

A Community Building Project -A Project Building Community

Fundraising
Campaign

Project PLAYGROUND

C.W. Sears
Playground Society

In partnership with the
Tofield Agricultural Society



2011/2012

cwsearsplayground.com



About our school

Our school community inclusively benefits 266 students in Kindergarten to Grade 4. We are also home to SPOT, whose programs foster growth and development of preschoolers who encounter special challenges.

Address

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5716-47 st
Tofield, AB
T0B 4J0
780.662.3010

Working together for a
safe, happy, healthy and
active community.

C.W. Sears Playground Community Building Project is raising funds for a new playground and park build planned for the summer of 2012.

C.W. Sears Playground Society was formed in the fall of 2010 to bring volunteers together to:

- Raise community awareness to the unsatisfactory state of our current, dated playground;
- Plan, promote and identify play-space needs within the school community and community at large; and
- Fundraise and build a safe playground and schoolyard that fosters healthy growth and fitness through imagination, play, activity and inclusivity in a fun and safe environment.



Then:



Our Community School is facing the reality of an outdated playground. (1979 - 1999)

Concern for safety: A majority of the structures fail current safety standards and have simply run their course and need to be removed.

43%

***COMPLIANCE RATING**

Jan 2011

CPRA - Canadian
Playground Safety Institute
Playground Equipment Compliance

- In the summer of 2010 three smaller structures were removed.
- 4 stand alone components and our two largest structures require removal due to class A,B and C hazards.
- Our newest (1999) and largest wooden structure fails to meet CSA standards and is not refurbish able/repairable. Removal is required.

- Major surfacing and ground work needs to be completed under most equipment to improve safety and drainage.
- Summary:

Class A – 10, Class B – 21, Class C – 8 Overall Score 29/68 = 43%

* CPRA Playground Equipment Compliance Inspection Report is available upon request.

Future: C.W. Sears School and the Town of Tofield will be getting a new SAFE playground!



Future



Plans always start with a dream. We asked all the kids in grades 1-4 to complete a survey of what they liked most on the current playground and what their interests are for a new play space.

Kids would like to see

Playground equipment: climbers, swings, slides, forts, spinners **Sports Areas:** Soccer, basketball, tether ball **Outdoor Features:** Trees, hills, benches

Parents would like to see

A **SAFE** play area for all ages and abilities that encourages growth for all kids.

Plans

Preliminary plans are underway with the appointment of Blu Imp Recreational Products as our major supplier of the main play structures.

Blu Imp is an Alberta based manufacturing company based out of Medicine Hat, Alberta with representation out of Edmonton. They were awarded the contract based on the following criteria:

- Presentation/Representation
- Structural Components
- Materials/Colours
- Layout Options
- Accessibility Options
- Play Value – Ingenuity of plans shown
- Safety/Longevity
- Construction – install /volunteer
- Manufacturers Location
- Price
- Warranty
- Company Involvement



Pro - Active Environment

“We aren’t simply building a playground. We are proactively building a safe community. “

Play Partners

C. W. Sears Playground Society is a non-profit society whose directors consist of volunteer school community members:

Director Credentials, past and present, include: Board member for CFSA Reg. 7, Landscape Architectural Technologist, Home Building Contractor, Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, members at large for various community organizations, volunteer for past playground project, business owner, office manager, corporate event planner, graphic design, educational assistant and parents.

Design/Fabrication/Installation. We have developed a business relationship with Sue McGallan, sales representative and a contract with:

Blu Imp Recreational Products of Canada.

School and Regional Partners.

As a society we work in conjunction with school administration and



staff, Battle River School Division (BRSD), BRSD maintenance and the BRSD Safety Coordinator .

Community Partners: We are partnered with the Tofield Agricultural Society, the Town of Tofield, Tofield and District Chamber of Commerce, various community organizations, service clubs, and businesses.

Registered Charity: As a partner and subcommittee of The Tofield Agricultural Society we are able to utilize the benefits of charitable receipts, accounting and town administration throughout the project.

Volunteers: Included in our fundraising efforts are the parents and families of our students, students, school staff, school council, community members and businesses.

Trades: In the development of the physical playground installation we will partner with businesses and volunteers with specific training and skill sets.



Need

Safety

Wood splinters, pressure treated wood, excessive fall heights, unsuitable protective surfacing, worn components, poor drainage, protruding pilings, and current CSA standards unmet, refurbishing is not attainable. Class A hazards – 10, Class B hazards – 21, Class C hazards – 8. Overall Compliance – $29/68 = 43\%$

Activity

Limited access to upper, core and lower body activities, negligible accessibility for special needs students. Student population numbers are not adequately provided for and this problem will increase with the removal of equipment.

Inclusivity, Accessibility

Ground terrain unsuitable, dated structures are not currently designed to accommodate special challenges.

Environment

Extremely poor drainage causes highly utilized areas of the playground to close in the spring, summer and fall. Playground is situated in an open field with less than a dozen trees. Very little protection is given from the elements.

Community

Current playground is not designed for all ages or abilities. Sitting areas do not exist

Goals Objectives

Goal: Safety - Eliminate all class A, B and C hazards

- Remove unsafe equipment
- Apply recommended surfacing material under equipment
- Install new CSA and IPEMA Certified structures and components

Objective: Users will have an age appropriate, risk reduced playground that is hazard free and supervision friendly.

Goal: Activity - Increase physical activity and physical fitness

- Install age appropriate play structures that will facilitate fundamental movement skills. Install equipment that can be utilized in Phys. Ed. Class

Objective: Students of all abilities will access structures designed to increase physical activity. Structure sizes will accommodate student population. All phys. ed. classes will utilize equipment. Developmental stability, locomotor and manipulative skills will improve.

Goal: Accessibility - Increase inclusivity in school the yard

- Install ground surfacing, ramps and accessible components
- Install accessible stand alone entertainment panels on tarmac
- Install metal slide for students with cochlear implants
- Install low basketball hoop

Objective: 100% of our students will be able to access equipment, suitable to their needs in all seasons.

Goal: Environment – Improve natural outdoor environment

- Plant trees to increase imaginative play and provide shelter from elements
- Fill low areas, grade lot for proper drainage
- Build play hills
- Build an accessible path through trees

Objective: Students will appreciate their natural environment.

Natural ground play will occur. Trees will act as a wind break and shelter.

Goal: Community - Increase community involvement and activity

- Incorporate designs for all ages 0 – 100+, include sitting areas
- Open playground to community groups when not in use
- Utilize community skills, expertise, knowledge, abilities
- Use community volunteers in project planning, fundraising and development.

Objective: Citizens embrace play area as a neighborhood space. Volunteer hours increase. Fundraising and giving is high. Playground users increase.

Evaluation

Safety – Upon completion: Class A, B and C hazards are eliminated and playground passes Canadian Playground Safety Institute Playground Equipment Compliance Report – Report completed by BRSD; Playground construction meets CSA standards – Blu Imp Playground Manufacturing.

Activity – Upon completion: Staff will observe an increase in play utilizing upper, lower and core muscles. Staff observe increase in accessibility for students with special needs. Physical education teacher develops and utilizes lesson plans integrating playground design. Phys. Ed teacher evaluates fitness and strength levels and circuit accomplishments using regular school assessment and reporting.

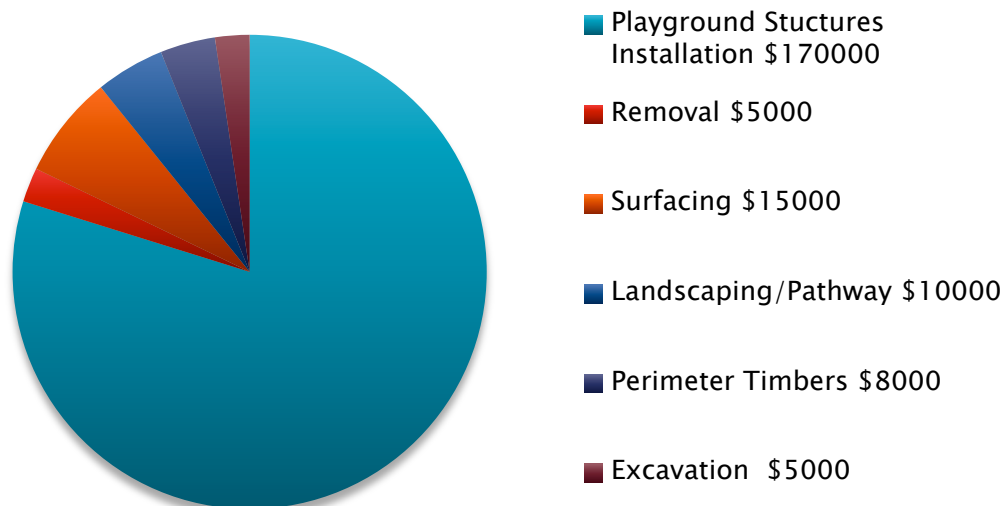
Accessibility/Inclusivity - Upon completion: Staff will observe an increase student use and observe utilization of options available for children with developmental challenges. Staff will observe greater integration due to accessibility within student body, for both C.W. Sears students and children enrolled in the SPOT program.

Environment – Staff observe that students demonstrate respect and caring for trees during maturation. Staff observe calm, imaginative, natural, ground play in park like areas. Throughout the years trees grow providing a significant wind break and provide protection from seasonal elements.

Community - Playground use increases by community members. Throughout the project there is a demonstrated increase in volunteer involvement. Throughout the fundraising campaign community members, organizations and businesses help through promotion, in-kind donations, monetary gifts, organizational support and volunteerism.

Budget

C.W. Sears Playground General Budget \$210 000



Project Timeline

2011

Oct. - Dec. 2010

- Formed a committee of parents willing to work towards building a new playground
- Performed a general assessment of current playground.
- Attained information and catalogues from various playground manufacturers
- Attained grant info. and identified application deadlines and requirements.
- Attained fundraising information.
- Surveyed all students from Gr. 1 - 4 identifying their play-ground priorities.
- Met with BRSD safety coordinator, to discuss our playground safety issues.

Jan. 2011

- File application to form a society.
- Receive CPRA Playground Equipment Compliance Inspection Report - face the reality that a majority of our structures are outdated and unfixable and need to be removed.
- Met with BRSD Maintenance for future recommendations on various pieces of equipment.
- Through the school applied for BRSD grants to fund pea gravel surfacing upgrades and fix Class A hazards on large wooden Henderson structure.

Feb. - Mar. 2011

- Plan kick off fundraiser - **Pancakes for Project Playground** - Pancake Supper and Silent Auction.
- Short list and interview with playground companies.
- Attend Tofield and District Chamber of Commerce meeting.
- Develop fundraising campaign plan and website.
- Select Playground manufacturer. Develop playground blueprints and budget.
- Open bank account.

Apr. - May 2011

- Hold first community fundraising initiative. Pancake Supper and silent auction.
- Develop and print fundraising campaign brochure.
- Coordinate landscape planner.
- Finalize cost estimates.
- Set budget
- Work with volunteer networks to apply for foundation and corporate funds.
- Approach Service Groups for Community Partnering.

June - Aug. 2011

- Plan for 2011/2012 school year - Major Fundraiser

Sept - Dec 2011

- Ongoing bottle drive
- Weekly meetings
- Monthly Fundraisers
- Dec. Christmas Craft/Home business sale
- Grant Application
- Fellowship Road Promotion

2012

Jan. - Feb. 2012

- Apply for Gov't Grants
- Major focus on meeting spring grant deadlines

Mar. - Apr. 2012

- Assess Budget and modify plans as needed.

May - June 2012

- Bottle Drive Fundraiser
- Work with companies to determine volunteer requirements for installation
- Organize inkind service contractors for installation
- Set installation working crew.

July. - Aug. 2012

- Remove Old equipment
- Prep. groundwork
- Organize final details for volunteer installation.

Sept. 2012

- Install new playground structures. Plant trees.

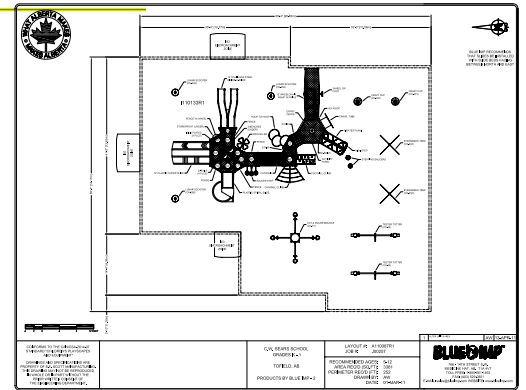
K-1 Mobile Play



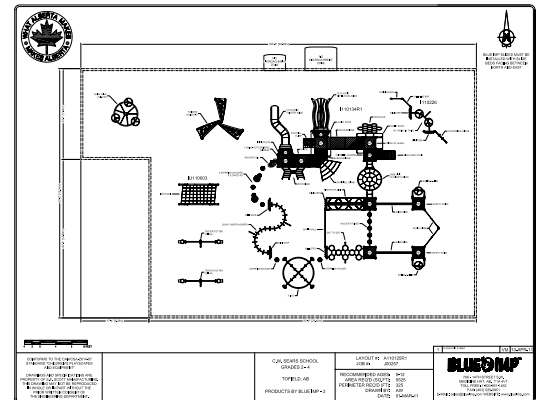
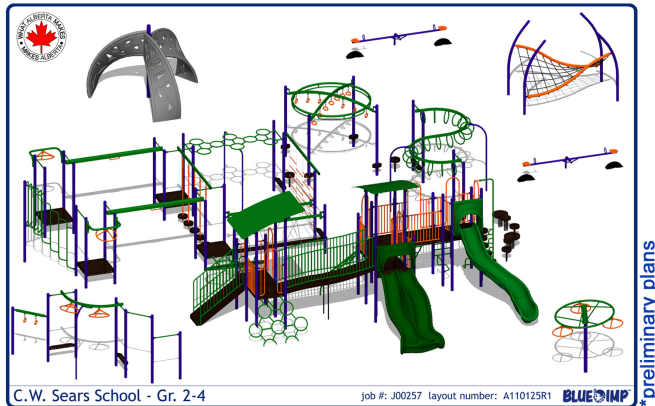
Preliminary Playground Plans April 2011

Front and reverse
Views

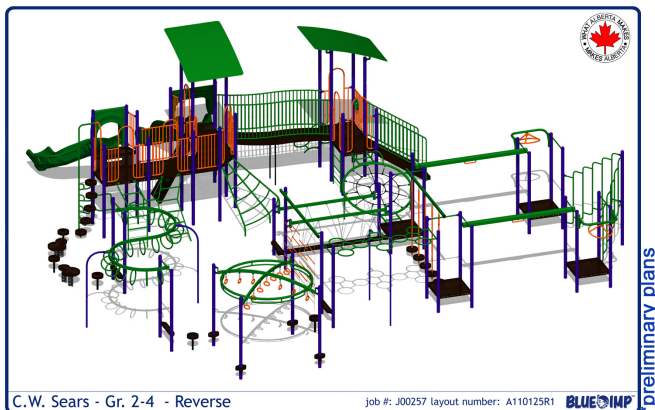
K-1 Inclusive Play

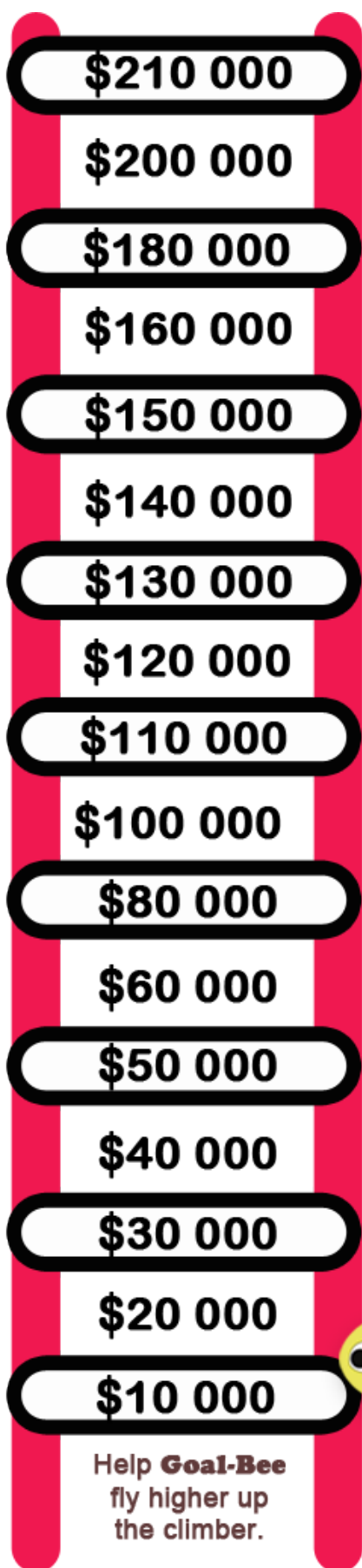


2-4 Active Play



2-4 Circuit Play





To receive a letter for your business or corporation and to receive a copy of this fundraising document for prospective donators please contact:

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Phase	Nature of Project	Target Completion Date
1	Replacement of Play Structures on C.W. Sears School Property 1 Structure = Preschool to Grade 1 1 Structure = Grades 2 to 4	July, 2012
2	Plant Trees Fellowship Road	May/June 2013