

**BMX PA**  
**SK8 PA**  
**MTB PA**

premiere.  
 west coast.  
 adventure sport.  
 skills park.



COMMUNITY FUTURES ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT  
 RIDERS OF THE ALBERNI VALLEY | ALBERNI VALLEY SKATEPARK ASSOCIATION



**Contact**

Reana Miller, Communications & Community Development  
 Community Futures Alberni-Clayoquot | 250.724.1241 | reana@cfac.ca





## Vision



*A regional, all-ages, multi-component skills development park for the 'adventure sports' of skateboarding, BMX, and mountain biking, situated in the Echo Park area of Port Alberni.*

## Overview



The time is right, now.

This project provides the community with a brand-new, low-maintenance adventure sport park that serves a critical role in economic development through resident attraction/retention and recreational tourism.

A professional quality park of this nature promotes skateboard, mountain bike (MTB), scooter and BMX skill development from beginner to advanced levels, with the capacity to host competitive/qualifying events and ongoing programming.

It encourages healthy activities for families and young professionals and is a natural venue for seniors and others to enjoy watching the sports in action. With no fees to participate, low equipment costs, and 14 hours of drop-in access, the sports are highly inclusive. The centrally-located, outdoor site next to the city's secondary school and major sports facilities is convenient for families and ensures a COVID-19-safe space that can be enjoyed all year.

This project capitalizes on Port Alberni's assets: Extensive multi-use paths and trail networks; a deep appreciation and support of sport; a centrally-located recreation facility network; an influx of new residents and investors that represent a younger demographic; and a location (the west coast) that already attracts the adventure sport community.



# Alignment with City Strategic Plan

*Demonstrates the City's leadership in fulfilling its strategic priorities.*



## 1. Respond to demographic change / improve quality of life

- Creates recreation infrastructure used by families and young professionals
- Supports intergenerational participation (parents & grandparents with children)
- Integrates with the existing multi-modal pathways of the Echo neighbourhood



## 2. Enables the new economy

- Creates a regional attraction for the recreational tourism sector
- Skill development area promotes mountain bike trail usage
- Supports local small businesses that supply outdoor recreation goods/services



## 3. Provides and maintains quality services

- Resolves previously-identified need for a new skateboard park
- MTB skills development site encourages future use/development of MTB trails
- Opportunity to incorporate artistic and heritage design elements
- Opportunity to provide/partner to offer healthy outdoor rec programs



## 4. Champions environmental leadership

- Park construction has a low environmental impact
- Park requires minimal ongoing maintenance
- Encourages new and continued trail use



## 5. Fosters a complete community (safe, healthy and inclusive)

- A new, regional-scale attraction as a point of pride in the community
- A natural hub, focal point, and extension of the existing intercity trail network
- A safe public space for young people to engage in a positive, healthy activity
- No fees to participate
- Opportunity to include wayfinding signage
- Opportunity for increased lighting
- Aligns with on the centralized recreational facilities in the community
- Promotes year-round outdoor activity



# General Site Overview

Park design not finalized. Scale of park features subject to change.



## ALL-WHEELS PARK

Plaza/street area, bowl and flow zone for BMX, skateboarding, scooters and more.

+ covered/roofed area for year-round/winter use

+ Beginner skills area

## PUMP TRACK

A circuit of rollers, banked turns and other features used by cyclists, scooter riders and skateboarders.

## MOUNTAIN BIKE JUMP LINES & SKILLS PARK

Three 3 jump skills lines for beginner to advanced skill levels with a technical skills section. Site to retain majority of the trees.



# Rationale for Skateboard Park Replacement

*"The park has passed its usable life cycle."* -Radius Contracting Inc.

At approximately 30 years old, Port Alberni's skateboard park is among the oldest in the province and may be the oldest on Vancouver Island. Decades of use, west coast weathering and minimal maintenance have caused it to become worn beyond redemption. Professional skatepark design has also evolved: The park's few features lack flow and are technically challenging, posing a safety issue and barrier for newcomers to the sport. In 2021 the park was assessed by a team of industry professionals with decades of international experience designing, building, maintaining and inspecting skateboard parks. All concluded the only course of action is to replace the existing park.

**RATIONALE FOR ROOF:** A covered area ensures year-round winter use of the park. The Port Alberni park would be the only one on the island with a roof, attracting island-wide visitation all winter.



Survey responses from members of the Alberni Valley Skatepark Association

"What **letter grade** would you give the current park?"



36%

Area lighting is **"very poor"**

84%

A roofed/covered area would be **"very useful"**

75%

**Would support** a nearby MTB park and pump track

Above: Homemade rail (foreground) brought to the park to meet the need for more technical features.



# Detailed Layout: Mountain Bike Jump Park & Skills Park



## JUMP PARK

3 jump lines (beginner, intermediate, advanced) with an estimated total of 17 jumps.

- Beginner jump line: Ramps with 5 jumps and berms (estimate).
- Intermediate jump line: 4' ramps with 6 jumps, berms and rollers (estimate). Wall rides optional.
- Advanced jump line: 6' tall ramps with 6 jumps, two wall rides and some berms (estimate).



## SKILLS PARK

Expected to include ladder bridge structures, skinny bridges, rock garden, wood rollers and more features.



# Case Study: City of Powell River

*"It created a much larger family culture than anticipated."*

-Neil Pukesh, Manager of Recreation, City of Powell River

Combination of bike skills park, concrete pump track and skateboard park.



## COMMUNITY IMPACTS

- The community rallied together for this, there was a lot of demand.
- Met the need for low/no cost recreation opportunities.
- There has been a positive long term impact to the culture of the town, well beyond the scope of a recreation park. The park is a community gathering place and major attractor for families, not a niche facility for a small group of users.
- Powell River was already starting to receive an influx of new residents from Squamish, and the park is an even larger attractant to families interested in outdoor recreation.
- Shortly after construction a new skateboard shop opened and is now contracted by the City to provide instructional programs. Over the winter those programs are moved next door, indoors at a recreational complex.

## LESSONS LEARNED

- Consider building primarily for beginner to intermediate skill levels in the mountain bike skills park. The advanced skill features were underused and are now slated for replacement. There was no local capacity to instruct at advanced levels.
- Maintenance/upkeep for softscape landscaped elements was underestimated.
- Dirt pump tracks require more maintenance than asphalt.
- All in, Powell River's maintenance needs are ~20k a year, majority for dirt jumps, softscaping and graffiti removal.
- The pump track and rail slides have proven very popular.
- Graffiti is part of the culture and can be acceptable. Slurs and political messages are removed.
- Benches/seating and water fountains were critical.
- Include a covered shaded area for users to escape the summer heat.

# Case Study: Village of Cumberland

*"It's been an exceptionally well-used amenity by a broad range of users. There's been a positive community response for its use and value"*

-Kevin McPhedran, Parks and Outdoor Recreation Coordinator, Village of Cumberland

Combination of skateboard park, bike jump park and pump track.



## COMMUNITY IMPACTS

- A very popular amenity used by all ages, young children through to adults.
- The result of a 10+ year request from the community. Strong, ongoing community advocacy ensured full support from City Council.
- The principle community supporters were the Community Schools Society and United Riders of Cumberland who assisted with planning and design, fundraising, community advocacy, rallying support. They were critical to the project's success.
- The park compliments the trail network and is a safe place for dirt jumps within city limits.

## LESSONS LEARNED

- Originally considered 2 parks but found greater success combining everything in one location.
- Dirt jumps require more ongoing maintenance and users of the jumps tend to track dirt into the skateboard areas. A paved pump track is ideal if budget allows.
- The skateboard park is low maintenance.
- Expect graffiti. Strong local leaders in the user groups can help reduce it and discourage tagging.
- There can be minor conflict due to culture differences within the adventure sport communities (skaters vs. BMXers, etc.) but the users tend to resolve issues among themselves.
- Seating is important for family participation.



# Public Engagement Opportunities

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## PRE-BUILD ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Fundraising activities and events
  - Partnerships with School District, ex. ADSS Leadership program
- Communications campaign with user groups and community-at-large
- Public engagement sessions during park design
- Incorporation of public art, ex. Nuu-chah-nulth designs on signage, in concrete

## POST-BUILD ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMING

- Summer skills programs and camps
- Summer Park Host program
- Library 'loans' of equipment
- Partnership with ADSS' physical education program
- Partnership with NIC Education program
- Hosting competitive events, ex. Red Bull MTB events
- Joining tour circuits, ex. V.I. skatepark tour
- Hosting community events



# Operations & Maintenance



## PUMP TRACK

- Season cleaning sweeping and leaf blowing can be completed by volunteers.
- Drains and catch basins require periodic cleaning.
- Landscaped elements require care and irrigation.
- Trash receptacles and garbage removal.



## SKATEBOARD PARK

- Every 4-5 years requires pressure wash followed by resealing and repainting of the coping and railings. Estimate 2 day closure. Estimate \$7,500 initially, higher in future as materials costs expected to rise.
- All cracks require sealing. Shrinkage cracks expected in years 1-2. Fabrication contractor likely to include sealing in 1 year workmanship warranty.
- Seasonal cleaning, sweeping and leaf blowing. Can be completed by volunteers.
- Graffiti is part of the culture. Recommend removal ASAP to discourage future appearances or embrace it in limited forms. An alternative is to commission professional artwork to cover the surface.
- Periodic cleaning of drains and catch basins.
- Trash receptacles and garbage removal.

## MOUNTAIN BIKE JUMP PARK

- Annual inspection of ramp conditions required. First 2 years of inspections by retained fabrication contractor.
- Dirt features require annual springtime buff by a certified contractor.
- Pre-fabricated take-off ramps recommended over dirt ramps due to significantly lower maintenance requirements.



## MOUNTAIN BIKE SKILLS PARK

- Annual inspection of conditions required. First 2 years of inspections may be provided by retained fabrication contractor.



# Expertise Consulted

## ALBERNI VALLEY SKATEPARK ASSOCIATION

242 members including skateboarders, scooter riders, BMXers and Totally Board Surf Shop (+skateboards)



## BRIAN SAVARD, PRESIDENT RADIUS CONTRACTING INC.

[www.radiusskateparks.com](http://www.radiusskateparks.com)

Role: Designer, Project Manager, Construction Manager

Bio: Brian, a former resident of Port Alberni 1980-1992 is an avid skateboarder and a former world-renowned professional snowboarder, has a keen interest in helping this project become a reality. Brian has been working in the construction industry for over 25 years. He has managed numerous skatepark design and build projects since founding Radius in 2005. He has bookkeeping and business training. He leads the Radius vision and commitment to quality and innovation in skatepark construction. His keen eye for detail, skill, and personal expertise of the sport, enables him to effectively collaborate with architects and engineers to field fit, optimize budgets and create artistic touches. In the winter months, when the weather does not permit skatepark construction, Brian strengthens his skills and knowledge through Shotcrete placing and decorative concrete / faux stone / concrete sculpture work. Brian's leadership, professionalism and skills in communication make him the ideal person to serve as the single point of contact through the duration of any project.

Refer to the Appendix for  
Letters of Support.

## DARREN BERRECLOTH

### PROFESSIONAL FREERIDE MOUNTAIN BIKE RIDER + FOUNDER OF JD PARKS

[www.jdbikeparks.com](http://www.jdbikeparks.com)

Darren Berrecloth aka "The Claw" established J(ordie)D(arren) Parks with Jordie Lunn in Parksville, BC. Darren is backed by 20 years of being a professional athlete traveling the globe, riding contests and all sorts of terrain, to build the best track, course or line there is.



## KRISTY MACDONALD, CITY OF NANAIMO

Park and Open Space Planner



## RIDERS OF THE ALBERNI VALLEY (ROAV)

Representatives of the mountain bike and cycling communities. 171 Facebook group members.



## NEIL PUKESH, CITY OF POWELL RIVER

Manager of Recreation



## KEVIN MCPHEDRAN, VILLAGE OF CUMBERLAND

Recreation Coordinator



# Appendix 1: Petition - AV Skatepark Association

In 2019, 572 community members signed a petition acknowledging the poor condition of the skateboard park and asking the City to replace it.  
<https://www.change.org/p/sharie-minions-new-skate-park-for-port-alberni>

573 have signed. Let's get to 1,000!



**change.org** Start a petition My petitions Browse Membership

Petition details Comments Updates

## New skate park for port alberni



Davis Doucette started this petition to Sharie Minions

**Problem**

Port Alberni is filled with skaters bikers and scooter riders and it's time to get an upgrade to our park!

**Solution**

We need to stop ignoring all the kids begging for a new park and listen we don't need much even just lights so we can ride in the dark

**Personal story**

I have been riding for just under two years and I've seen the talent of the kids in this town it's incredible. We need a new park. It's time

*"There are a growing number of park users and great show of talent by the riders! There is definitely enough interest, I think it would be a great city investment because it would generate recreation for a younger audience building way to city growth! Not only that but there is a large amount of positive media generated by these individuals creating an online city presence."*

-Kai Potter

*"Skateparks are good. Good skateparks are better. There are nothing but good things that come from a nice park. The kids have something productive and fun to do, a sense of community is created, out of towners come to ride it... The benefits are many."*

-Kostya Chimkovitch

*"The youth of this city should absolutely be a top priority when it comes to city spending! It's so great to see them taking initiative and rallying support!"*

-Dustin Dame

*"Other sports have plenty of options in town but the skate park is lacking and we have no shortage of skaters, BMX and bike riders, roller bladers and scooter riders in our community. Let's give them a better placed to advance their skills and stay active."*

-Tara Griffiths

*"I have used this park since it was first made. It needs an update in a bad way. The park is used by many and is a fantastic addition to Port Alberni. When it was new events were held there, now it is outdated and those events go to other communities."*

-Keith Austin



# Appendix 2: Support Letter - Hupačasath First Nation



## Hupačasath First Nation

5500 Ahahswinis Drive  
PO Box 211  
Port Alberni, BC V9Y 7M7

Tel: 250-724-4041  
Fax: 250-724-1232

7 June 2021

Tara Christensen  
Business Development Officer  
Community Futures Alberni Clayoquot  
4757 Tebo Avenue  
Port Alberni, BC  
V9Y 8A9  
T: 250-724-1241  
E: [Tara@cfac.ca](mailto:Tara@cfac.ca)

### Re: Adventure Sport Park in Port Alberni

Our Hupačasath First Nation Chief and Council has reviewed the proposal for the Adventure Sport Park in Port Alberni and would like to declare our full support.

The new park would position Port Alberni as a Vancouver Island leader in adventure sport, drawing interest locally and regionally. We recognize the significant opportunities for local businesses to thrive from the growth of sport tourism such as through sporting events. The community already has a strong level of support for such activities, such as hosting the BC Summer Games or annual Tlu-piich Games.

Outside the competitive sphere, the park addresses the community's need for a low-barrier, low cost, and healthy physical activity for young people and families. A new park with more beginner and intermediate level features will give park users a safe place to play, develop their skills and socialize. We recognize the proposed upgrade and new infrastructure will be able to attract someone brand new to the sport and provide them with the opportunity to take their skill level to the next level. We share the vision outlined in the proposal of an inclusive, multi-generational, and professional quality park in an optimal location at its current site: Nestled amongst the existing sports facilities and fields, trail network, and schools.

This is an important project from a business development perspective but more importantly from a quality-of-life and inclusivity perspective. It is a clear indicator that our community cares for its youth and those who struggle to afford participation in other activities. It gives them a place where they can be active and feel included. We support the regional scope of the park but recognize its value at the local level – it is a space that builds community.

Should you have any questions please contact us.

Sincerely,

Chief Brandy Lauder  
On behalf of Council

# Appendix 3: Support Letter - Tseshaht First Nation



**TSESHAHT  
FIRST NATION**

5091 Tsuma-as Dr. Port Alberni, BC V9Y 8X9  
P: 250.724.1225 | F: 250.724.4385 | Tseshaht.com

February 15, 2023

To whom it may concern,

On February 2<sup>nd</sup>, Community Futures delivered a presentation to Chief Watts and Councillors of Tseshaht First Nation regarding the proposed Adventure Sport Park. We understand that Community Futures has been working with Riders of the Alberni Valley and members of the Alberni Valley Skatepark Association to advocate for the project, with the intent for it to be built in the Echo Park neighbourhood.

Previously youth from our community were asking for access to just such a park. They wanted to grow their skills in mountain biking, skateboarding and BMX, and to have a facility like those in communities next door. Tseshaht First Nation unequivocally supports this project and would like to see it prioritized as a legacy project for our children, youth, and families.

A project of this nature develops our community into more of an outdoor recreation destination and makes a case for spending more time in the Alberni Valley. The sports have a low environmental footprint and can increase appreciation for being outdoors and in the forest.

The social benefit to the community is equally significant. The new infrastructure would give residents the incentive to start and continue healthy activities, ones that don't require memberships, strict schedules or very costly equipment. The sports develop skills in focus, perseverance, and being present, without distraction. In other communities these parks become social hubs and community gathering spaces.

This letter of support is without prejudice to any applications Tseshaht may make for the same funding.

Tseshaht has several conditions for such letter of support and for this project including but not limited to:

1. A seat on any board or committee
2. Signage recognizing Tseshaht territory
3. Special opportunities for Tseshaht youth if possible
4. Any employment and training opportunities
5. Tseshaht leading any cultural ceremonies before ground-breaking and of any grand opening given it is in our territory
6. Opportunities for Tseshaht artwork and more.

Tseshaht First Nation fully looks forward to opportunities to become more involved in the project and providing assistance to move it forward.

Kleco, Kleco

Wahmeesh (Ken Watts)  
Elected Chief Councillor  
Tseshaht First Nation



# Appendix 4: Support Letter - School District #70

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School District 70 Pacific Rim

4690 Roger Street, Port Alberni, B.C. V9Y 3Z4 Ph: (250) 723-3565 Fax (250) 723-0318

February 22, 2023

To Whom it May Concern,

On behalf of the School District 70 Pacific Rim Board of Education, I am pleased to provide a letter in support of the Adventure Sport Park initiative advocated by Community Futures Alberni-Clayoquot in partnership with Riders of the Alberni Valley (ROAV).

The Board of Education recognizes the long-lasting community benefits of gathering spaces that provide for accessible, inter-generational family-oriented recreation. Children, youth, and new aspiring riders need a dedicated space to hone their skills in safe, centralized locations that promote daily health and family fitness routines.

A new regional scope, all-ages skill development 'adventure sports park' with beginner-friendly features will introduce many new faces to positive aspects of alternative recreational outdoor activities within the hub of family-oriented multi-sport and recreation facilities within our local community.

We believe that local access to positive recreational infrastructure will be a draw for families who are looking to relocate and incentive for young families who are wishing to remain in a community that provides recreational opportunity for their children, thus providing many positive benefits to the continued health and welfare of our beautiful community.

We thank you for taking the time to consider the Adventure Sport Park initiative proposal as brought forth by advocates from the Community Futures Alberni-Clayoquot in partnership with Riders of the Alberni Valley (ROAV).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pam Craig".

Pam Craig, SD 70 Pacific Rim Board of Education Chairperson

## Appendix 5: Support Letter - NEDC



A Community Futures Development Corporation  
7563 Pacific Rim Hwy. Port Alberni, BC V9Y 8Y5

March 16, 2021

To Whom it May Concern

**RE: Support for the Adventure Sport Park Proposal**

The Nuu-chah-nulth Economic Development Corporation (NEDC) has reviewed the vision for the Adventure Sport Park in Port Alberni and would like to declare its full support. We are an entity that supports initiatives that help grow our Vancouver Island communities and make them better places for business and better places to live.

The skateboard, BMX and mountain bike skills park would position Port Alberni as a Vancouver Island leader in adventure sport, drawing interest locally and regionally. We recognize the opportunities for aboriginal-owned businesses to thrive and support the increase in sport tourism this project is expected to generate.

The park supports an active, healthy lifestyle that capitalizes on the city's exceptional location close to nature with a vast trail network right next door. The community already has a strong level of support for sport and sporting events, such as hosting the BC Summer Games or annual Tlu-piich Games and we see this project in a similar vein: A modern, professional facility for adventure recreation that can be taken to a competitive level. At the same time, the park features for beginners will introduce a new generation of young people and their families to the adventure sports.

This is an important project from a business development and quality of life perspective.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 250-724-3131.

Sincerely,

Al Little  
General Manager



# Appendix 6: Support Letter - AVCOC



Monday, March 08, 2021

**President**  
Sarah Jones

**Vice President**  
Carol-Anne Phillips

**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**  
Terry Deakin

**Secretary**  
Peter Wienold

**Treasurer**  
Dave Heinrichs

**Directors**  
Gail Horvath  
Michael Moore  
Teresa Bird  
Krista McKittrick  
Daniel Savard  
Crystal Knudsen  
Lori Kerr  
Suzanne Dube

**CEO**  
Bill Collette

Ms. Reana Miller  
Communications & Client Services  
BC Business Match  
C/O Community Futures Alberni Clayoquot  
4757 Tebo Avenue  
Port Alberni, BC, V9Y 8A9

Dear Reana:

Thank you for updating me on the proposal regarding the Port Alberni Adventure Sport Park. As the voice of business in Port Alberni and under contract to provide visitor services for the Alberni Valley, we cannot understate the value of this project.

The vision you have shared resonates perfectly for what we need in the community to add to our already impressive sports and recreation facilities, each of which encourage people to get outside, get fit and enjoy the city's outdoor lifestyle. The adventure park has significant potential as an attraction for outdoor enthusiasts and families, locally, regionally, and off island. As we know, each visitor that spends time in Port Alberni invests in our community in some way, whether they are purchasing local meals and supplies for a west coast weekend, buying a new mountain bike at a local business, or scouting for a new place to live. Port Alberni already has a successful track record for supporting sports. A modern and expanded recreational adventure park for all ages would be yet another amenity that sets us apart and provides more reason for people to relocate to the Alberni Valley. In a post-pandemic world we will need to find ways to maintain our health and wellness and by adding such a wonderful, and much needed activity-based park may well be the best medicine for all.

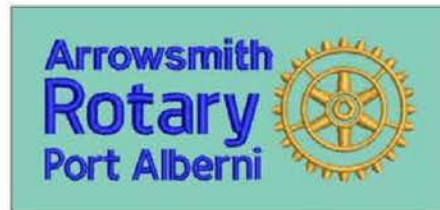
We support this project and look forward to learning of your success in the coming weeks.

Yours truly,  
ALBERNI VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

  
Bill Collette  
CEO

## Appendix 7: Support Letter - Arrowsmith Rotary

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*December 2022*

*To whom it may concern*

*It has come to the attention of Arrowsmith Rotary that Community Futures Alberni-Clayoquot, in partnership with Riders of the Alberni Valley (ROAV) and the Alberni Valley Skatepark Association are advocates for the creation of an adventure sport park in the Echo neighbourhood.*

*Our organization wholeheartedly supports their pursuit of this initiative. It aligns with our interest in healthy communities and family-friendly activities, particularly for children and youth. A modern, improved skatepark, new pump track and new mountain bike park will become healthy, low cost outlets for youthful energies. Further, we believe these sports develop self-discipline, patience, focus, confidence, and creativity in our young people. The equipment needed to participate is as little as a skateboard/helmet or a bike/helmet, and kids can take part anytime, an advantage for our local families.*

*Rotary members have seen the successes of other communities where modern bike and skate parks have become community hubs, with multiple generations participating together, and a full scope of programming and events. We acknowledge the great potential for the new multi-sport park to generate economic returns through hosting events and becoming part of the island's outdoor recreation circuit but from our perspective the most important thing is the park would provide a place for our young people to spend time being active outdoors, doing something they love and knowing their community believes in them enough to make such an investment on their behalf.*

*Sincerely,*

*Pam Craig  
Arrowsmith Rotary President 2022-2023  
[Pam\\_craig@outlook.com](mailto:Pam_craig@outlook.com)  
250-735-1566*



## Appendix 8: Support Letter - Cycle Alberni



**JOHN MAYBA**

Chair, Cycle Alberni  
Director, Alberni Valley Transition Town Society

8343 Dickson Drive  
Port Alberni, BC V9Y 9B5  
250-723-2638  
djmayba@telus.net

March 9, 2021

Re. Support for BMX | SK8 | MTB Regional Park Proposal

Dear Tara,

Thank you for your leadership and vision to bring a modern, multi-use skate and bike park to the heart of Port Alberni. Cycle Alberni is thrilled to be able to provide a letter of support to Community Futures Alberni-Clayoquot in the development of this project. We are pleased to see that the project development team includes collaboration with Riders of the Alberni Valley (ROAV) and other community partners. An adventure sport park in the Echo neighbourhood will be a tremendous asset to youth and adults in the region.

In addition to education, improved bicycle infrastructure and active transportation, Cycle Alberni collaborates on cycling initiatives throughout the Alberni Valley. As an organization, we see incredible potential in the proposed recreation park. The cycling community and the mountain biking communities in the Alberni Valley are distinct but related and it is our perspective that everyone benefits from a park of this nature. It encourages healthy outdoor activity, the central location is easy to reach via existing bike lanes, it's close to the city's trail network, and it encourages a new family-friendly activity that sets up the next generation to enjoy cycling and bike sports. Although we are not generally skateboarders, we recognize that mountain bikers and BMXers also spend time in skateboard parks and the infrastructure of our local park is in need of an upgrade to accommodate more users.

Cycling Alberni's members are local, informed and engaged in the city's development. From a wider perspective this park serves more than just the recreation communities. We see how it could fulfill a local need while also attracting visitors to discover more of Port Alberni and invest in local businesses, such as bike shops and restaurants. We welcome this project in our community. Don't hesitate to reach out if we can assist any way.

Sincerely,

John Mayba

Transportation Committee of the Alberni Valley Transition Town Society



# Appendix 9: Support Letter - NIC

NORTH ISLAND COLLEGE



CONTINUING EDUCATION & TRAINING

## Letter of Support – PA Rec Park Development:

It has come to my attention that Community Futures Alberni-Clayoquot in partnership with Riders of the Alberni Valley (ROAV) are working together to advocate for the creation of an adventure sport park in the Echo neighbourhood.

It is the mission of North Island College to collaborate with our partners to create pathways to learning and empower individuals to achieve their full potential. This is accomplished by implementing and supporting projects that make a positive difference in our student's lives and in the social and economic health of the communities where our campuses are located. We are actively engaged in the growth of the community, its learners of all ages and its future workforce.

We support the proposed adventure sport park for those very reasons – its ability to positively influence the growth of the community make it a better place for those who choose to live and work here. NIC's Port Alberni campus is located in the Echo neighbourhood with the city's extensive trail network literally at its back door. We can attest to the importance of nature and outdoor recreation in attracting learners and staff to our campus. City amenities with nature at the doorstep is a powerful draw, and activities like mountain biking, BMXing and skateboarding have low barriers for participation. And once completed, we recognize the park's potential to be used as an educational resource in programs involving community development, tourism, outdoor recreation, and education.

The proposed park amplifies the work the city is already doing to promote the community's outdoor recreation and sporting amenities. It is a modern, regional-scale proposal that will help showcase the city's competitive advantages for workplace and resident attraction and retention.

We look forward to following and supporting the project's progress.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Haugen', is written over a horizontal line.

Bob Haugen  
Acting Director and Manager, Continuing Education  
North Island College  
2300 Ryan Road, Courtenay BC, V9N 8N6



# Appendix 10: Support Letter - CFAC



4757 Tebo Avenue  
Port Alberni  
British Columbia V9Y 8A9

T 250 724 1241  
T 1 877 724 1241 F 250 724 1028

E info@cfac.ca  
W www.cfac.ca

March 15, 2021

## Re: Proposed Adventure Sport Park Development

To Whom It May Concern;

I'm thrilled to provide this letter of support for a new skateboard and bike skills park. Port Alberni already has a reputation for its sports facilities and sport culture, and the proposed park will provide an attractive, state of the art outdoor recreation facility for all ages of skateboarders, mountain bikers, BMXers and scooter riders. The facility will attract families and young professionals to Port Alberni and provide good reason to stay or return again.

From an economic development perspective, the businesses that support visitation and outdoor recreation, such as local bike and skate shops, cafes and restaurants, motels, hotels and B & Bs, and businesses located in the commercial/downtown cores will be positively impacted.

Our research has shown that well-planned, full-scope parks with components for multiple adventure sports together in one place become community hubs for family-focused activity, and we see it no differently in Port Alberni. Already the location is central and convenient, and augments the existing indoor and outdoor sports facilities. We are confident the new adventure park will have a profound effect on the growth of the adventure sport user group and on skate and bike tourism to the city.

Additionally, skateboarding is debuting in the 2021 Summer Olympic Games as noted in a CTV News Vancouver Island article dated March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021 by author Adam Chan:

*Vancouver Island Skateboarder Headed to Olympics with Canada's First National Skateboard Team  
A Vancouver Island skateboarder is among 12 athletes chosen to be on Canada's first national skateboard team when the sport makes its debut in the Summer Olympic Games. Courtenay's Shay Sandiford is one of eight skateboarders who will be representing Canada in the country's street skateboarding division. Sandiford, 23, is originally from Courtenay and currently lives in Los Angeles, Calif. His previous professional skateboarding work includes sponsorships from Adidas, Diamond Supply Co., Onethirtythree Skate Shop, Plan B Skateboards and more.*

There is no reason Port Alberni can't be the hometown of the next professional adventure sport athlete, and host professional competitive adventure sporting events. Community Futures looks forward to continuing to be actively engaged in this propelling this project forward.

Sincerely,

Lori Camire  
Executive Director, Community Futures Alberni Clayoquot  
Manager, Venture Connect