



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Fall 2019**

## **Whistler Blackcomb Foundation Awards over \$250,000 to Sea to Sky Initiatives**

The Whistler Blackcomb Foundation has recently awarded over \$250,000 in charitable grants to Sea to Sky non-profit organizations.

"The Foundation is committed to helping organizations that benefit residents of the Sea to Sky Corridor with an emphasis on children, youth and families. It is so rewarding to disburse these funds to some amazing local non-profits" said Mei Madden, Executive Director of the WBF.

The largest grant of \$40,000 was donated to Don Ross Middle School towards Phase 3 of the revitalization of their outdoor space which includes a play structure and playground equipment. The equipment is specifically chosen to be used for fitness, learning and fun. 600 + students attend Don Ross Middle School.

The Spearhead Huts Society was granted just over \$30,000 to purchase furniture, sleeping/hiking equipment, safety equipment and program supplies for the Mischa Arnott Alpine Youth Room in the Kees and Claire Memorial Spearhead Hut.

\$28,000 was donated to Arts Whistler to upgrade their theater sound system at Millennium Place, as part of the Whistler Blackcomb Foundation Technology Fund. Not only does this help with the events put on by Arts Whistler, but non-profit groups have access to this equipment for a very nominal fee when renting out the space.

The Whistler Mountain Ski Club is in need of a gym renovation & a fitness studio and was granted just over \$25,000 towards the project.

Search & Rescue was granted \$25,000 to assist with the purchase of a new truck. Their current vehicle does not have the footprint or capacity to support additional rescue equipment that's needed as call outs continue to increase year after year.

The Whistler Blackcomb Foundation has been the Housing Partner for Zero Ceiling for the last 3 years, and will continue to support them with a grant of \$25,000.

\$11,100 is being granted to the X'etolacw Community School in Mount Currie towards building a structure for outdoor education. This Forest School will be a base for experiential outdoor learning for 250 students. The funds will purchase materials including a stove, roof materials, framing and flooring.

The Whistler Adaptive Sports Program (WASP) received just over \$8,000 towards sit ski equipment. WASP provides year round sports, therapeutic programming and recreational opportunities. The purchase of additional sit skis will increase their ability to better service their intermediate to advanced sit skiers who are unable to use a mono ski.

\$6,000 is going to the Pemberton & District Museum & Archives Society for the renovation of the Pemberton Station School, specifically for the interior finishings of the schoolhouse building. The school will provide year-round educational, social and art programming and exhibit space for use by the museum and community groups.

Just under \$6,000 is being donated to the Pemberton Valley Trails Association for Phase 2 of their trail improvements. These funds will specifically go towards purchasing an electric bike (for tool and equipment transportation) and a bike trailer. This will allow trail maintenance contractors to access remote and distant trail improvement locations.

Also included among the successful recipients within this fall funding period were Pemberton Secondary, Alzheimer Society of BC, BC Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, the First Nations Snowboard Team, Pickleball Squamish, The Whistler Sailing Association, Skate Sea2Sky Club, Squamish Minor Hockey Association, the Whistler Nordic Ski Club, Simon Fraser University, Spring Creek Community School, Spud Valley Nordic Association, and the Whistler Skating Club.

The Foundation also matched all Whistler Blackcomb employee donations to the Whistler Blackcomb Foundation Environmental Fund which supports environmental projects in the Sea to Sky Corridor.

Help us continue to support our local communities by participating in the Whistler Blackcomb Foundation's winter fundraiser, the **TELUS Winter Classic** happening March 6 & 7, 2020. More details are available at [www.whistlerblackcombfoundation.com](http://www.whistlerblackcombfoundation.com). Since 1992, the Foundation has given out more than 14.0 million dollars in grants. Application submission deadlines are April 1<sup>st</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

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