine the AI model and the tagging so we get better quality results
- Add more AI integration to parse images
- Implement some gamification to incentivise crowdsourcing

Q&A



BC Parks

Thank you

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