

Measuring Up Fund FINAL REPORT

Section One - General

1. Community Name: Peachland

2. Primary contact information:

Name:	Keith Fielding	Organization:	Peachland Wellness Centre
Title:	Ex-President	Email:	keithfielding@shaw.ca
Phone:	250-767-0141	Fax:	250-767-0141
Address:	c/oPeachland Wellness Ctr 4426 Fifth St Peachland, BC	Postal Code:	V0H 1X2

3. Attach a final summary of your initiative. Please include specific details about activities undertaken as a result of receiving a Measuring Up grant. (3-pages maximum)

(Attached)

4. Attach a list of the members of your Measuring Up Committee.

(Attached)

5. Did you hire people to help complete this initiative?

Yes (please complete this section) No (please skip to Question 6)

How many people were hired? one

Did any of the people hired have a disability?

Yes No

Was money from the Measuring Up grant used to pay the people you hired?

Yes No

6. Attach copies of any media coverage related to your initiative.

Already Submitted

Section Two - Financial Information

Please provide final budget information for your initiative in the format below:

		IN-KIND RESOURCES		MEASURING UP FUND
Expenditures	AMOUNT	Amount	Source	Amount
Salary Payment D. Weber	\$ 891.10	100 hrs @ 10 hr. \$ 1,000	Peachland Wellness Centre	\$ 891.10
Purchase of JAWS and MAGIC software plus training package	\$4,000	@80 hrs 10 hr. \$800 (to date)	Peachland Wellness Centre	\$4,000
PetroCanda Gas Credit	\$1,500			\$1,500
Wheelchair Van Repair Credit	\$2,000			\$2,000
Reimbursement to Peachland Wellness Centre for salary and office expense item for accessibility survey	\$3,865			\$3,865
Reimbursement to Aging in Place Account for Wheelchair Van repair	\$ 886.00			\$886.00
Totals:	\$13,142.10			\$13,142.10

Section Three - Measuring Up Guide

1) Attach a summary of any comments, thoughts, or suggestions you have for changes to the

Measuring Up Guide. Please be specific. (1-page maximum)

[\(Already Submitted\)](#)

2) Did you develop additional tools to supplement your use of the Measuring Up Guide?

Yes (please complete this section)
Four)

No (please skip to Section

Attach copies of these tools along with comments about why and how these tools were developed. (1-page maximum)

[Attached](#)

Section Four - Other Information

Attach any other information, stories or comments you would like to include that reflect on your initiative.

[See Written Report](#)

Section Five - Report Declaration

I certify that:

- To the best of my knowledge all the information contained in this Report and any attachments is true and complete.
- Measuring Up, 2010 Legacies Now and the Province of BC were given appropriate recognition as a funding partner as per the Guidelines provided in the Contribution Agreement.
- I have submitted the Final Report in accordance to the approved deadline.

Authorized Representative:

Name (please print): [Keith Fielding](#)

Position: [Ex-President](#)

Signature: [Signed Copy in Mail](#)

Date: [Feb. 25th. 2009](#)

Mail completed AND signed Final Reports to:

Measuring Up Fund
2010 Legacies Now
400 - 1095 West Pender
Vancouver, British Columbia V6E 2M6
Phone: 778-327-5123

Peachland Wellness Centre: Report on the Disposition of Measuring-Up Grant Funding

Introduction

The Peachland 'Measuring Up' process has reached an important stage thanks to the grant provided to the Peachland Wellness Centre by the Spirit of BC, Measuring-Up grant program.

While the implementation of changes to promote increased accessibility and inclusion for people with disabilities will continue, the process to date has allowed us to focus on, and respond to, known problems in the community.

The \$15,000 grant (of which a small surplus remains) has allowed us to engage three main challenges: promoting physical access to businesses and public use buildings; making public use computers accessible to visually impaired residents and visitors; and enhancing transit options to those confined to wheelchairs.

Barrier Free Access to Premises:

An audit of all business/public access buildings has been completed by a wheelchair-confined researcher. Problems have been identified, the results reviewed with premise owners and solutions suggested. In some cases issues have been satisfactorily addressed, while in others, further discussion is needed.

The survey instrument used for the audit was designed in-house and allowed for review of stores, restaurants, and public buildings. A copy of the survey document together with a statistical summary of the survey results is shown at Appendix 1.

The most important issues identified are impossible to open front doors and crowded aisles that impede wheelchair movement or pose hazards for the sight impaired. In the case of entrance doors the problem is not easily resolved. Automatic doors are the ideal solution, but the cost is prohibitive for many small businesses. Our survey revealed only nine locations where automatic doors exist. In premises without automatic doors, 95% were judged to be difficult or impossible to open from a wheelchair. The problem with crowded aisles is mostly an awareness issue. Solutions have not been difficult to identify and business owners have generally responded constructively to suggested changes.

The survey has revealed a willingness on the part of virtually all business owners to be as accommodating as their resources will allow. In the case of access difficulties, the problems have invariably been minimized by staff or business owners being alert to the difficulty and immediately providing door-opening assistance. While such assistance is of value it does not work as a practical solution if the store operator is not alert to the problem. A solution that has been suggested is for door buzzers to be installed at the front entrance of inaccessible stores with a push button mounted at wheelchair

accessible height. While no substitute for an automatic door, such a 'need for assistance' signaling system is considered preferable to an impenetrable barrier.

Our research suggests that buzzer purchase and installation would be comparatively inexpensive (approximately \$100 per location.) Subject to permission from the Measuring-Up granting agency we propose that the balance of funds available from the Measuring-Up grant be used to fund further consultation with store owners and assist those willing to participate by providing a \$50 grant towards buzzer acquisition and installation costs.

In a related component of the accessibility study a survey was conducted to identify whether parking spaces, and curb cut outs in areas adjacent to stores and public buildings are appropriately designed. This survey has identified that while the number and size of disabled parking spaces is generally adequate, there are a few instances where curb cut-outs are non-existent or inappropriately located. A report on these findings has been communicated to the municipality for their attention.

Computer Access for the Visually Impaired

There are two locations in Peachland where public use computers are located: The Peachland Wellness Centre and the Visitors Information Bureau. While there are not a large number of blind and visually impaired clients requiring the support service, the fact that it is of benefit to even a few residents and visitors is ample justification for proceeding.

The project required purchase of JAWS and MAGIC PRO software (the flagship programs) as well as a large screen monitor and earphones.

There is a considerable learning curve for users who are not familiar with the application. User training materials have also been acquired and user a support service is provided by Peachland Wellness Centre volunteers. We are very pleased to be able to provide this support service to those who need it now, and those who will be future users.

Transit for Physically Disabled

Consistent with our grant application and in conformity with the requirement to avoid a carry-over of unspent funding we have implemented two measures that allow us to reliably maintain the Peachland Wellness Centre wheelchair lift van transit service.

The two key measures (purchase of a vehicle service credit with City Auto, and the purchase of a PetroCanada gas credit) ensure that there is a time extended benefit to the wheelchair van service, but an immediate disposition of available funds. These measures have enabled us to assure wheelchair confined clients of this supplementary transit service that we can continue to be meet their needs into the foreseeable future.

Conclusion

Of the \$15,000 grant fund allocated to Peachland, \$13,500 has been received and \$1,500 remains on 'hold back' pending submission of this report.

Project expenditures to date total \$13,142.10 leaving an unspent balance in the Measuring-Up 'grant received' account of \$357.90. With the addition of hold back funds in the amount of \$1,500, the sum of \$1,857.90 is available for final implementation.

It is our recommendation that the hold back funds now be released and that the total available grant balance be used for implementation of the alarm buzzer installation program as outlined above.

Members of Peachland Measuring Up Committee

Co Chairs:

Keith Fielding
Darlene Hartford

Members:

Barb Wierzbicki
Ellen Coleman
Catherine MacDonald
Jean Priegert
Lynne McBryan
Francis Bastiaanse
Dave Weber
Madeline Patterson (Part)
Lori Patterson (Part)

**Accessibility Review
Peachland Businesses and Public Use Premises**

Premises.....Owner/Contact.....
Address..... Tel:.....

1.0 Approach:

1.1 Is the approach to the main entrance unobstructed?

yes no
....

Comments

2.0 Entrance

2.1 Are there un-ramped steps to negotiate?

Yes..... No..... Comments

2.2 Is there an automatic door?

Yes..... No.....

2.3 Can the door be opened easily?

Yes..... No..... Comments

3.0 Beyond the Entrance

3.1 Is there sufficient room to enter the store, close the door and turn full circle?

Yes..... No.....

4.0 Store Attendant(s)

Once inside the store, is there a clear line of sight to a store attendant or to someone to whom questions can be addressed?

Yes..... No.....

5.0 Navigation Inside the Store

5.1 Rate the navigability of the store on the following three criteria:

	Good	Fair	Difficult	Comments
<u>(i) Width of aisles</u>
<u>(ii) Obstructions in the aisles</u>
<u>(iii) Turning spaces at aisle ends</u>

6.0 Access to Products

6.1 Are shelves and racks accessible to someone in a wheelchair or to someone using a walker?

	All	Some	None
Wheelchair
Walker

Comments

6.2 Is large print signage used to assist the visually impaired?

Yes No

6.3 Can product be removed for purchase without assistance?

Yes..... No.....

6.4 Is help available to access product?

Yes No

6.5 Does product include clothing?

Yes..... No (Go to 7.0)

6.6 Are there changing rooms?

Yes No

6.7 Are the changing rooms accessible?

Yes No Comments.....

7.0 Purchase Transaction

7.1 Is the check out counter accessible?

Yes No

7.2 Is the counter height manageable for someone sitting in a wheelchair?

8.0 Washrooms

8.1 Is there shopper access to a washroom?

Yes (go to 8.2) No (Go to 9.0)

8.2 Are the washrooms accessible?

Yes No Comments

9.0 User Friendly

9.1 Is the environment welcoming to disabled customers?

Yes..... No

9.2 Are staff trained to recognize the needs of disabled clients?

Yes No

10.0 Parking

10.1 Are there parking stalls close to the entrance that are dedicated for disabled use?

Yes..... No.....

10.2 Are the parking spaces wide enough?

Yes No

10.3 Are there curb cut-outs suitably positioned to allow access to the sidewalk?

Yes No

11.0 General Comments and Observations