

## Playground and Outdoor Learning Space

Meeting Minutes Dec 19<sup>th</sup>:

1. Jolene review budget and opportunities for further funding moving forward. ACES is dedicated to grant writing as the playground is a priority for this year. Need for municipal and provincial engagement and support for the project in order to aid with grant applications, and community engagement. Jolene and Lisa Rosvold (president of parent council) meeting with Cam Westhead Thursday Dec 20th - **UPDATE: Lisa knows Mr Westhead and was able to provide a great introduction to our school. The meeting with Mr Westhead went very well today he agree to support our initiative. His office will connect us with the CFEP and CIP grant - which are each provincial grants that do a fundraising matching program so since we have \$81000 we have the potential to have this amount matched - to a maximum of \$120000 by the government. The deadline for this grant is Jan 15th Mr Westhead felt we would be successful with these grants. He also suggested we connect with the Girl Guides Club of Cochrane who is underway in building a \$250000 natural playground currently. He also suggested the community foundation, rotary group, and local corporate entities for support. He is also sending a letter of support to CRPS independently. Lisa also offered the support of parent council should we need to utilize their group for community engagement as well.**

2. Community engagement: Jolene to meet with Carol Picard for CRPS support and mayor John Borrowman for municipal support. James plans to engage with Gareth Thompson who specializes in environmental education to see if there are any opportunities that he is aware of. Plan in the future to provide a playground update for the Alpenglow newsletter and also engage with the Rocky Mountain Outlook to introduce our project to the community. Once our project is introduced within the Bow Valley we are hoping this will help lay the foundation to then be able to proceed with acquiring donations for materials, supplies, and contractor/landscaping skills from within our community.

3. Discussion surrounding our methodology moving forward, reviewing discussion from last meeting. Agreement unanimously to move forward with creating a RFP for design. We discussed 3 potential designers/contractors that we would like to see proposals from a) Earthscape/Ground cube b) Bienenstock c)

Kinsolplay <https://www.kinsoltimber.com/kinsolplay> Karen plans to verbally connect with each of these three companies to introduce us and our project. We plan to send the RFP in late January. We anticipate the creation of a working set of drawing for the full concept of the backyard area to cost ~\$30000. We do acknowledge that Earthscapes will likely have advantageous position given their previous work done to date. With the remaining funds and funds acquired from grants we will proceed with construction in a phased approach.

4. Karen provided information acquired from discussions with Bienenstock.

5. James provided information acquired from Robin Zirnhelt former Alpenglow parent who work with ISL and Earthscape.

6. Draft ideas regarding a phased approach. Phase 1 of the build process focusing on the playstructure Phase 2/3 focusing on the outdoor learning space and landscaping. Awareness that in exploring partnerships within the community and potential for grant funding will likely influence what the outdoor learning space looks

like. Will plan to liaison with ACES and CRPS to determine what potential partnerships to pursue to incorporate into the design. Plan to build phase 1 and put up signage displaying total concept and phased approach for our community to stay informed.

7. Jolene to set meeting with Steve/Joe from CRPS facilities Jan 14

Actions Items:

1. James to draft RFP and send to committee for review prior to Jan 15th  
ACES meeting for ACES review
2. Karen to verbally connect with 3 prospective designers to introduce our project
3. Shannon to discuss with Ann and Doug Wilson (Alpenglow parents and engineer at ISL) what our best options are for acquiring a topo survey locally and if there is opportunity for them to donate their time or provide a reduced rate for us.
4. Jolene set meeting with CRPS facilities
5. Jolene to set meeting with Carol Picard for letter of support
6. Jolene to set meeting with John Borrowman for letter of support
7. Jolene to follow up with Girl Guides in Cochrane, Mary Brewster (Town of Banff natural playground), Getta the volunteer grant writing for OLS playground, community foundation, rotary club, and alpine club of Canada, for further advice/intel/support that they may be able to offer as suggested by Cam Westhead
8. Lexi/Lindsay can you confirm what grants are being written for currently. CIP grant deadline Jan 15th and CFEP grant deadline Jan 15th as suggested by Cam Westhead for us to pursue. Please let us know what support and assistance our team can offer as these grants are a top priority for us as well.
9. ACES meeting Jan 15th to discuss potential partnerships to pursue for outdoor learning space - Jolene to report back to Playground committee
10. Lexi/Lindsay can you confirm you have brought our list of questions to the attention of Principal Rogers?