

May 2017

Dear Community Partner:

We are writing to your company with regards to an important project we are working on in the Prince George Westgate community located in College Heights. The community at Immaculate Conception School along with other Prince George community members have developed a plan to bring an *inclusive playground* to this growing community. This project is an \$140,000 inclusive playground that will include accessible features for children living with disabilities, and an upgrade to allow more mobility for anyone using a wheelchair, stroller or walker. If successful, **this playground will be only the second one of its kind in Prince George.**

We are currently working with *Habitat Systems Inc*, a design firm specializing in creating safe play environments for children of all abilities and their families. Our hope is to update the approximately 20-year-old play structure that is surrounded by pea gravel. The goal is to replace the pea gravel with engineered wood chips and add rubberized mat pathways, thereby increasing access to all play features and allowing easier movement. Additions to the existing play structure will be made and will include equipment to engage multiple senses and promote growth.

In an effort to ensure we reach our goal we are inviting community partners to sponsor the inclusive playground project either through the different established levels of sponsorship, sponsorship of a specific component, or donations-in-kind. Please see the attached package for details on the different levels of sponsorship and recognition.

If you should have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact one of us.

With gratitude,

Donncha O'Callaghan
IC Principal
School & Community Liaison
docallaghan@cispg.ca
250-964-4362

Arleta Lucarelli
Fundraising Coordinator
arleta.lucarelli@gmail.com
604-889-4336

Carrie Connelly
Parent Support Group Chair
carebearconnelly@yahoo.ca

Kodiaks for Inclusion

Building an inclusive playground in our Westgate community

Active play is important for all members of a community; it fosters good health, promotes higher self-esteem and aids in overall development. However, **access to *inclusive* play facilities in Prince George are very limited**, thereby putting community members at risk of social isolation, especially children with disabilities. As a result, the students, staff and parents at Immaculate Conception School are undertaking a campaign to raise funds to convert an already destination playground in the Westgate community to be more accessible for ALL children and residents in Prince George. If successful, the park will be **the second one of its kind in Prince George**.

What is an “Inclusive Playground”?

What does an ‘inclusive playground’ involve? Inclusive playgrounds are designed specifically to ensure that children of multiple abilities can play *together* - not just alongside each other. They offer an opportunity for all users by ensuring mobility as well as access to most of the play features. The design of inclusive play spaces include smooth surfaces allowing access to play equipment with minimal effort. It also ensures physical and learning opportunities to challenge and include all users, versus the exclusion or social isolation that most playgrounds offer.

The Work Has Already Started!

A committee consisting of parents, children and staff from Immaculate Conception School along with community members have developed a plan to bring this vision of an inclusive playground in Westgate to fruition. Working with *Habitat Systems Inc*, a design firm specializing in creating safe play environments for children of all abilities and their families, the committee has established the need for such a playground and has been consulting with our school children, the community, accessibility advisors and occupational therapists.

Currently the playground equipment is approximately 20 years old and is surrounded by pea gravel limiting accessibility for anyone using a wheelchair, stroller or walker. The goal is to replace the pea gravel with engineered wood chips and add rubberized surfaces, thereby increasing access to all play features and allowing easier movement. Additions to the existing play structure will be made and will include equipment to engage multiple senses and promote growth.

We Need Your Help

What we now need is your help! We would like to ask your business or family to consider helping us with this project by contributing through sponsorship or partnership. We have developed different levels of sponsorship for your consideration.

Playground Plan

- Replace gravel with engineered wood chips
- Fix drainage issues
- Add rubberized surfaces
- Add new inclusive components
- Retain existing components and add accessible pathways



Inclusive Playgrounds Benefit Everyone!

- Inclusive parks are vital for our children's cognitive, emotional and physical development
- Will serve as a social hub for our kids, parents and community members
- Foster and strengthen our sense of community
- Increases the appeal and property value of homes in our community

What You Get from Sponsoring...

There are many different ways to contribute to this project, but overall:

- A receipt of sponsorship funds to be used for **tax purposes**.
- Formal recognition on tasteful commemorative playground features based on level of sponsorship.
- Recognition at park opening/ribbon cutting which will be a community event
- Clear recognition at community events, in local news, social media, website and other publications
- A commemorative plaque with finished playground thanking your company for your contribution to place on your donor wall

Sponsorship Packages

Diamond (\$100 000): Naming of Park

- Create a legacy with this contribution by naming the park (e.g. commemorative or the name of your family or business)
- Invitation and clear recognition at park opening
- Company/family name on donor wall
- Verbal acknowledgement at ribbon cutting ceremony
- Your family/company name on a commemorative page on our school website
- Recognition in school letters and Facebook over the course of the fundraising
- Clear recognition of contribution in local newspaper and on social media
- Share your ideas on how we can credit your contribution

Platinum (\$10,000+)

- Your company/family name on a donor wall
- Verbal acknowledgement at ribbon cutting ceremony
- Your company/family name on a commemorative page on our school website
- Recognition in school letters and Facebook over the course of the fundraising
- Clear recognition of contribution in local newspaper and on social media
- Share your ideas on how we can credit your contribution

Gold (\$5,000+)

- Your company/family name on a donor wall
- Verbal acknowledgement at ribbon cutting ceremony
- Recognition in school letters and Facebook over the course of the fundraising

Silver (\$1,000+)



- Your company/family name on a donor wall
- Your company/family name on a commemorative page on our school website

Component Sponsorship Opportunities

In addition to our recognition levels, we have playground components available for sponsorship. Opportunities are listed below and available on a first-come first-serve basis.

All playground sponsors will be recognized on our website, as well as permanently recognized at the playground site on our donor wall.

Component	Price
Rhapsody Grandioso Chimes	\$8,200
Rhapsody Goblet Drum	\$2,200
Omni Spinner	\$10,500
We Saw	\$13,500
Animato Metallphone	\$6,500
Kundu Drum	\$2,200
Molded Bucket Seat for Swings	\$900
Rubberized Surfacing	\$20,000
Perimeter Concrete Pathway	\$20,000

 <p>Rhapsody Grandioso Chimes</p>	 <p>Rhapsody Goblet Drum</p>	 <p>Omni Spinner</p>	 <p>We Saw</p>
 <p>Animato Metallphone</p>	 <p>Kundu Drum</p>	 <p>Molded Bucket Seat for Swings</p>	

In-Kind Donations

If you are unable to make a financial contribution, in-kind donations will be gratefully accepted!

Remittance Instructions

Thank you for supporting Kodiak's Inclusive Playground Project. When you become a playground sponsor, you choose your level of sponsorship by purchasing a playground component or making a donation to the playground fund. Component sponsorship opportunities are listed and available on a first-come first-serve basis. Naming of the park will require review and approval by CIS and compliance with their current policy.

Media Coverage

We will take every opportunity to thank our major sponsors in the media:

- Identifying major contributors in press releases
- Recognizing major contributors during interviews and publicity events

Please make donations payable to:

Immaculate Conception School

3285 Cathedral Avenue

Prince George BC, V2N 5R2

Or visit www.icschool.ca/online-payment/ to pay by credit card

To make a donation or enter into a sponsorship or partnership, please email Arleta Lucarelli at arleta.lucarelli@gmail.com or Carrie Connelly at carebearconnelly@yahoo.ca with your intent. Thank you for your consideration.

Kodiak Westgate Inclusive Committee:

Michael Murphy – Grants

Sheldon Boyes – Technical Advisor and Project Manager

Donncha O'Callaghan – School and Community Liaison

Arleta Lucarelli – Fundraising Coordinator

Fundraising Planning Committee:

Jennifer Studney

Margaret Fuller

Tamara Monai

Carrie Connelly

Tracey Taite

Anne Thring

Stephanie Hellyer

...and growing

