

## Parkland County Grant Application

### **Wabamun Activity Park Skate Spot**

#### **Introduction**

WAVES is a non-profit society dedicated to the Wabamun community and the surrounding area with events and activities for families by encouraging wellness, togetherness and community spirit.

WAVES is developing a Skate Spot as part of the Wabamun Activity Park which also includes an outdoor skating rink.

#### **The Project**

The goal of the Activity Park is to create a public use community facility which enhances the health and wellness of the community. This park also provides an attractive incentive for regular year round visitors to the community. WAVES has contracted New Line Skateparks to construct a community skate spot at the Activity Park starting in the spring of 2021. With the assistance of many dedicated volunteers and the support of the Village of Wabamun Council, WAVES has also recently constructed a family skating rink to a point where it is presently being utilized by many community families. The Activity Park is located at 4908 52 Ave in Wabamun, next to the Wabamun School, on donated land, which was approved for development by the Village of Wabamun Council in December 2020. The location is near the main road into the Village, and within walking distance to the Waterfront Park where the main dock and marina are situated.

#### **The Project justification**

The Wabamun Activity Park Skate Spot is a community project that will provide accessibility to physical activity to community members of all ages and enhance family togetherness.

There is a significant need for this type of skate park in the Wabamun Community as there is limited access to recreational facilities in the area. Due to socioeconomic limitations of many families, it is difficult to travel outside the community for any type of extracurricular activities outside of school, and being able to walk to a skate park will be appealing.

It is recognized that the creation of a skate park is an important piece to the overall health and wellness of a small community. Skateparks also create increased tourism and economic activity by attracting a growing population of youth and families who travel specifically to experience the emerging network of unique skateparks across Alberta. We estimate that it will serve approximately 1000 visitors annually. With the population of the school growing, and the skate spot being accessible to Wabamun local residents, as well as the many surrounding lake communities. The skate park users may also include visitors to Wabamun's bustling Waterfront Park pier, dock and marina, which enhances summer visitors to the lake, hence increasing usage of the skate spot.

WAVES strives to provide a wide range of programs and services for the Wabamun community and unfortunately with being distanced from large urban centers, many families are not able to engage in activities such as this due to financial constraints of having to provide transportation outside the community. Limited extracurricular activities in the Wabamun Community outside of school, also can make it difficult for youth to participate as they would have to travel outside the community to access them.

WAVES believes that the health and wellness of their community is important to the development of community engagement and overall wellbeing. With the addition of a skate spot, this Activity Park will provide the public with access to physical activity and an opportunity to provide community connections. Skateparks encourage youth to become stewards of their community by giving them a place to explore and call their own. WAVES has created a sense of community pride and ownership with the youth as they have been actively involved in the skate spot planning, design, and construction process. Skateparks may help reduce youth inactivity, crime, drug use and nuisance behaviour by providing 'at risk youth' with an appealing, visible, environment that encourages athletic, psychological and social improvement.

## **Program requirements**

The components of the Activity Park are the outdoor family skating rink which was constructed in December 2020 and the future skate spot, which is contracted to New Line Skateparks. The final phase of the Activity Park will be landscaping with pathways and a family picnic area.

We are looking in the future to install some type of solar lighting for the Activity Park.

I have included the Order of Magnitude from New Line Skateparks.

## **Site Factors**

Lone Pine Geotechnical has completed a 20 page geotech report which is available if you require it, and New Line has just completed the Design Consulting Scope from the results of the report. The Geotechnical report included requirements for the subsurface preparation, as they found a lot of unconsolidated fill beneath the skate park area. They suspect someone just unloaded a bunch of unneeded earth there and left it uncompact. There is also a deep layer of buried topsoil 1.2m below the surface, which they suggest a deep cut of the site down 0.8m, inspecting the soils unearthed, and placing/compacting it back in the subcut area. This is a fairly involved operation and will affect the skatepark in the sense that there is going to be more of the budget allocated to underground prep that would be in the concrete surface. The costs for this are included in our quote from New Line Skateparks.

## **Financial Resources**

WAVES is covering all costs for the skate spot through grants, sponsorship, donations and fundraising. A budget is attached.

## **Approvals Required**

WAVES would like the support of development approval from Parkland County prior to commencement of the next phase of skate spot development.

WAVES has previously received development approval for the site from the Village of Wabamun, as well as a Development Permit for construction on the site. Alberta One-Call has been on site, provided an inspection report and will be returning to mark the site again prior to the start of construction, due to the Fire Services construction on the adjacent site.

## **Implementation Responsibilities**

New Line Skateparks is working specifically with Debbie Harris and Colleen Atkinson on all aspects of the Skate Spot development. WAVES does not require Parkland County to assist with the project at this time, but Parkland County is welcome to be as involved as they would like to be once construction begins.

## **Proposed Schedule**

The Activity Park is being developed in 3 Phases.

Phase 1 The outdoor skate rink - is now almost complete and will have exterior metal paneling and finishing touches completed during the summer months.

Phase 2 The Skate Spot - Preliminary work began in October 2020 and is almost complete. All initial research is complete. Budget is ongoing. The Initial Public Input Online Google Survey was completed in February 2021. Three renderings of design options were provided to WAVES on Feb. 17 and will be presented at a Public Virtual Community Engagement Session on Feb 24. An Online Survey for voting will be available on Feb 24 with results compiled on March 5, then final design plans will be developed. Once funding is in place for the next stage, development will commence with New Line Skateparks. Completion timeline will depend on funding received, fundraising, sponsorship and donations.

Anticipated completion of the skate spot is September 2022.

Phase 3 – landscaping and beautification of the Activity Park – park benches, picnic tables, grass areas and pathways are anticipated to be completed by summer of 2023.

### **Sustainability Plan**

WAVES Executive are appointing Sub-Committees to look after the Activity Park. There is presently a Sub-Committee in place to maintain the skating rink and subsequently, when the skate spot is complete a Sub-Committee will be in place to ensure the skate spot is cleaned, maintained and safe for users.

Skateparks offer sustainable long term community infrastructure with an extremely high user volume for a relatively low capital investment and nominal annual maintenance costs. Aside from regular maintenance such as lawn mowing and debris cleanup, professionally designed and constructed concrete skateparks have proven to be almost maintenance free and can last well over 40 years. Costs for upkeep, vandalism repairs, and daily maintenance expenses will be provided by WAVES.

WAVES may request that in the future, lawn maintenance may be requested by Parks & Recreation personnel, if necessary.

### **Committee Members**

#### ***WAVES Executive:***

Colleen Atkinson – President - 780-233-0824

Debbie Harris – Treasurer - 780-940-7361

Veronica Zur – Vice President - 780-266-0481

Erica Gach – Secretary - 780-660-3265

Rachel Cardinal – Past president – 780-901-4822

Our virtual AGM will be held March 2, 2021

### **List of attachments**

New Line Skateparks Order of Magnitude

Skate Spot Budget

Rendered Drawings of 3 Skate Spot Options

### **Grant Applications**

Community Initiatives Program Grant - \$125,000 Applied December 2020

Co-op Community Spaces Grant - \$100,000.00 – Applied February 2021