

## Measuring Up Fund FINAL REPORT TEMPLATE

### Section One - General

1. Community Name: Cowichan Valley
2. Primary Contact Information:

Name & Title:	Loren Halloran	Organization:	Cowichan Independent Living
Phone:	250 746 3930	Fax:	250 746 3662
Street Address:	321 Coronation Avenue	Mailing Address:	same
City:	Duncan	Postal Code:	V9L 2T1
Email:	loren@cvilrc.bc.ca	Website:	www.cvilrc.bc.ca

3. Attach a summary of all related activities. Please include specific details about activities undertaken as a result of receiving your Measuring Up grant. Attach copies of any materials developed as a result of your activities. (2 page maximum)

Here are some points to focus on when writing your summary:

- Why these activities are important for the community;
- How these activities are helping to improve local accessibility and inclusion;
- The successes and challenges experienced in accomplishing these activities and;
- How these activities will be continued after the grant is complete.

**We continued this year where we left off in 2008. We finished collecting data to be used in our Access Directory Book and pursued in the goal of increasing employment for 192 people in our community through meeting with The Supported Employment Group of Service Providers and The Mayor's Advisory Committee on Disability Issues. I spoke to the radio station and the newspapers regarding the media release about us being the grant recipient for 2009.**

**In March of this year I was able to speak to The Minister's Council on Employment for Persons With Disabilities. I shared how I thought the silver bullet to the Challenge was the Service Providers Committee brainstorming together to find ways of raising awareness to the community to putting persons with disabilities to work as well as the media who I thought were instrumental in helping spread the word for me, every step of the way.**

Later in March, after receiving complaints of people in scooters and powerchairs nearly being hit by drivers talking on cellphones as they tried to cross in downtown crosswalks, I coordinated a crosswalk safety survey. Using volunteers from the Disability Resource Centre we went out to the Highway, to cover three busy intersections commonly called the “crash corridor” and collected data on traffic volume, drivers making right turns that did not come to a complete stop, and of those right turn drivers, how many of them were talking on cell phones.

We brought a lot of community awareness to this project as it was picked up by the local media. We talked about the safety concerns people in wheelchairs etc faced daily on the crosswalks and very quickly, word began to spread about drivers on cellphones. I did up a report and will explain what happened further into this report.

I had organized a wheelchair wheelabout that did happen in late March in Duncan. Using members of the media, the Mayor and other local levels of Government, the RCMP, and other decision makers of the community, including Michelle Stilwell, our double gold medallist in Beijing, I was able to show the many barriers that people in wheelchairs face daily while traveling on our sidewalks and roadways, opening doors to malls, ets, etc. I was able to convince Superstore to be a part of this event and had tremendous media coverage as well. It really raised awareness to our community.

I began to work with the RCMP and the City Engineering Dept. on some accessibility complaints and traffic concerns in North Cowichan. We were able to get them resolved by working together, thus strengthening our partnership within the community.

I began campaigning against drivers of motor vehicles using cellphones. Armed with the report I had compiled, I went to City Hall and was able to get Council to approve and pass a resolution to have the UBCM request the Province of British Columbia to put legislation in place banning drivers of motor vehicles from using cellphones. Another tremendous amount of media coverage for this project. I was able to obtain letters of support from The BC Ambulance Service, BC Medical Assoc., Ministry of Public Safety, RCMP, The BC Coalition of Persons with Disabilities, and Cowichan Independent Living. This is ongoing. I also sent a letter to The Can. Assoc. of Broadcasters asking them to develop and implement a policy to have announcers warn the public about the danger of using a cellphone while driving when phoning into the radio station for any reason.

We set up a medical equipment loans division in the Disability Resource Centre. It enables anyone in need to be able to borrow the required medical piece of equipment needed to assist with their recovery, etc. We put this in the paper as well as in the Chamber of Commerce e newsletter.

We sent a letter to Town Council requesting that any further modification changes or construction/ revitalization that might be planned downtown be communicated to us so that we might make suggestions for any disability issues that might creep up later. I sent in a letter to the newspapers that I called a Measuring Up Access Report Card where I explained how well I thought our valley was doing in certain areas of accessibility.

Due to the economic downturn our local Food Bank put out the word that the demand for food was extreme and they could not keep up. Mothers with children were sacrificing eating so that their children could eat. Rent to be paid or buying groceries was the dilemma. I organized a “Summer Still Hungry” Food Drive for the local Food Bank. Using volunteers from the Independent Living Resource Centre, and the RCMP “Brass”, I coordinated with the City of Duncan, the use of The Public Works Dept. to collect non perishable food donations when they collected the garbage during the regular scheduled weekly pick up times. The volunteers and I did a three day hot dog sale at Thrifty Foods and raised \$2300.00 that equated into a ton of food. The Public Works Dept. raised a ton of food as well. So, two tons of food in three days for the Food Bank. Again, tons of media involvement.

News clippings and a dvd are enclosed as part of this report.

4. Attach a list of members of you Measuring Up Committee:
  - Councillor Sharon Jackson City of Duncan
  - Councillor George Seymour CVRD Director
  - Judy Bailey. MS Society
  - Valerie Thoem BC Coalition
  - Jim Harnden Executive Director C.I.L.
  - Teddy Mackay. Low Vision Lake Cowichan
  - Lori Iannidinardo CVRD Cowichan Bay
  - Loren Halloran M.U. Coordinator



All of the events that we had coordinated in the community were done in an effort to advocate for, and also to protect all citizens and their well being, citizens who are most at risk in our community, citizens who are vulnerable with mobility and sensory issues. With this funding we were able to empower people with disabilities to remove barriers so that responsible, self reliant people with disabilities can assume risks, make choices and contribute to society as they wish. I know that the legacy of the Challenge will continue to move forward but increased funding is also important in the areas of living , health and non profit funding for the continuance of the many worthwhile programs and services that are offered for the many causes that are around us. Full inclusion means the needs of persons with disabilities are met through generic programs, while additional essential supports are provided to those individuals whose needs cannot be met through generic programs and services. Further funding from 2010 Legacies Now and The Province of B.C. would build on the momentum that CIL has built in the community in the areas of employment, accessibility, recreation, and information provision for people with disabilities. Funding would help us to focus our efforts to continue networking with recreation groups, employers, and local governments.

### Section Three - Financial Information

Please provide updated budget information in the format below -

		IN KIND RESOURCES		MEASURING UP FUND
Expenditures	AMOUNT	Amount	Source	Amount
Wages & Merchs	\$12,652.49			\$12,652.49
Promotion	\$573.80			\$573.80
Copies	\$346.28			\$346.28
Supplies	\$1,021.80			\$1,021.80
Printing	\$429.36			\$429.36
Travel	\$228.50			\$228.50
Supervision	\$5,622.50			\$5,622.50
Software	\$249.00			\$249.00
<b>Totals:</b>	\$21,123.73			\$21,123.73

### Section Four - Other Information

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

We were not able to secure any additional financial support in having our Access Guide printed or the electronic website put together and would desperately like to have this work completed. The economic downturn has not allowed for any company that I had spoken to for help to be able to help fund the work that we had wanted to have completed for this initiative and has been hard to accept.

Thanks for the opportunity to be able to have been a part of such a worthwhile endeavor. I have developed a passion for this work and am sad that it is now over.

### 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 are being 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): LOREN HALLORAN

Position: MEASURING UP COORDINATOR

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: AUGUST 22 2009

### Mail completed AND signed Final Reports to:

Measuring Up Fund  
2010 Legacies Now  
400 - 1095 West Pender St.  
Vancouver, BC V6E 2M6  
Phone: 778-327-5123  
Email: [measuringup@2010legaciesnow.com](mailto:measuringup@2010legaciesnow.com)

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.