

<p style="text-align: center;">ATTACHMENT A ROCKY POINT PIP PROPOSAL</p>
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Rocky Point Playground Partners in Parks Grant Request

Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture
500 Bowen Road
Nanaimo, BC
V9R 1Z7

August 3, 2022

Dear Partners in Parks Committee,

Please accept this letter as our application, by the residents of Rocky Point neighbourhood and surrounding area, to the Nanaimo Partners in Parks Program.

In October 2021, our neighbourhood formed an informal group called Families of Rocky Point in order to begin collaboration on the development of a neighbourhood playground. We currently have 76 members and counting, and we are investigating the process of becoming a formal neighbourhood association.

Whereas other North Nanaimo neighbourhoods occupying a similar sized land area as Rocky Point have 6 - 8 playgrounds, Rocky Point has never had a public playground. The only playground within walking distance is the Frank J. Ney elementary school playground, which is problematic primarily because:

- a. It is not accessible to the public during school hours
- b. It does not have any toddler-friendly play features.

Rocky Point has experienced an influx of new young families in the last five years, and the need for a public playground and gathering space is growing. There is significant support in the community for this project and ongoing fundraising efforts have been launched.

In April 2015, Project Leader, Karolien Soylu, met with Richard Harding and Deborah Beck of the Parks and Recreation Department to discuss possible locations for the playground. The City representatives expressed agreement that Rocky Point is missing a public playground, and they were supportive of the project. Mr. Harding suggested that Harry Whipper Field would be a desirable location for the playground, as it has long been underutilized and has an existing bathroom building. This location for the playground would also satisfy a need for a suitable playground for the City's Summer Playground Program in the north end.

Vision

Our vision is to create a play space that is toddler friendly, while also appealing to older children aged 5 - 12, as we have many school-aged children in the neighbourhood. Toddler-friendly

playgrounds are particularly lacking in the north end and so we'd like to ensure that our youngest neighbourhood children have a safe space to play and explore.

We would like to create a playground that includes unique features to draw families to the play space:

- Tandem parent-tot swing
- Themed play structure (possible nautical theme)
- Sensory components such as musical instruments
- Hillside slide
- Natural wood play elements where possible such as stepping logs
- Small bicycle path around the playground
- Wood chip surfacing
- Several sitting benches and picnic tables
- Shade bearing trees and shrubs

Other additions we'd love to see if the budget allows include:

- Mason bee and bat boxes
- Butterfly garden with native plants
- Community food garden (future)

Budget and Fundraising

We aim to complete our project with an anticipated budget of \$85,000. Our community has already launched significant fundraising efforts, including a community garage sale, a burger night and silent auction, and a bottle drive. We have also secured donations from Island West Coast Developments and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Our fundraising has amounted to \$6,000 so far, which we are holding in a designated Rocky Point Playground Project bank account.

We also have a commitment from Knappett Industries to cover a significant portion of the playground costs. In addition, we are planning to present our project to Gyro Club to request support once the location of our playground has been formally established by the City.

Partners in Parks	\$50,000
Service Club/Grants	\$50,000
Knappett Industries	\$20,000

Community Fundraising Activities

\$10,000

Total Fundraising Goal

\$130,000

Please find attached a sample concept drawing that was completed to demonstrate an example of a possible playground design that could be created within our project budget. This is not a final design but simply a starting point and can be customized as we get further into the process.

Conclusion

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the Partners in Parks program and for your consideration of our application. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have further questions about the Rocky Point Playground project or this application.

Sincerely,

Karolien Soylu, Chair, Families of Rocky Point

236-238-1733

karolien.soylu@gmail.com

Amie Armet, Fundraising Coordinator, Families of Rocky Point

250-619-2413

rockypointplayground@gmail.com