



Project Story: Neighbourhood Basketball Hoop

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With the pandemic still evolving for a second year, we thought it was important to focus on a project that would encourage children to go outside and move by practicing or learning a sport in a safe way. We are lucky to have in our neighbourhood a wonderful, safe and large cul-de-sac where lots of young families and at least 17 children live peacefully. With enthusiastic feedback from the neighbourhood, a basketball hoop on wheels seemed to be a good asset and meet Bowen Island bylaws.

Thanks to the generous NSG grant and with the help of a couple of families the hoop was picked-up at Canadian Tire and installed under the watchful eyes of impatient children.



As we opted for a sturdy hoop that will withstand time and weather, the \$500 grant didn't cover the total cost but people were happy to chip in and we had enough money to cover the costs and... to have a draw for 2 basketballs.

Now that the kids are back in school one of their favourite activities is to play while waiting for the school bus. This hoop will see the kids growing. Kids are developing new skills and new games around the basketball hoop. After only 6 months of basketball, we got the great news that one of the teenagers was selected by the best basketball teams of her age group in the lower mainland.

As a project leader and retired teacher, it was a great experience of getting the neighbours to come together to reach a common goal, an opportunity for me to learn to know young families in the neighbourhood and to be involved in the process of applying for a grant.

We would like to express our deepest thank to NSG, the Vancouver Foundation, the Bowen Island Municipality, and especially Lisa Wrinch of the Bowen Island Community Foundation.



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