
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

West Shore Parks & Recreation Opens New Child Care Spaces in 2021

Work is now underway on the renovation of the 2nd floor of the JDF Recreation Centre to build new childcare spaces at West Shore Parks & Recreation.

Heatherbrae Builders was awarded the Construction Management Contract in September and has begun the renovation to construct 24 new full-time licensed day care, 20 new full time preschool and 40 new after school care spaces which are scheduled to start in September 2021.

West Shore Parks & Recreation secured 3.8 million dollars in grant funding to complete the project. 1 million was secured through the Union of British Columbia Municipalities (UBCM) *Community Child Care Space Creation Program* and 2.8 million from the *Ministry of Children and Family Development Child Care BC New Spaces Fund*.

"As the Westshore continues to grow at an exponential rate, we are excited to be help support our families through the opening of 24 new full-time day-care spaces and the addition of pre-school and afterschool spaces to our inventory", said Geoff Welham, Manager of Recreation at West Shore Parks & Recreation.

Additional amenities involved in the renovation include a new 24 passenger bus, industrial teaching kitchen and a quiet room. The building will be fully accessible as well as accommodate weekend and evening user group rentals, birthday parties and kindergym. Welham goes on to say *"the project is part of West Shore Parks & Recreation's efforts to continually improve its ability to provide diverse and accessible recreation programs and childcare to the Westshore's growing population and to ensure the most efficient use of the more than 250,000 square feet of facility space they own and operate."*

More information and the process to register for the new daycare spaces will be made public in early December with the release of the Winter Activity Guide.

During construction, West Shore Parks & Recreation will continue all programs and operations as scheduled.

-30-

MEDIA CONTACT

Geoff Welham

Manager of Recreation

Direct: 250-474-8655

Email: gwelham@westshorerecreation.ca