

WildPlay West Shore Victoria Now Open for Adventure

Victoria, BC: Today WildPlay Element Parks opened their third park, WildPlay West Shore Victoria, and for the first time guests were able to experience WildPlay's newest Monkido course. Featuring a combination of Tarzan swings, zip lines, scramble nets, swinging logs and other elements between six and 53 feet above the ground, Monkido is an aerial adventure offering challenging, interactive activities in a natural environment.

"This is a major step forward for WildPlay as West Shore Victoria is going to be a model for partnerships with municipalities throughout British Columbia," says Tom Benson, President and General Manager. "It is a way to expand recreation centre programs and offer unique activities to a wide range of people without adding to recreation centre costs. It's a win-win for everyone."

Les Bjola, West Shore Parks and Recreation Board Chair, agrees. "This unique partnership allows us to provide a thrilling outdoor adventure experience that we would not otherwise be able to offer. WildPlay brings to us capital and expertise, enabling us to expand the range of recreational opportunities for residents and visitors to the West Shore."

Like WildPlay's first two parks, Monkido is integrated into the forest environment. Each course is designed to conform to the landscape, rather than modifying the landscape to fit the course. Monkido is attached to trees using a compression system that allows sap and tree nutrients to flow.

In addition to operating as an independent adventure park, WildPlay West Shore Victoria will be part of the diverse recreational opportunities offered at the Juan de Fuca Recreation Centre. Under the partnership with West Shore Parks & Recreation Society, discounted passes are provided for youth and summer camp programs and 150 activity passes will also be provided annually to support West Shore residents participating in youth leadership activities and the L.I.F.E. program. The L.I.F.E. program is designed to ensure equitable access to recreation for all residents regardless of their ability to pay.

Through opening weekend WildPlay West Shore Victoria is supporting adventure-based learning with the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Victoria. On Saturday November 7 and Sunday November 8, \$5 from each Monkido adventure will go to support activities at the Boys and Girls Club camp in Metchosin. The Club will also be selling hot dogs between 11am and 2pm each day. The Boys and Girls Club camp offers half day to multi-week activities that use the physical environment to build skills, learn group roles and strengthen social bonds.

Located at 1767 Island Highway behind the Juan de Fuca Recreation Centre, next to the Bear Mountain Arena, WildPlay West Shore Victoria is open seven days a week from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm. With scheduled departure times varying throughout the week, reservations are recommended and can be made by calling 250.590.7529 or 1.888.856.7275.

WildPlay Ltd. was created to make exciting outdoor experiences more accessible to people of all ages and fitness levels. WildPlay aims to reinvigorate the concept of play for children and adults and to encourage families to play together. WildPlay's Monkido courses are built to operate within the natural environment, causing minimal impact on the landscape. WildPlay's first park, WildPlay Nanaimo, opened in March 2006. In 2008, WildPlay Nanaimo was awarded the Nanaimo Economic Development Group Leading EDG Award and the Tourism Vancouver Island Raising the Bar Award. See www.wildplay.com for information.