



Dana Vasileff & Amanda Hanki

Inclusive Playground Committee

Creating A Playground for everyBODY x myhero.Harper

Overview

We are Dana Vasileff and Amanda Hanki, active members of the Spruce Grove community for nearly 25 years now. Dana is a child wrangling specialist who teaches grade two at Prescott Learning Centre and Amanda is a school parent and advocate for our inclusive community. Combined, our five children attend school in this area, play hockey, lacrosse, support the Spruce Grove Saints and we both actively prioritize spending money in our own community at local businesses. We are very invested in our thriving community,

Reason for the Initiative

We have initiated the community task of raising enough money to remove the wood chips from the playground at Prescott Learning Center and replace it with poured in place rubber matting. Prescott supports over 820 students daily. Many of those students want to be included on that playground, but with the lack of accessibility in the foundation, there is no inclusion at all.

Understanding the problem

Inclusivity

Without having accessible foundation in playgrounds, the city of spruce Grove is excluding many of our community members. I have a child who is a full time, wheelchair user and the lack of inclusion is obvious in Spruce Grove. As a family of five, we frequently have to miss out on events such as playground time and observing hockey events due to the lack of accessibility. Instead, she sits on the sidelines yearning to play with her friends and siblings, but simply can not. This sends a message to our family and many others that we are not included in this community.

Accessibility

Did you know that there is a substitute teacher who works in Parkland School Division in a wheelchair? She has subbed in Prescott Learning Centre but due to the inaccessibility of the school and playground, she was unable to do her job. The elevator key went missing so staff on the first floor were emailed asking if she could be of assistance. Even then, she was limited to helping any classes wanting to be outside at our playground which is where extra hands were needed.

Project Initiative:

We will have the wood chips replaced at Prescott Learning Centre by Summer 2024 to promote inclusion in our community.

Target Audience



As you know, our Spruce Grove population is about 40,000 and according to Statistics Canada, 20% of that population are persons with disabilities.

Within Spruce Grove, there is one inclusive playground

THOUGHTS FROM OUR COMMUNITY

This playground is not just for that school. It is for all community members.

- It is for the students with mobility restrictions who cannot independently get into the playground to play.
- It is for the mom using a stroller who has multiple children at the park and needs to get around to catch one at the bottom of the slide.
- It is for the grandparents who have mobility issues but want to spend quality time with their grandchildren outdoors, within our community.
- It is for the mom who has a neurodivergent child such as the mom who approached us with a son who is autistic with sensory needs. She worries at playgrounds because her son has a chewing need and tends to choke on the wood chips if not carefully monitored.
- It is for the teacher in the wheelchair who needs access to the playground to successfully do her job.

Cost Breakdown - Initial Quote

Removal and Disposal of Current Wood Chips

- Cost: \$24 ,640
- Removal and Disposal of Wood Fibres

Crushed Rock and Compaction

- Cost: \$44 ,737
- Supply and Install 6,400 sq ft of ¾” Crush with compaction of 98%

Pour and Place Rubber Matting

- Cost: \$147 ,632
- Black Poured in Place Rubber Matting

Other

- Building Permit, Mobilization, Fencing, Sanitary Facilities, GST

Project Progress

1. Grants:

CFEP Grant: Opening Jan. 15th

Edmonton Community Foundation

Grant: Feb. 2024

1. Proposed Community Sponsorships

2. Fundraisers

OUR GOAL

164,000

CURRENTLY

32,994



The Ask from our City of Spruce Grove

The ask is 20% of the initial quoted project resulting in an \$44,000 monetary sponsorship as well as the permit fees waived.



Quotes from our City Council

As Per Grove Examiner, March 25, 2022 Re Accessibility Audit



Coun. Erin Stevenson

“Accessibility is something we can’t really put a price tag on. It’s really important we show some leadership in this area.”



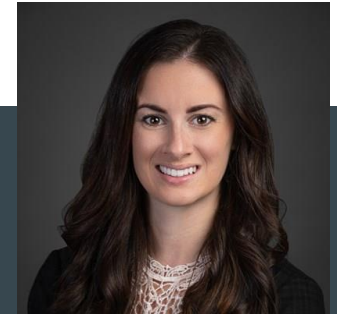
Coun. Reid MacDonald

“The reality is many of our facilities just are not equipped for a community where everyone feels like they belong. I think this is a great opportunity for us to show we’re willing to put our money where our mouth is.”



Mayor Jeff Ackler

“Our community needs to serve everybody. This is really important for the quality of life of those in our community who require accessibility,”



Coun. Danielle Carter

“I just want to be mindful of our budget so we are actually implementing accessibility features and not just continuing to do more studies and find even more issues and challenges”