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## **Parksville Accessibility Booklet Promotes Active Living by Design**

PARKSVILLE, BC - The Parksville Measuring Up Committee recently released their new publication, *2009 Parksville Accessibility Booklet*. The Committee appeared before Council on March 16 to officially launch the booklet which will serve as a general reference for facility accessibility and as a guideline for universal design standards. The publication also contains valuable resource information for those with disabilities as well as for businesses and service agencies that assist such individuals.

The Measuring Up Parksville Committee started its work in April 2008 after receiving grant funding from 2010 Legacies Now. The overall objective of the Committee has been to educate, sensitize and inform the community of Parksville and the larger community of Oceanside about accessibility and inclusion and how it benefits everyone.

Councillor Marc Lefebvre, Council liaison and member of the Parksville Measuring Up Committee said, "This publication is a result of many months of collaborative work by committee members with the vision and passion to make the community a better place. The intent of Universal Design is to make all products and environments usable for the widest array of individuals possible. It simplifies life for everyone to include universal design and visitability standards at the beginning of a project and it is also a much more cost-effective approach."

In early April, the Council of the City of Parksville will consider several motions intended to further the work of the committee. The Measuring Up Parksville Committee will continue to meet on a quarterly basis to further promote inclusiveness and accessibility in the community.

Copies of the booklet will be available at Parksville City Hall after April 3. Additional information is available on the website at [www.accessparksville.ca](http://www.accessparksville.ca)

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