

## Improvements to Playground in Parksville Community Park

Today, the Province of BC announced the City of Parksville was successful in a grant application submitted in late 2020 to the Tourism Dependent Communities Fund for tourism-development projects. The City will receive \$315,000 to enhance the Lions Ventureland Playground in the Parksville Community Park.

During the pandemic, we have seen more families using the Parksville Community Park as there is the space needed to physically distance and for people to feel safe. The new equipment and surfaced area in the playground will provide an expanded and enhanced play area with additional capacity and usable space. This new equipment and improved area of the playground will be geared to children ages 8 to 12.

Ventureland Playground ensures a quality all-day experience during park visits by families and helps bridge the gap between the other facilities and events in the park which are geared towards adults. We work hard to ensure the Community Park provides an all-ages, 365-day user experience for visitors and it is rare to see the playground empty at any time of the year, rain or shine. A year-round draw, Ventureland Playground is easily the most comprehensive playground on Vancouver Island.

The playground is a well-loved and well-used park amenity. Generations have used the playground; grandparents who played in the park years ago are now bringing their grandchildren to visit. Being able to sustain tourism in our region is strengthened by ensuring the quality reputation of the playground as a family tourist destination is maintained.

### QUOTE:

“COVID-19 restrictions are making it tougher for children to get the exercise they need. It is important to balance physical distancing and the health and wellbeing of children and this tourism dependent funding will allow the City to improve the playground and the ability for children to be active outside,” said Mayor Ed Mayne.

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### For more information:

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