

For Immediate Release
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Tatlayoko Trails Bring Wilderness to All **Pilot Project Focuses on Accessible Tourism**

Tatlayoko, BC - The Cariboo Regional District, the Tatlayoko Community Association and many local residents will be on hand Saturday, August 9, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. for the official opening of the new Tatlayoko Trails. The Association has designed and is completing two kilometres of accessible trail along with an accessible washroom and a picnic area. Ceremonies include free lunch, refreshments, speeches, a ribbon cutting, and of course tours of the new trail system.

“I am extremely pleased that we have now completed the Tatlayoko wilderness accessible trails,” stated CRD Area J Director Alex Bracewell. “However, the work is really just beginning – to make the Cariboo Chilcotin one of the most attractive wheelchair accessible tourism destinations in the world.”

The trail is a pilot project under the Measuring Up program, for a larger development of 210 km of wheelchair accessible trails throughout the Cariboo Chilcotin region by 2010. The surface of the trails is mining belting which was generously donated by Gibraltar Mines is a rubber material with metal reinforcements, which was laid on the prepared ground and connected to create a smooth trail surface. This allows people with disabilities to be able to enjoy outdoor recreational activities.

The project was made possible by contributions from Gibraltar Mines, the Mining Association of British Columbia, Interior Roads, the Cariboo Regional District, Measuring Up (Legacies Now), Tatlayoko Measuring Up Committee and West Chilcotin Forest Products

About Measuring Up

Measuring Up, as part of the 2010 Legacies Now initiative, is a program that assists communities in assessing and improving how accessible and inclusive they are for people with disabilities. It also takes into consideration accessibility for seniors, parents pushing baby carriages, tourists carrying luggage, and people with injuries. By increasing accessible employment opportunities and improving public spaces, recreation facilities, restaurants and shops, Measuring Up is assisting communities in becoming more accessible and inclusive.

About the Tatlayoko Community Association

The Tatlayoko Community Association, a registered, non-profit organization, owns recreational property, which was formally an old mill site. The association has turned the site into a gathering spot for residents and tourists who frequent the area. It consists of a baseball diamond, picnic area, concession area, band stand and a recently acquired heritage house, which will be turned into the community hall.

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