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 - [National Sports](#)
 - [World Cup 2026](#)
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- Features
 - [Islander](#)
 - [Travel](#)
 - [Homes](#)
 - [Sponsored](#)
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 - [Contests](#)
 - [Crossword](#)
 - [Local Events](#)
 - [Special Sections](#)
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- [Properties](#)
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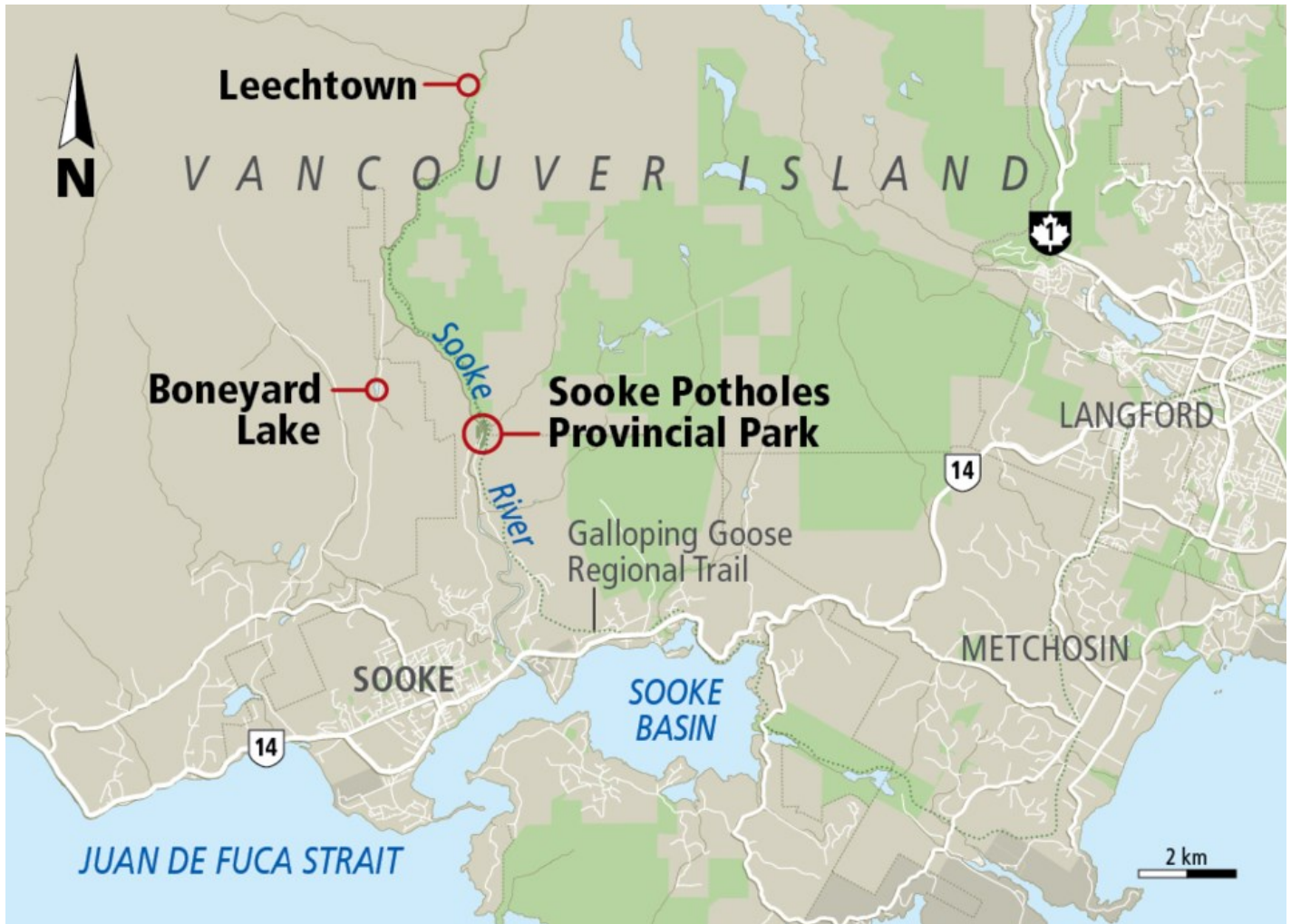
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Four rescued after getting lost near Sooke

Four Victoria residents are safe and sound today after getting lost on a day hike Saturday in Sooke and enduring five hours in nighttime cold until they were rescued.

Katherine Dedyna Dec 18, 2016 2:55 PM

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Four Victoria residents are safe and sound today after getting lost on a day hike Saturday in Sooke and enduring five hours in nighttime cold until they were rescued.

One of the men injured his knee and could no longer walk after he and his companions became disoriented 10 kilometres or more from their starting point at Sooke Potholes Provincial Park.

“They were on quite the hike,” said Const. Andrew Moore of Sooke RCMP, who took the first 911 call at 5:22 p.m.

The hiker’s cell service was cutting in and out, making it difficult for authorities to locate the two men and two women, described as having outdoors experience.

When Moore and another officer went to the park, they could see no signs of the group.

Further so-called drop calls from a cell phone came in from Leechtown and Boneyard Lake — a considerable distance from their starting point. They were found near Boneyard Lake on a logging road, having crossed the Sooke River to end up there.

Victoria police were able to track down some of their family members who were able to give more specific information about where they were headed.

Juan De Fuca Search and rescue, Saanich police and B.C. Ambulance were also involved in the search.

“We located them at 10: 15 last night,” Moore said. The injured man did not require hospital treatment.

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