



Measuring-Up Fund Final REPORT

Section One - General

1. Community Name: City of Courtenay
2. Primary contact information:

Name:	Jim Stevenson	Organization:	City of Courtenay
Title:	Recreation Manager - Lewis	Email:	jstevenson@courtenay.ca
Phone:	250 - 338-5371	Fax:	250 - 338-8600
Address:	489 Old Island Highway Courtenay, BC	Postal Code:	V9N 3P5

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).
4. Attach a list of members of your Measuring Up Committee.
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? 1

Do 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.

Section 1 - 3.**COMOX VALLEY MEASURING UP****Final Report**

Reception of the Measuring Up grant has enabled the City of Courtenay to make significant strides in recognizing the needs of people with disabilities and in planning ways to improve accessibility and inclusion.

The grant enabled us to employ a Coordinator in February of 2008 who under the direction of the Measuring Up Committee enabled the following to happen:

- Contacted over 80 organizations and obtained newspaper coverage resulting in 30 people, representing a wide variety of disabilities, attending a Measuring Up introductory meeting on April 9 increasing awareness and representation on the Measuring Up Committee.
- A one day planning session May 9 to establish priorities and direction. Sponsorship was obtained from Community Living BC and thirty people representing various disabilities, local government, business leaders, seniors and youth participated in this process. This workshop resulted in the development of a community vision, values, goals, and a number of actions that would increase accessibility and inclusion. These results will be validated through other means and will provide significant direction to our community.
- A follow up meeting to May 9 to discuss the results. A dozen people attended and determined that education/awareness a top priority. The following key initiatives were identified:
 - A brochure on visitability for developers
 - Information for specific groups (business, tourism, emergency preparedness, government, community)
 - Development of a business access guide
 - Raise awareness at community events
 - Conduct a media campaign to raise awareness

This resulted in the development of a poster board and a spinning wheel game to be used at public events. Measuring Up was represented at Access Awareness displays in both Comox and Courtenay Malls and at a Lifelong Learning trade show. Contacts at these events reinforced the need for information listed as the top need at the May 9th workshop.

- One page info sheets have been created regarding inclusion and accessibility for the public, business, tourism and emergency preparedness. These are in the process of design to make them more marketable.
- An article on the Measuring Up grant has been submitted to the City of Courtenay newsletter to be distributed to all residences in Courtenay
- A small survey of the other Measuring Up communities was done to see what was successful or not successful in the process of community consultation. Approximately 1/3 of these communities have responded with a few more

expected after the summer period. This information will be valuable as we move forward with this process in Courtenay, Comox and the Regional District.

- A Community BBQ was planned to celebrate these achievements and to gain additional info in late August. Excellent media coverage was received however due to weather this has to be rescheduled for a later date. A questionnaire was developed for this event to gain additional information.
- A focus group was held in conjunction with the local Nursing Centre providing interesting feedback. Local businesses were heavily critiqued for narrow aisles, cluttered stores, and poor service from sales staff. The need for resource information was again mentioned often. Suggestions for improved transportation were also received.
- Various meetings were held to discuss several of the goals set at the planning meeting with small committees formed to initiate some action. These committees have slowed during the summer and we hope they will rekindle their initiatives this fall.
- The process of developing a resource manual has been started due to the continual expression of such a need. This will be completed with Courtenay Measuring Up funds this fall.
- A community focus group was attempted however there was very little interest in participating. Close to 50 people were contacted with only one person willing to participate. However the phone discussions showed a general unawareness of issues faced by people with disabilities.

It should be noted that due to the unique situation here in the Comox Valley, although the City of Courtenay Measuring Up grant has reached it's conclusion we will continue to be involved in the Measuring Up process in both Comox and the Regional District. As such we will not see the complete results until the end of these grants.

In reviewing the overall project hundreds of ideas were generated, many discussions took place and information shared. This was very illuminating for many and illustrates the many things we do well and the many challenges we have ahead. We will continue to work to make our community a more accessible and inclusive place to live, work and play.

Committee

Measuring Up

Participants

Comox Valley Home & Community Care	Trudy Beaton	Courtenay	338-5453	Health	trudy.beaton@viha.ca
Comox Valley Nursing Centre	Elaine Harvey	Courtenay	338-1711	Health	elaine.harvey@viha.ca
Comox Valley Public Health	Jan Adams	Courtenay	338-1711	Health	jan.adams@viha.ca
Comox Valley Regional District	Suzanne Murray	Fanny Bay	335-2533	Government	zambezi@shaw.ca
Comox Valley Regional District	Barry Minaker	Courtenay	337-8128	Government	minakerb@telus.net
Comox Valley Regional District	Barbara Price	Comox	339-4015	Government	bprice30@telus.net
Comox Valley Regional District	Deanna Johnston			Recreation	djohnson@comoxvalleyrd.ca
Comox Valley Sport and Aquatic Centre	Darcy Walters	Courtenay	334-9622	Recreation	dwalters@comoxvalleyrd.ca
Comox Valley Transition Society	Ann Davis	Courtenay	897-0511	Social Service	cyfs@shaw.ca
Courtenay Adult Learning Centre	Karen Barr	Courtenay	338-9906	Education	callsmgr@mars.afc.com
Courtenay Recreation Association	Heather Crites	Courtenay	338-5371		hcrites@courtenay.ca
Crossroads Crisis Centre Society	Cathy Stotts	Courtenay	338-0512	Health	cathy-crossroads@shawcable.com
Glacier View Lodge Society	Liz Friis	Courtenay	338-1451	Senior	liz.friis@sighcomox.ca
Health Services for Community Living	Margaret Salmon	Courtenay	334-9882	Health	margaret.salmon@viha.ca
Home Medical Shop	Paula Granger	Courtenay	338-0903	Business	paula@thehomemedicalshop.com
Ministry of Employment & Income Assistance	Nelda Adamus	Courtenay	334-1165	Employment	nelda.adamus@gov.bc.ca
North Island College	Shella Doncaster	Courtenay	334-5000	Education	shella.doncaster@nic.bc.ca
North Island Employment Foundations Society	Valerie Meaney	Courtenay	334-8082	Employment	niefs.val@shaw.ca

Committee

Measuring Up

Participants

4 kids with disabilities	Bobbi Lynn Crocker	Courtenay	890-0158		bobbilc2003@yahoo.com
Berwick Comox Valley Care Facility	Jackie Holt	Courtenay	339-1690	Senior	bcv.admin@berwickrc.com
Canadian Hard of Hearing Association	Sarah Trotter	Lazo	339-5770	Disability	fstrotter@shaw.ca
City of Courtenay	Jim Stevenson	Courtenay	338-5371	Recreation	jstevenson@courtenay.ca
City of Courtenay	Ronna-Rae Leonard	Courtenay	338-0978	Government	charyrr@telus.net
Community Living BC	Stephen Russell	Courtenay		Disability	stephen.russell@gov.bc.ca
Comox Valley Aboriginal Head Start	Teresa Louden	Courtenay	334-2477	Aboriginal	tlouden@shawcable.com
Comox Valley Accessibility Committee	John Higginbotham	Courtenay	703-0049		higgsome@shaw.ca
Comox Valley Accessibility Committee	Valerie McCormick	Courtenay	338-0584		tvmc@shaw.ca
Comox Valley Accessibility Committee	Marg Misener	Courtenay	338-6316		sewandsew@shaw.ca
Comox Valley Accessibility Committee	Brad Erhardt	Courtenay	334-3568		centre.sarc@shaw.ca
Comox Valley Accessibility Committee	Michael McLellan	Courtenay	334-3568		centre.sarc@shaw.ca
Comox Valley Child Development Association	Lorraine Aitkens	Courtenay	338-4288	Youth	lorraine@cvcda.ca
Comox Valley Chronic Pain Society	Marilyn Marsden	Courtenay	338-1711	Disability	
Comox Valley Emergency Program Association	Mike Fornier	Courtenay	334-8890	Health	cvep@shawcable.com
Comox Valley Family Services Association	Gillian Normandin	Courtenay	338-7575 ex	Social Service	gillian.n@cvfssa.org
Comox Valley Head Injury Society	Janet Martin	Courtenay	334-9225	Disability	cvhis@telus.net
Comox Valley Home & Community Care	Dale Graham	Courtenay	338-5743	Health	dale.graham@vha.ca

Committee


Measuring Up

Participants

School District #71	Shelley Ord	Courtenay	338-1485	Education	shelley.ord@sd71.bc.ca
Spirit of BC	Susan Kelsey	Comox	339-0045	Art & Culture	thekelseys@shaw.ca
The Views @ St. Joseph's Hospital	Jill Nelson	Comox	339-2242 e)	Senior	Jill.Nelson@sjghcomox.ca
Town of Comox	Marcia Turner	Comox	339-0167	Government	mturner@comox.ca
Town of Comox	Patti Fletcher	Comox	339-2255	Government	pfletcheris@shaw.ca
Triumph Vocational	Sarah Curts	Courtenay	338-9183	Employment	scurts@triumphvocational.com
Upper Island Geriatric Outreach Program	Wendy Thompson	Comox	339-1467	Health	wendy.thompson@viha.ca

J Gesell

8/28/2008

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www.comoxvalley.ca

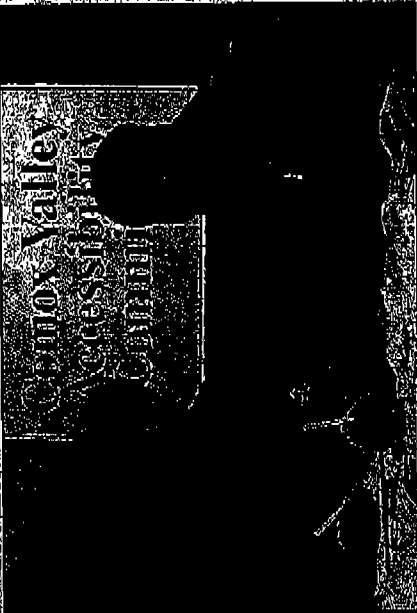
Disabled assessment starting

The Comox Valley Accessibility Committee is preparing to gauge how much disabled people actively participate in valley life. Over the next few months, we will be assessing the degree to which our citizens with disabilities are active participants in community life through an initiative called Measurement of Accessibility.

The City of Courtenay is proud that it has been recognized as an accessible town in the Comox Valley since 1998.

In 2006, people from a wide variety of disability organizations came together to share ideas on how to assess our community's accessibility and accessibility.

As a result of that collaboration, we designed a laboratory measuring the community's engagement with disability. A combination of our participation and our citizens' behind-the-scenes work is the health of our society. We encourage all citizens to contribute to our community's accessibility.



JOANNE GESEBAND and KATHLEEN WICKELER are key people in the Measurement of Accessibility campaign.



Late French Immersion

will begin this September 2008 at École Purledge Park Elementary for Grade 6 students.

There are a few spaces available in the program. Please contact Allan Douglas, Director of Instruction, for additional information at 334-5547.

City of Courtenay 2008

By Comox Valley Echo Friday, March 28, 2008

Measuring up

Committee wants to hear from local citizens with disabilities about how they participate in the community

The Comox Valley Accessibility Initiative is now asking to be added to a list of people interested in improving the lives of people with disabilities. The initiative, which has been sponsored by the City of Courtenay, aims to create a public and funded by 2010 Legacies Now.

Over the next four months, the plan is to engage citizens with disabilities in our community in a conversation about participation and contribution. The goal is to offer local solutions through collaborative efforts to engage municipal, business, community, and disability leaders in conversation about accessibility and inclusion. In the process, we aim to identify and coordinate self-measuring opportunities when communities can work together to improve the lives of people with disabilities. We are currently inviting municipalities, community and disability leaders, and local business to participate in the process, and which will be a part of the committee's work to measure how accessible and inclusive our community is.

James Russell, Measurement Coordinator and Michael McEwan, Comox Valley Accessibility Initiative member.

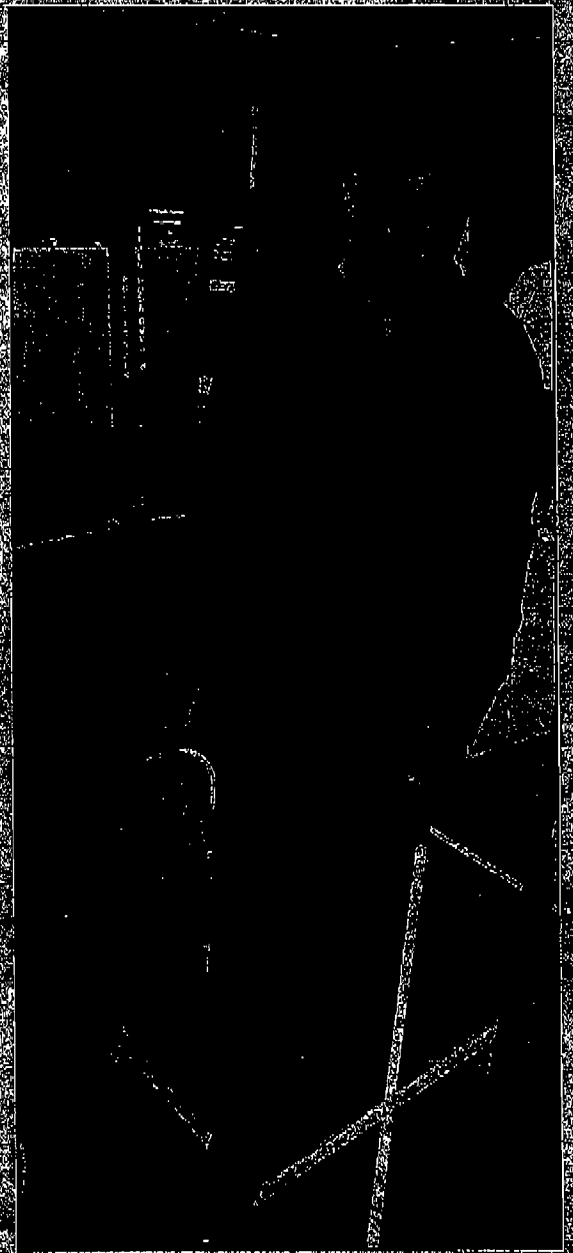
Community

Comox Valley Accessibility Committee



James Russell, Measurement Coordinator and Michael McEwan, Comox Valley Accessibility Initiative member.

A4 Friday, June 13, 2008 COMOX VALLEY RECORD



MICHAEL MAIFULAN AND his aide have don Brandy negotiate their way onto a Comox Valley public bus at the Driftwood Mall in Courtenay during Access Awareness Day. The Comox Valley Accessibility Committee, which is celebrating its 10th anniversary, recognized Access Awareness Day last Saturday with the transit bus on site to people with limited mobility could practice boarding. The committee also appeared at the Comox Centre Mall.

PHOTO BY GERRY FAHROTTER

A8 Comox Valley Echo Tuesday, April 15, 2008

News

Valley getting \$55,000 from province to improve accessibility for disabled

By Marcel Tetrault
Echo Staff

Local governments in the Comox Valley have received \$55,000 from the provincial government to improve accessibility for people with disabilities in the Comox Valley.

Cumberland will receive \$15,000 while the Town of Comox and the Comox Valley Regional District will each receive \$20,000.

The work of the Measuring Up coordinator, who is assessing the level of accessibility in the region, will be extended using the money from the Comox grant. The coordinator was originally hired with money obtained through the Measuring Up program by the City of Courtenay.

The regional district and the Village of Cumberland will hire a second consultant to look at the longer-term requirements for accessibility in the local area.

"The one grant will work on all the issues for today, the other one will look at long-term requirements," said Comox Valley Regional District general manager of parks and recreation Ray Boogaards. "It will all be based on the Measuring Up criteria."

That means that the consultants will look at aspects of community life like transportation, employment, housing and recreation and work on a plan to improve accessibility and inclusion for those with disabilities.

"Everybody is going to be working in cooperation together to start looking at the long-range plan," said Boogaards.

The money comes from the 2010 Legacies Now Measuring Up Accessibility and Inclusion Fund, which will distribute \$510,000 to 29 communities to identify priorities to improve accessibility.

mtetrault@comoxvalleyecho.com

ACTIVITY REPORTS

MEET & GREET SINGLES CLUB

Hurrah for singles with Spirit. The Rotary Hall was full with the biggest monthly get together on June 4th. Our club have over 100 registered members and still growing. We are a casually structured group which is obviously filling a need in the community as more people find themselves living alone with the need to keep in touch in society.

We acknowledged Father's Day with a couple of songs and a thoughtful tribute to Father's Day by Ken Hanson. Lists of upcoming events were handed out: Some of the activities slated for June, July and August are: Winery tour, Fluid Restaurant, 20th Anniversary of the Filberg Centre, Raven Lodge and Denman Island tour.

Many people signed up. Please call Bert at 703-2637 if you have signed up and are unable to attend. The trout fishing trip to Comox Lake was a success and everyone caught their limit. The Bison Trip to Black Creek was enjoyable and informative. The lunch at Salmon Point was very good.

Our groups of five enjoyed telling each other stories about our dads and chatting as we got acquainted. After coffee we called it a day. Ann Foster won the door prize.

Next monthly meeting July 2nd Simms Park ,1 pm Picnic in the Park.

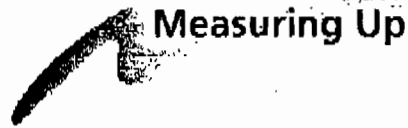
August monthly meeting August 6th Rotary Hall, 1pm.

An Evergreen Membership is required to participate. A Happy Summer to all.

Cathy Bell, Editor

FMI Please call Miriam Piikkila , Coordinator

334-8122



Measuring Up

Accessibility and Inclusion in the Comox Valley

Measuring Up is a project to find out whether people with disabilities are able to be active participants in community life.

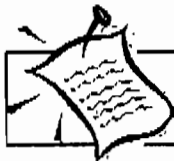
By *Measuring Up* we hope to improve accessibility and inclusion in the Comox Valley for people with disabilities and others including seniors, parents pushing baby carriages, tourists carrying luggage, and people with injuries.

When communities encourage the full potential of all citizens, they become places where people choose to live, recreate, work, purchase goods, and contribute.

Did you know that in Courtenay 31.9% and in Comox 37.2% of the citizens are 55 years and over? Accessibility is important to seniors because it helps provide safe and barrier-free access from your home to public places and community facilities, and allows you to participate in community and private activities just like any other person. Barrier-free buildings and streets enhance the mobility and independence of people with disabilities, young as well as old.

We want to make sure that you can remain vital community members who contribute to the economy, support extended families, participate in volunteerism, and generally enhance the social health of our neighbourhoods. Please share your "Accessibility Story" with us on **Thursday, June 26th from 11:00 to 1:30**. This is your chance to let us know how to make our community a better place for everyone. See you then.

Measuring Up is sponsored by the City of Courtenay and funded by 2010 Legacies Now.



REMINDER.....the SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER publication will available one week earlier.....available **TUESDAY, AUGUST 19TH, 2008**.

Measuring Up workshop at chronic pain group

The Comox Valley Chronic Pain Support Group is pleased to invite everyone to meet the workshop Measuring Up.

Measuring Up is a project to evaluate the accessibility and inclusion of people with disabilities in our community. We will share our sense and contribution of everyone's own community, accessible. This is an opportunity for you to share your thoughts and experiences and to help determine how we as Measuring Up in the Comox Valley.

What we learn as a result of this discussion will build and sustain a community that is fully accessible and inclusive, a community that values the participation of all and is ultimately a place where everyone belongs.

Seating is limited so please call the volunteer desk to register at 898-2200 extension 210.

Date: Tuesday August 19
Time: 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM
Where: Comox Valley Nursing Centre
Cedar Room 261 England Avenue
Courtenay

The Comox Valley Chronic Pain Support Group meets on the 1st and 3rd of each month from 1:30 to 3:00 pm at the Comox Valley Nursing Centre.

Meeting Up

Ban-B-Que



Wednesday
August 20
5:00 - 7:00 pm

Stimms Millennium Park
wheelchair accessible

free of charge

You are invited to a barbecue to celebrate
accessibility and inclusion in our community.

When City of Courtenay's programs & systems are
appropriately designed, everyone can participate actively
and contribute to our community. Join us at the barbecue
and help show how we can make our community more
inclusive and accessible for all citizens today and
in the future.

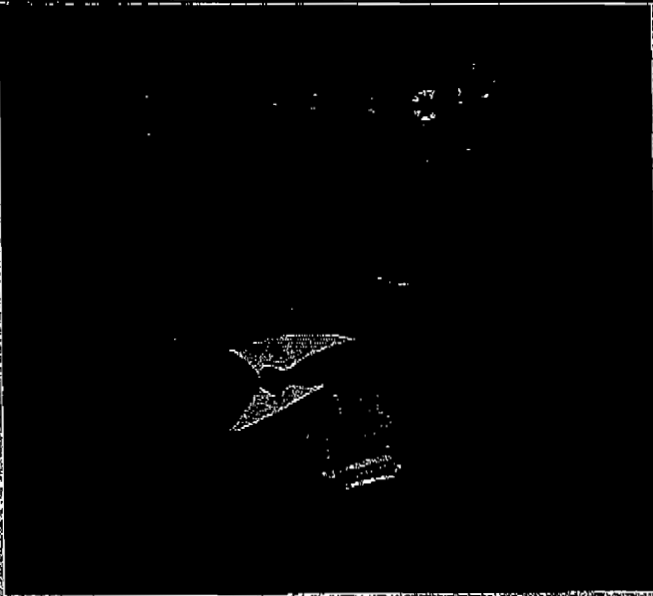
For more information about the event,
contact Carrie at 250-334-6747.

Courtenay Recreation
Lewis Centre 250-334-6747



B6 Comox Valley Echo Friday, August 15, 2008

Legion poster contest winner



Brooklin Flanagan's Legion poster contest winner will be placed at the Legion branch in Courtenay. Photo by [unreadable]

Barrier free barbecue

Valley's Measuring Up Committee invites you to drop by barbecue and give ideas on accessibility

Join us at the barbecue and let us know how we can make our community more inclusive and accessible for all citizens, today and in the future. Measuring Up is sponsored by the City of Courtenay and funded by 2008 Legacies Now.

The Measuring Up Committee invites you to the community BBQ at St. John's Anglican Church on Wednesday August 20th from 4:00 to 6:00pm.

Measuring Up is a voluntary coalition of individuals and organizations in the Comox Valley who are committed to making our community more accessible.

Measuring Up encourages the full participation of all citizens in the development of our community and contributing to the success of our community.

By Measuring Up we hope to improve accessibility and inclusion in the Comox Valley through the following:
- better access to public buildings and services
- more accessible housing and transportation
- better access to employment opportunities
- more accessible programs and services
- improved public transit and other transportation services
- better access to community facilities

www.comoxvalley.ca



THE MEASURING UP project invites Comox Valley residents to a barbecue at Simms Millennium Park.

Barbecue coming for Measuring Up

You are invited to a barbecue and contribute to the Measuring Up project. You are invited to a barbecue and contribute to the Measuring Up project. You are invited to a barbecue and contribute to the Measuring Up project.

INCLUSION

The barbecue for Measuring Up is a chance for you to share your thoughts about creating a barrier-free community. Measuring Up is a project to find out if our community is accessible as well as inclusive.

When physical places and spaces, programs and systems are well designed everyone can be a part of community life. Measuring Up is coordinating for doing that. People with disabilities, parents pushing a baby stroller, seniors, people with large and heavy suitcases, and people with joint pain benefit from an accessible community. You're welcome to come to the barbecue to help us gather information on how we can make our community more accessible to everyone. We'll have food.

Tuesday, Aug 19, 2008

Time Out

WHAT'S ON In the Comox Valley

FREE INTERNET ACCESS At Valleylink Monday through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. 201 McManis Drive (in the Invest Comox Valley Building) FMI 334-8063

HELP FIGHT ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE If you want to make a difference in the fight against Alzheimer's disease, then the Alzheimer Society of BC is asking you for help. We're forming a volunteer committee to plan and organize the community's annual Investors Group Walk for Memories fundraising event to be held in January. For more information or a detailed description of the skills required, call 250-338-7811 or visit our website at www.alzheimersocietybc.ca



Barrier-free barbecue

The Measuring Up Committee invites you to a community BBQ at Simms Millen Park on Wednesday, August 20th from 5:00 to 7:00pm. Measuring Up is a project to find out whether people with disabilities are able to be active participants in community life. When communities encourage the full potential of all citizens, they become places where people choose to live, recreate, work, purchase goods and contribute. By Measuring Up we hope to improve accessibility and inclusion in the Comox Valley for people with disabilities, parents pushing baby carriages, tourists carrying luggage and people with strollers, said Abanne Gesell, Measuring Up coordinator. By appropriately designing physical environments, programs and systems, everyone can participate, actively and contribute to our community. Join us at the barbecue and let us know how we can make our community more inclusive and accessible for all citizens today and in the future.



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
Wages	\$12,688.00			\$12,688.00
Admin (Mileage)	\$339.35			\$339.35
Advertising	\$533.12			\$533.12
Supplies	\$660.47			\$660.47
Workshop Facilitator	\$700.00	\$700.00	CLBC	
Facility Rental	\$195.00	\$195.00	Courtenay Recreation	
Workshop Supplies	\$300.00	\$300.00	CLBC	
Resources manual	\$3,000.00			\$3,000.00
Info Brochures	\$1,000.00			\$1,000.00
Totals:	\$19,476.82	\$1195.00		\$18,220.94

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

Yes (please complete this section) No (please skip to Section Four)

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

Section Four - Other Information

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

SECTION THREE—Changes to Measuring Up Guide

Part 1—Ready and Part 2—Set


The Measuring Up Guide was an extremely useful resource for the Comox Valley Measuring Up Coordinator. She used the resource on a regular basis and became very familiar with this portion of the Guide. General information from the Guide was used to prepare presentations, press releases and information sheets for the general public.

Part 3—Go



The Community Achievement Levels while very informative was onerous for the Comox Valley Measuring Up Committee. Information from this section was re-formatted into a questionnaire with the intention of gathering information from the Committee about our community. A draft was reviewed by several members of the Committee. Suggestions were made to reduce the amount of text. In the end, the second, smaller version was not completed by enough committee members to come to any conclusions about our Community Achievement Levels. Perhaps this section of the Guide could be re-formatted so that it becomes a check list of sorts with a ranking system for each element.


Part 4—Resources

The Resources section was also useful for gathering information. The Measuring Up Coordinator was not familiar with many of the web sites. She appreciated the list provided as the sites proved to be an excellent starting point for researching specific information required.



 **Measuring Up** **My Accessibility Story**

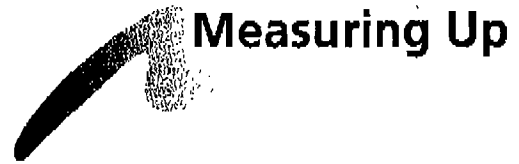
Where: _____ **When:** _____

 *Accessibility Matters!* 

 **Measuring Up** **My Accessibility Story**

Where: _____ **When:** _____

 *Accessibility Matters!* 



Measuring up was designed to assist municipalities in British Columbia to determine whether people with disabilities are able to be active participants in community life. Funding for Measuring Up has been provided by 2010 Legacies Now and is sponsored in kind by the City of Courtenay.

While the term disability has been used here for clarity, it is important to realize that everyone has abilities, skills, capacities and challenges. By completing this survey, you will help us appropriately design physical environments, programs, and systems so that all people can participate actively and contribute to our community.

1. Please circle all that apply. I am...

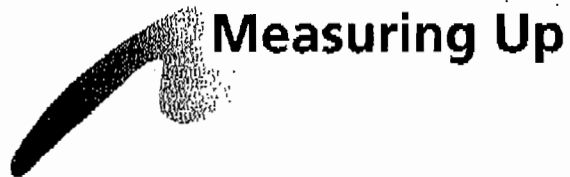
- a. A person with a disability yes no
- b. A family member of a person with a disability yes no
- c. A caregiver of a person with a disability yes no
- d. A community member yes no
- e. Other (specify) _____

2. Are you aware of any difficulties or barriers to access public buildings and spaces within the City of Courtenay? yes no

If yes, please name the places and spaces and give details.

3. Have you ever encountered difficulty accessing any business in the City of Courtenay? yes no

If yes, please name the business(es) and give details.



COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS

An e-mail message was sent to all twenty-seven 2007 Measuring Up grant holders. Of those communities, nine responded to the following questions:

1. Have you conducted a community consultation?
2. What worked?
3. What didn't work?

The following is a summary of the responses received from each community.

Abbotsford

The person who responded to my message directed me to the Access Abbotsford web site (www.accessabbotsford.ca) for information. Abbotsford has already received two rounds of grant funding from 2010 Legacies Now. The Abbotsford Measuring Up Working Group began meeting in February 2007.

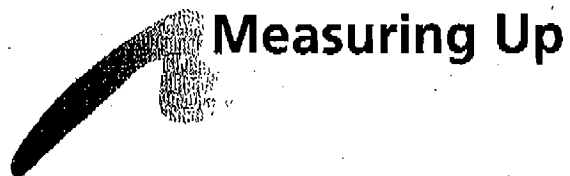
The Measuring Up Working Group emerged as an initiative located within the Seniors Issues and Access Issues priorities of ASDAC. Community forums informed the working group to identify a goal to create an inventory of materials and explore opportunities that relate to accessibility and inclusion with a particular focus on: transportation and physical infrastructure, children's accessibility and inclusion in recreation, and collaboration and partnerships with Abbotsford businesses. Each key area developed specific methodologies for their research projects.

Access Abbotsford, the collaboration and partnerships with Abbotsford businesses project, developed a tool to measure the accessibility and inclusivity of businesses, non-profit organizations, educational and governmental employers. The project further created a rating system to evaluate the physical accessibility of businesses and developed a program to recognize businesses that go above and beyond.

Out and About, the transportation and physical infrastructure research project, chose a test area in the City, and developed a check-list measurement tool to evaluate physical accessibility for people with a variety of disabilities. City engineers were engaged in this process which resulted in a commitment to strive to incorporate the accessible measurement tool in the transportation master plan.

I Can Play 2, the children's accessibility and inclusion in recreation research project, collected data to demonstrate what recreational opportunities were being offered for children with disabilities in Abbotsford. The project, completed through surveys and interviews, included both private and public organizations, parents, caregivers, and children with disabilities.

The Measuring Up Working Group has begun to review the recommendations through the lens of identifying other city and community committees which might already be doing the work. Once this first step is complete, the group will prioritize and create a strategic plan of



action which will then be taken to the community in a second public forum to be held in July 2008. The results of this research have also positioned the group to apply for Stage 3 funding with the 2010 Legacies Now initiative. Stage 3 funding is designed to provide dollars for communities to act on their research recommendations.

Barriere

I received a very brief e-mail that indicated information was being gathered in and around the community. This will be completed at the end of August.

Kamloops

The City of Kamloops formed four resource groups of community stakeholders who developed a "report card" survey. The survey was printed in multiple formats including hard copy, electronic and web site versions. The survey was available in a variety of options for the hearing/blind community. The survey was shared/linked on other web sites in the city, and distributed at various functions. Community members could phone in responses and speak with people one-to-one.

A community forum was hosted on a Sunday which was determined not to be the best day. Snacks, shuttle and bus-service was provided. Over 50 people attended the four hour forum.

Strategic planning sessions with the four resource groups used the data gathered from all sources to inform the process.

Lions Bay

The contact person described Lions Bay as a very small community (1500) with poor participation. Committee members were personally contacted. Most have since dropped off the committee or have moved. Their contract has since been extended to October.

Nelson

Nelson formed a community committee of stakeholders similar in make up to the Comox Valley Measuring Up Committee. They have conducted workshops to decide on an ideal community project. They found it difficult to sometimes have everyone at the table, but the process seems to have worked well nonetheless.

●ak Bay

The contact indicated that they (not sure who they are) spoke with Integrated Recreation and residents with disabilities. They created a list of sidewalk cuts that would enable improved access for community residents. This process worked.

Powell River



Service providers were contacted and asked to attend a community meeting. An inventory of services and barriers was created. By looking at each of the service provider brochures, gaps in services were identified. Their next step will be to have a small committee develop an action plan, and then ask for service provider feedback.

Surrey

Surrey used SPARC BC to develop their Strategic Plan. They held two community dialogues comprised of stakeholders. The general public was invited via newspaper ads to attend although the contact person was not aware of any people from the general public at either session.

Through the two workshops, they developed three theme areas. Subsequently, the Measuring Up Advisory Committee addressed each of the theme areas by creating 14 strategies complete with recommendations of who needed to be involved and what information was missing.



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): JIM STEVENSON
 Signature: [Handwritten Signature]

Position: RECREATION MANAGER
 Date: August 28, 2008

Mail completed AND signed Final Reports to:

Measuring Up Fund
 2010 Legacies Now
 400 - 1095 West Pender
 Vancouver, British Columbia V6E 2M6
 Phone: 778-327-5153

Measuring Up was created by 2010 Legacies Now in partnership with the Vancouver Agreement, the Province of BC and over 80 disability organizations throughout the province. Measuring Up helps BC communities assess and improve how accessible and inclusive they are for people with disabilities.