



P.O. Box 1749  
Halifax, Nova Scotia  
B3J 3A5 Canada

**Item No. 16.1**  
**Harbour East–Marine Drive Community Council**  
**January 10, 2019**

**TO:** Chair and Members of Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council  
Original Signed

**SUBMITTED BY:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Denise Schofield, Director, Parks and Recreation  
  
Original Signed  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brad Anguish, A/Chief Administrative Officer

**DATE:** January 2, 2019

**SUBJECT:** **Daffodil Garden for Cancer, Ferry Terminal Park**

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**ORIGIN**

October 4, 2018 - Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council motion:

**MOVED by Councillor Nicoll, seconded by Councillor Karsten**

**THAT Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council request a staff report examining the creation of a Cancer Survivors Park on the Dartmouth Harbourfront, between the Alderney Ferry Terminal and King's Wharf.**

**LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY**

*Halifax Regional Municipality Charter, S.N.S. 2008, c.39*

- 79 (1) The Council may expend money required by the Municipality for:
- (ai) public grounds, squares, halls, museums, parks, tourist information centres and community centres

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council authorize staff to undertake the development of a Daffodil Garden for Cancer at Ferry Terminal Park in Dartmouth, pending the provision of full funding for the project as per the Financial Implications section of this report.

## **BACKGROUND**

### What is a Cancer Survivors garden?

Cancer Survivors gardens, or parks as they are sometimes called, are designed to create an inspirational retreat that provides a place for understanding, accepting and enjoying survivorship. Cancer survivors gardens have been established in 25 cities in Canada and the United States. Two of these are in Ontario; one in Ottawa was created in 2008 and one in Mississauga was created in 2006.

### Proposal

Dartmouth residents, Jim and Judie Edgar, have been working to establish a Cancer Survivors Park in the Halifax Regional Municipality, as a green space to give hope and courage to the many people that survive cancer.

On October 4, 2018 Judie and Jim Edgar presented to the Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council their vision to create an inspirational retreat that would provide a place for understanding, accepting and enjoying survivorship. A copy of their presentation is attached to this report as Attachment 3.

The Edgar's reviewed site considerations for the proposed park and their preferred location is along the Dartmouth Harbour Walk, located between Alderney Ferry Terminal and King's Wharf.

The Edgars are currently working with the Canadian Cancer Society to raise funds for this project. This funding may be supplemented by contributions by individual councillors through district capital.

## **DISCUSSION**

### Location

The proposed location for this installation, within Ferry Terminal Park, across from Prince Street was requested by the Edgar's. Staff has reviewed the selected site and agree that it is an acceptable location (refer to Attachment 2). Other sites within HRM were not assessed for this project.

The developers of King's Wharf are reviewing options with HRM for an emergency access near Alderney Drive in the vicinity of Prince Street and King Street. HRM Development Engineering was consulted and determined that the proposed Daffodil Garden for Cancer location would not conflict with the emergency access infrastructure.

### Naming

In the presentation to Harbour East-Marine Drive Community Council, the project was titled the "Cancer Survivors Park". This name cannot be approved under the HRM Asset Naming Policy (Administrative Order Number 46) as the site is currently located within Ferry Terminal Park, and would therefore be considered a park feature within an existing park. In discussions with the HRM Asset Naming Committee, it has been suggested that if the garden is developed, it would be classified as a garden park feature and use a horticultural name to define it.

HRM's Asset Naming Policy allows any person or group to apply for a commemorative name for HRM assets (including park features) and one of the criteria is "requested name recognizes the flora and fauna of the local area". Therefore, the name "Daffodil Garden for Cancer" could be considered for the garden feature under that criteria.

### Features

This proposed project consists of construction elements and materials which can be considered as standard park assets, such as a concrete sidewalk, park benches, a park sign, and planting beds with perennials and shrubs. Other elements of the installation would be considered as specialized assets including a concrete statue and plaques with engraved quotations (refer to attachment 1). The content of the quotations would need to be approved by HRM staff prior to installation.

#### Construction

If sufficient funding is realized, HRM will issue a public tender for the construction with an anticipated completion date of early June prior to the Provincially designated Cancer Survivors' Day which is held on the first Sunday in June. HRM will administer the tender, award and construction process.

#### Maintenance

The elements which are standard to parks (sidewalk, park benches, sign and planting beds) will be maintained by HRM Parks & Recreation. The maintenance of the specialized assets (statue and plaques) may be funded for the first three years through a dedicated fund to be set aside by the Canadian Cancer Society, pending fundraising efforts. After this time, HRM will be responsible for all ongoing maintenance.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

This project is currently included in the proposed 2019/20 Capital Budget from Project Account No. CP180001 – Park Recapitalization. This project is estimated at \$50,000 (gross) with no net cost to HRM, with funding from donations administered by the Canadian Cancer Society. Funding may also be supplemented by contributions from individual councillors through district capital. The Proposed 2019/20 Capital Budget also includes \$3,000 for Ongoing Operating Costs Associated with Capital (OCC).

The project will not proceed to tender and construction until the required external funding has been secured by HRM.

### **RISK CONSIDERATION**

There are no significant risks associated with the recommendations of this report. The risk consideration rate is low. To determine this consideration was given to operational, financial and reputational risks.

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

The scale of this park feature does not warrant community consultation.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

Environmental Implications not identified.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

Community Council may choose to recommend that Halifax Regional Council not approve this project.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

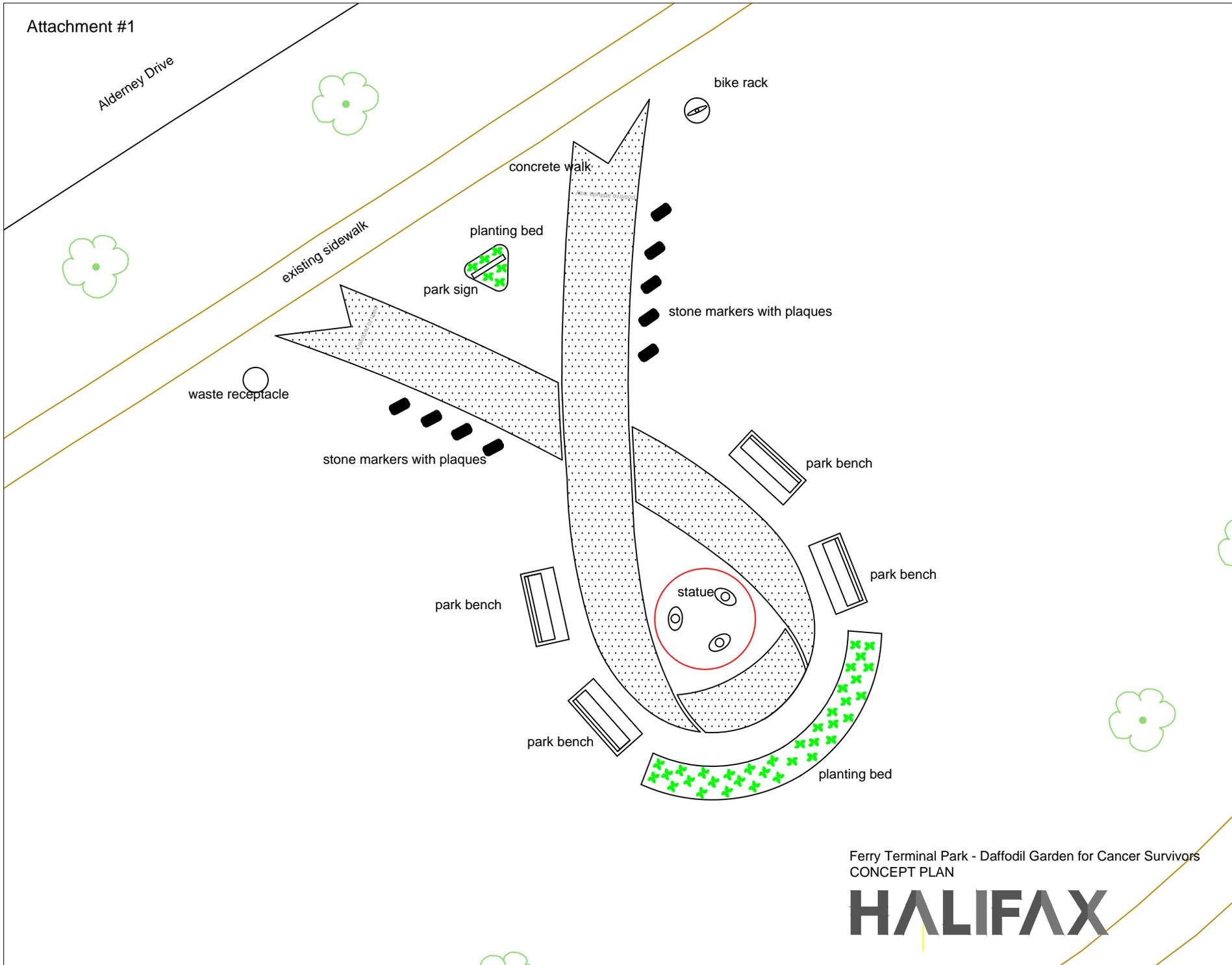
Attachment 1 - Garden Concept Plan  
Attachment 2 - Garden Site Location within Ferry Terminal Park  
Attachment 3 - Presentation from Judie and Jim Edgar

A copy of this report can be obtained online at [halifax.ca](http://halifax.ca) or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210.

Report Prepared by: Gary Young csla, Landscape Architect, Parks Capital Projects, 902.490.7174  
Jeff Spares, P.Eng., Manager, Parks Capital Projects, 902.490.6820

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Alderney Drive



Ferry Terminal Park - Daffodil Garden for Cancer Survivors  
CONCEPT PLAN

**HALIFAX**

# Garden Site

Attachment #2

## Legend

-  alderney Dr
-  Ferry Terminal Park
-  Garden Site



Google Earth

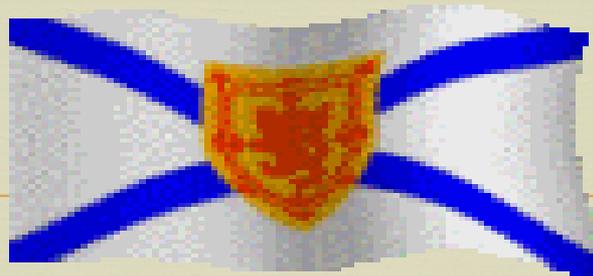
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# Cancer Survivors Park

Attachment 3 - Presentation from Jodie and Jim Edgar



**A space for rejuvenation, inspiration, and education for all touched by cancer  
before, during and after treatment**

# Our Vision

To create an inspirational retreat that would provide a place for understanding, accepting and enjoying survivorship:

- ❑ Where a positive attitude stroll can be taken along a path with flowers, trees as well as a beautiful artistic structure overlooking the waterfront.
- ❑ Somewhere where survivors of all types of cancer can share their experiences while encouraging one another or simply reflect on their own.
- ❑ A place a cancer survivor can rest with family and friends (*who are survivors themselves*) to engage in a positive conversation no matter where they are in their journey.
- ❑ A park that has potential to become a magnet for starting and ending points of walks/runs/gatherings in support of cancer research and survivorship as well as benefiting nearby businesses.

*FACT: Recent studies show 1 in 2 Canadians will develop cancer in their lifetime ~ Canadian Cancer Society June 2017*

# Site considerations for Cancer Survivors Park

## Off hospital property

**Reason:** So survivors, family & friends can separate from medical & clinical aspect of disease

## On transit routes

**Reason:** for easy access; not everyone has their own vehicle or able to drive during treatment

## High profile area with visible signage

**Reason:** The Cancer Survivors Park would be a daily reminder to all who pass by with a message to the subconscious that death and cancer are not synonymous. The message and park are meant to give hope and courage.

## Greenbelt area:

**Reason:** An environmentally friendly and tranquil spot to remind us that people survive this disease and will continue to do so.

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!!! 

## *Dartmouth Harbourwalk*

The proposed park would be located between Alderney Ferry Terminal and King's Wharf. It will directly connect to the Trans Canada Trail, HRM's park system, biking and walking trails, and complement the continued development of downtown Dartmouth as a destination.



***IMAGINE having the only Cancer Survivors  
Park in Atlantic Canada!***

# Important Components of the Park

- ❑ The concrete path through the park area would be in the shape of a ribbon which represents cancer awareness. It would not be tinted in any colour linking to a specific type of cancer as this park will represent cancer survivors of ALL types of cancers.
- ❑ The preferred name of the park (pending approval) would be “*Cancer Survivors Daffodil Park*”. The daffodil is the flower of the Canadian Cancer Society that symbolizes rebirth and new beginnings which embodies survivorship. It is such a resilient flower that starts as a bulb thriving through the cold winter to break through in spring as a beautiful yellow flower. It represents hope in the fight against cancer.
- ❑ The artistic feature will be located in the loop of the ribbon and consist of three life sized figures representing youth, middle age and senior population as cancer does not discriminate when it come to age. We hope to have them interactive to make a great photo op and memory of the visit.

*Survivors are defined as those living with the disease, family members and friends, caregivers and clinical staff working with those with the disease*

# Positive Mental Attitude Walk

## Inspirational quotes to be placed on plaques



- Remember how far you've come, not just how far you have to go. You may not be where you want to be, but neither are you where you used to be.
- Cancer is an ugly disease but the beauty of life after cancer is worth fighting for.
- Never be ashamed of a scar. It simply means you were stronger than whatever tried to hurt you.
- Your cancer diagnosis does not define you but your courage and strength does.

# Path to Recovery Walk

*Common sense guidelines in collaboration with  
Dr. Katharina Keiser, Oncologist QEII, Associate Professor at Dalhousie*



## **COMMITMENT**

The biggest decision you can make is to make a promise to take care of yourself. Only you can promise to do everything in your power, all the way, with no exceptions. When you promise yourself this, you have accomplished the most important part of the treatment.

## **KNOWLEDGE**

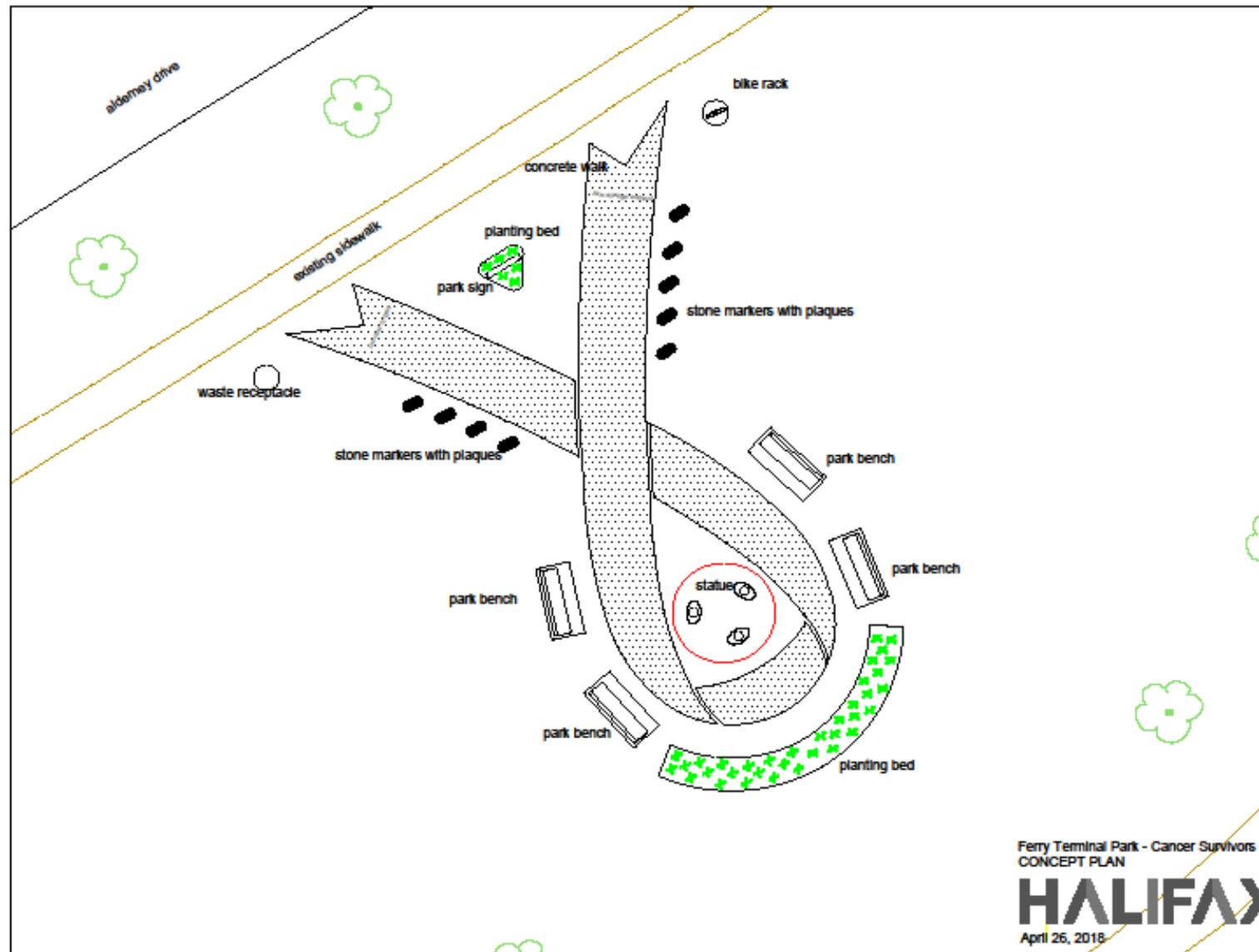
Knowledge is a cancer patient's best friend. Find out everything you can about your disease and ask questions of your health team. Do what your physician suggests and everything you believe might help that your physician says will not hurt.

## **ACTION**

Eat a well-balanced diet to maintain and effective immune system. Exercise as much as you comfortably can. Relaxation exercises and visual imagery can help to reduce stress. Embrace your spirituality. Have fun.

## **BELIEVE**

Understand that cancer is a life threatening disease that many have conquered. BELIEVE that you too will be one of them. Always keep a positive outlook.



# Testimonials

*"When Judie told me about her idea for a park in Dartmouth, I was very excited. I think it would provide an accessible place where everyone could go to be uplifted and inspired. A healing park where people can go to find strength and connection would be a great asset to the community".*

**~Dr. Stacey A. Canning-Lively BSc, DDS – cancer survivor**

*"As a cancer survivor myself, it is gratifying to see that there are those who understand not only the trials that we went through but also the joyous outcomes! We think the Cancer Survivors Park will be a wonderful addition to the Dartmouth waterfront, and a welcome neighbour for King's Wharf residents".*

**~Sherry Spicer, Fares & Co. Development, King's Wharf – cancer survivor**

*"Alderney Landing supports the creation of the Cancer Survivors Park in the area designated by HRM. In particular we are impressed with the design of all the elements and it's relationship to the surrounding grounds. Unfortunately, most of us have been touched by Cancer and it is lovely that Survivors will have a beautiful place of reflection and hope".*

**~Bea MacGregor, Executive Director, Alderney Landing**

*"Judie and Jim's dream of a Cancer Survivors Park is about providing hope to others and sends the message that there are so many survivors-and thrivers-after cancer. This is certainly a message that our organization witnesses every day and supports. We are excited to stand beside Judie and Jim and to see the Cancer Survivors Park become a reality. We know that it will have an incredible impact on the individuals and families that we serve.*

**~ Jane Parsons, Regional Executive Director- Atlantic Canada, Canadian Cancer Society**

*"A survivors park overlooking the Halifax Harbour where all can enjoy a walk or sit while feeling the sea breeze, looking at the surroundings and have a conversation is so valuable to our cancer survivors. I support your work in pursuing this fantastic addition to our community".*

**~Katharina Kieser, Oncologist, Associate Professor, Division of Gynecologic Oncology, Dalhousie University**

*"Hope is a powerful elixir and a tremendous motivator. The Cancer Survivors Park planned for the Dartmouth waterfront will be a wonderful place for survivors, their families and their friends. A place for reflection and rejoicing. This public space will be a beacon for the entire community and a symbol of hope – something that surely everyone deserves."*

**~Adrienne Malloy, President, Dartmouth General Hospital Foundation**

*"Judie & Jim Edgar's focus on hope for survivors and creating space for contemplation and reflection is a noble goal and a lovely addition to Downtown Dartmouth. I would be pleased to see a local space dedicated to cancer survivors and those touched by cancer."*

**~Claudia Chender, MLA Dartmouth South**

# Cancer Survivors Park in Nova Scotia

*Normally parks memorialize those who have passed away*

*This park will be different as it will be a tribute to the living*

*A Park that is meant to give hope and courage that people do survive this disease and will continue to do so*

**A place that will continuously give the same message.....**

**“There is hope”**

