

Hello everyone!

As a follow-up to our workshop last month, here is a copy of the workshop notes. One thing that will also be important at this stage is to identify all the potential barriers that may be preventing people from recreating, as well as the partners to bring to the table. I loved how your group was really committed to taking an internal look at how your own organizations could improve systems and policy to reduce barriers, however the key to success with this initiative will be those community partnerships where everyone contributes what they can to make a bigger splash and reach the goal of having more people experience the benefits of recreation. Goals will be achieved in small steps over a long period of time so keep going and don't forget to celebrate your successes! Just increasing awareness of the issues/barriers to recreation as well as making the community more aware of existing programs and services in Dawson Creek is a success in itself. All the best with your Everybody Active and Everybody Gets to Play goals!

EGTP Workshop Notes

Existing Programs & Services (available to those living on a lower income)

- Free walking track
- Walking paths
- Parks
- Tennis courts
- Skatepark
- Outdoor skating rinks
- Kin Park activities
- X-country trails
- Library
- Child Development Centre
- Junior Badminton
- Soccer
- Curling
- School Sports/Clubs
- Adult Volleyball league
- Enowkin Friendship Centre
- SPCRS
- The Ark
- WOW Bus
- CCRR Physical Development
- SD#59 Strong Start
- Success by 6
- Douce Coupe
- Tremblay
- Parkhill
- Parks & Rec Special events including Seasonal; Multi ages; learn to skate; shop & swap; drop-in basketball for women; gymnastics
- KPAC opportunities
- Junior Golf

- Church Youth Groups (Alliance Church and Salvation Army)
- Bowling
- Outdoor basketball courts
- Senior Hall
- Beach volleyball
- Air Cadets
- Bangers
- Playground equipment in parks
- Jumpstart subsidy – Canadian Tire
- Royal Bank grants

Techniques for Increasing Access to Recreation Programs/Services

- Sensitivity Training for front line and program staff
- Grade 5 Access Program (see EGTP Tool Kit BC supplement)
- Rec Bucks from grocery purchases good for services
- Subsidies (Jumpstart, Kidsport, Triple Play etc) made more accessible with friendly application process and perhaps administered by Rec Dept or other community organization
- Form new community partnerships to maximize use of facilities, services, volunteers, grant opportunities etc.
- Evaluation of current core program/service delivery by Rec Department
- Volunteer recruitment through High School CAPP & leadership programs
- Volunteer exchange – volunteers hours = use of facilities and services
- Increased connections between existing volunteer organizations
- Translation of promotional materials into other prominent languages
- Cluster programming (all members of family have options to recreate at one time)
- Community Needs Assessment to determine barriers, service gaps and what people would like to see happen for improvement
- Look at changes of information
- New promotional methods to get people out including “take a friend day”; group tours of facilities; host information meetings with existing service clubs, organizations and groups
- School bus transportation of children to recreation activities after school
- Evaluation of bus routes and prices
- Decentralization of programming back into neighbourhoods
- “Walking school bus” volunteers walk groups of children to and from activities and/or school
- reduce duplication of service
- coordinated approach to recreational service listings

Get the Right People Involved

- City Council
- Encana/Oilman's Association
- Global
- Corlane
- Skate Shops
- Rotary; Kiwanis; all service clubs
- Banks (Credit Union)
- ESL groups
- Literacy Society
- Enowkin Friendship Centre
- SD #59
- Northern Health
- PACs from schools
- Minor and adult sport organizations
- MCFD
- Big Brothers & Sisters
- CDC
- Curves
- Private Fitness Clubs
- Community Services
- Treaty 8
- Arts Council/KPAC
- Regional District
- Chamber of Commerce/Tourism Centre
- AJ's
- Griffins
- Credit Union
- BC Transit/City Transit (Harold)
- Step Up & Ride
- Mental Health
- Society for Community Living
- Northwind Healing Centre
- Northwest College
- Curling Club
- Senior's Hall
- CC&RR
- Library
- Kickboxing
- Yoga Studios
- Special Olympics
- Bowling Alley
- YO 360