



## Administration Department

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## Media Release

For Immediate Release

DATE: March 29, 2022

### Memorial Park Project – Destination Playground

**Summerland** – Construction of a new enhanced playground in the heart of Summerland will provide youth, families and visitors an exhilarating experience on the new play structures, the first of its kind in Canada. Construction will commence on March 29 and the playground Grand Reopening is targeted for May 2022.

Memorial Park will become a destination playground. Through the design of Playspace Adventure Ltd., the enhanced playground will promote imaginative and exciting play experiences for children aged 2 – 12. STEAM elements (science, technology, engineering, art and math) are part of this play space which helps to prepare future generations for successful careers. The design includes sensory panels, kinetic flags, a spinner that reflects sunlight, a problem-solving puzzle, technology through kid-powered and solar-powered energy, and math and engineering development through signage that educates children on momentum, movement and angles. Its one-of-a-kind slide, the Mighty Descent, lets kids slide down alongside their friends. Children of all abilities will enjoy new adventures with these play structures. The colours and aesthetics reflect the artistic and vibrant Summerland community.

Additional play features were added to the project thanks to \$5000 donations each from the Summerland Kinsmen Club, Kinsmen Foundation and Summerland & District Credit Union. In addition to the financial donations, these partner organizations will be providing volunteer labour support at a community volunteer day along with the Summerland Rotary Club and Summerland Firefighters' Association.

Additional volunteers are welcome to participate at the volunteer day in May (date still to be determined) to assist with placing the engineered wood fibre surfacing. Please email [recreation@summerland.ca](mailto:recreation@summerland.ca) or phone 250-494-0447 to join the volunteer list.

“This new playground project aligns with Council’s Active Lifestyles Strategic Priority—ensuring community design and services that enhance inclusive, barrier-free participation and promotion of physical activity and healthy lifestyles,” said Mayor Toni Boot. “This is a good start to the efforts underway on the redesign of Memorial Park and the broader work of the Downtown Neighbourhood Plan. Both initiatives fit within Council’s Downtown Vibrancy Strategic Priority.”

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