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WAYNE LEIDENFROST/PNG FILE

Metro Vancouver is looking to install a small Wi-Fi hotspot at Lynn Headwaters Regional Park within the next year to make hiker registration more convenient.

NORTH VANCOUVER

Hikers to get Wi-Fi at Lynn Valley trailhead

Small hotspot will provide check-in convenience

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Metro Vancouver is looking to install a Wi-Fi hotspot at Lynn Headwaters Regional Park so hikers can check in digitally when they head out on the trails.

Tom McComb, supervisor of park operations, said Friday the hotspot is being installed at the safety kiosk located by the first bridge over Lynn Creek after the parking lot. He said the idea is to bring a cell signal to the service yard and connect via an optic fibre link to the kiosk.

"We're still in the very early stages," he said. "It is meant to be a more convenient way for visitors to check in. Right now we have a paper-based system. We think more folks will use our

registration if it is more convenient."

He estimated the system won't be operational for eight months to a year. He said it will take a while to develop the software needed for a paperless system.

He said the hotspot would extend for a very short distance — possibly only 50 metres around the kiosk. It will not cover the whole 5,600-hectare park, he said.

"As yet, it's not completely tested," McComb said. "I don't want people to get the impression that Wi-Fi will be available throughout the park."

Lynn Headwaters Regional Park in North Vancouver is the largest of 22 regional parks administered by Metro Vancouver. It is a popular spot to head off into the wilderness on the North Shore.

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