

About ‘Tracing Roots’

The Tracing Roots concept reimagines St. Moritz Park as a living landscape that restores and celebrates its natural character while strengthening community connections. Ecological health is central, with meadows, no-mow zones, native planting, and visible low-impact systems that manage water on-site and support pollinators and wildlife. These features build on the park's existing identity while expanding “wild” spaces that invite discovery, exploration, and learning about local ecology. A branching path network, inspired by root systems, links neighbourhood streets, the nearby school, and new amenities. Main routes connect to key destinations like the play area and splash pad, while secondary paths lead to smaller gathering spots nestled within the landscape.

The park is shaped by the hydro corridor into two distinct areas. The upper area includes a new play zone, natural water play, community garden, pavilion and washroom building, along with quieter spaces for rest and reflection. The lower area, adjacent to the school, is more active, with a multi-sport court, soccer field, pavilion, and flexible lawn that hosts community events and doubles as a skating surface in winter. Seating areas and teen-focused spaces are integrated along pathways, providing places for socializing, gathering, and relaxation within the larger park framework.

Throughout the park, spaces are intended to support interactions: where butterflies pollinate native species, neighbours greet each other on paths, and students race through on their way to school. Materials like stone and wood give the park a natural, tactile feel, while even the parking areas are designed to support planting and manage water. Together, these elements create a resilient and welcoming park that feels both connected to nature and rooted in community life.



Share your thoughts and stay updated on this project: engagewr.ca/st-moritz-park



View of the water play area



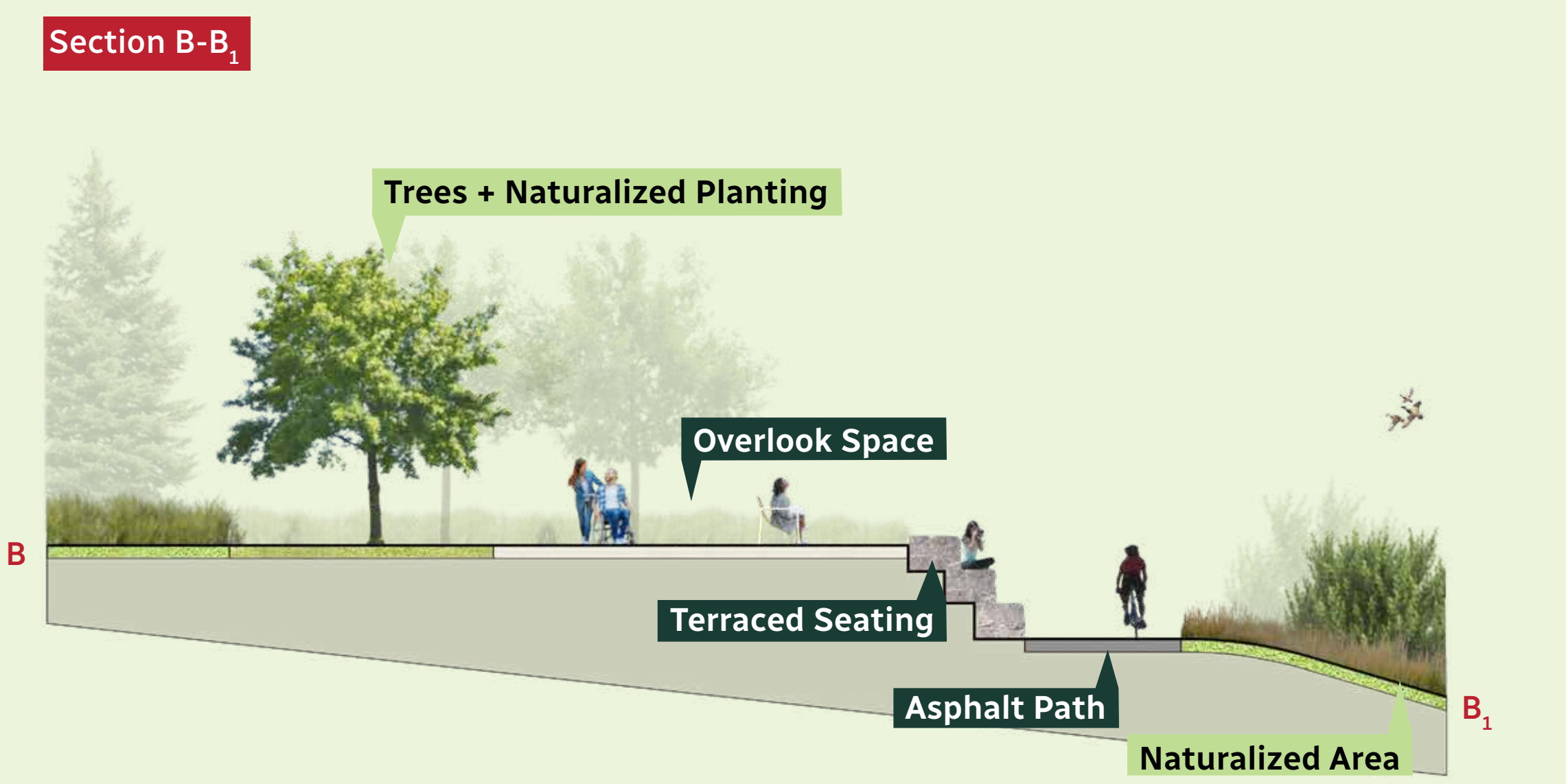
View of the nature discovery space



View of the winter skating area



Section Illustrations



Precedent Imagery and Inspiration



About ‘The Nest’

The Nest concept imagines St. Moritz Park as the neighbourhood’s place to meet - an energetic, welcoming space where community life is the focus. Designed to foster connection, it offers spaces, amenities, and a natural setting for everyday encounters, celebrations, and park activities. Landscapes support wildlife alongside areas that invite creativity, play, and social exchange. The park becomes a place to belong - comfortable, dynamic, and alive.

The central space, “the Nest,” is in the upper park north of the hydro corridor. Encircled by native planting and shade trees, it includes a playground, splash pad, community garden, washroom, and tree grove seating. At its heart, a pavilion anchors the space with a flexible plaza for casual gatherings and larger neighbourhood events. Extending outward like petals, secondary spaces offer varied experiences, with some lively and sensory-rich, others quiet and restorative. These unfold through pathways, planting, and seating, allowing visitors to gather, pause, or explore. Planting and berms buffer active areas from nearby residences, balancing openness and comfort.

The lower park area emphasizes active recreation, with a multi-sport court, half-court basketball, and a pavilion supporting programming and events. Along the edges, naturalized planting, meadows, and outdoor classroom spaces create opportunities for learning and ecological connection. Street-facing edges and the school connection invite interaction, while backyard edges are screened for privacy. Across the site, natural materials – including stone, gravel, and wood - combine with sculptural features and diverse planting to frame experiences, offer shade, and build resilience. Together, these layers establish an inviting park, anchored by the Nest as a unique community destination.



View of the outdoor classroom within the succession planting area



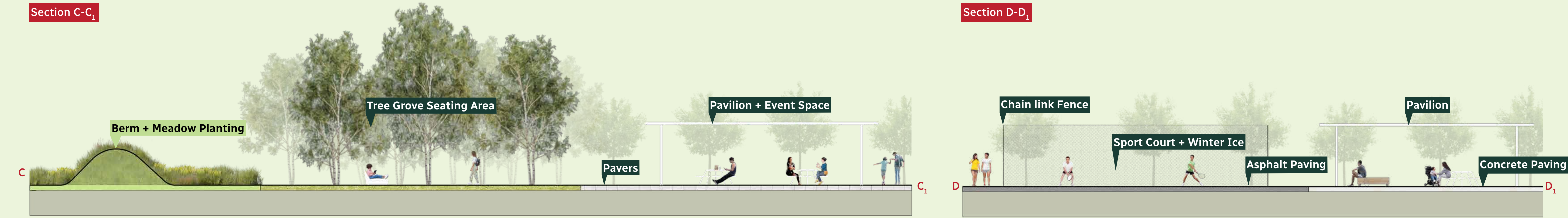
View of the tree grove seating area



View of the central pavilion and event space



Section Illustrations



Precedent Imagery and Inspiration

