

Free Parking is Available on the North Shore

The City of North Vancouver and the District of North Vancouver allow SPARC BC permit holders to park in **any** time-limited municipal parking stall (i.e. not only those designated for persons with disabilities) for an unrestricted period.

SPARC BC permit holders, whose permit is properly displayed in the vehicle, may park in any of the following **City of North Vancouver pay-parking** lots at no charge:

- at East 1st Street;
- at the foot of Lonsdale Avenue;
- at Carries Cates Courte; and
- at 14th Street (next to the City Hall).

However, free parking may not apply to private parking areas such as shopping malls or pay-parking parkades.

Although correct at the time of publication, information in this section may be subject to change.

For More Information

For information on the bylaws in your area please contact the North Shore Advisory Committee on Disability Issues (ACDI):

c/o The District of North Vancouver
355 West Queens Road
North Vancouver, B.C., V7N 4N5
Email: acdi@dnv.org

Or

An ACDI Staff Liaison at:
City of North Vancouver: (604) 985-7761
District of North Vancouver: (604) 990-2311
District of West Vancouver: (604) 925-7000

PARKING DESIGNATED FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES



Image permitted by SPARC BC

Prepared by The North Shore Advisory Committee
on Disability Issues

SPARC BC Permit and Parking Stalls

Any person with a doctor-certified disability and a valid Social Planning and Research Council of British Columbia (SPARC BC) permit, may park in designated stalls. The permit holder may use the permit in **any** vehicle and does not have to be the driver or the owner. However, the permit itself is **non-transferable** and is to be used only by the authorized permit holder.

To park in the designated stall the permit must be clearly displayed and the person with the disability must have left the vehicle. A parent, guardian, caregiver, friend, relative or any other accompanying party may not use a designated parking stall for convenience, while leaving the person with the disability in the vehicle.

Parking Stalls for People with Disabilities

For an able-bodied person parking in a stall designated for persons with disabilities "for just one minute", consider the consequences for those for whom the stalls are intended.

When an able-bodied person occupies a designated stall, a person with a disability must find alternate parking. This may require them to park further from an entrance or service. Non-designated stalls are not large enough to accommodate a vehicle-installed lift and/or ramp for wheelchair users.

As fatigue is often a significant component of many disabilities, legitimate permit holders may find the extra distance too stressful or impossible to negotiate.

Your courtesy in ensuring that the designated parking stalls are available for those for whom they are intended is greatly appreciated.

Not All Disabilities Are Obvious

For many people, a wheelchair, walker, cane or other mobility aid defines their idea of a disability. However, there are numerous persons with disabilities who suffer from disabilities that are not obvious. "Invisible Disabilities" usually refers to a person's ongoing and debilitating symptoms such as dizziness, pain, weakness, or cognitive impairments.

Invisible disabilities include brain injuries, chronic pain, chronic fatigue syndrome, fibromyalgia, epilepsy, renal failure, diabetes, and heart conditions. As extreme fatigue and restricted or limited movement usually come hand-in-hand with these conditions, those who have been diagnosed with a hidden disability rely on the more convenient positioning of parking stalls assigned to people with disabilities. For a person to use a SPARC BC permit that person must have difficulty walking 100 m without risk to health or safety.

Obtaining a Parking Permit

To find out if you qualify for a parking permit, please contact:

SPARC BC
201 – 221 East 10th Avenue
Vancouver, B.C., V5T 4V3

Telephone: (604) 718-7744
Website: www.sparc.bc.ca

There is a minimal cost for the permit, which is valid for three years throughout British Columbia.