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## NEWS RELEASE

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Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development  
BC Recreation and Parks Association

### **Family Day grants available for local governments**

VICTORIA – Communities throughout British Columbia will celebrate the fifth BC Family Day on Monday, Feb. 13, 2017.

The Province is again providing \$250,000 to support free local, family-focused activities with funds administered through the BC Recreation and Parks Association (BCRPA).

One-time grants up to \$1,000 are available for free community-based family events held during the BC Family Day weekend (Feb. 10-13, 2017). Funding is limited to municipal parks and recreation departments and First Nations band councils. Grants will cover entrance fees, facility costs, equipment, staffing and/or refreshments and will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

Applications will be accepted continuously until funding is fully committed, or until Feb. 8, 2017. Apply for funding online by visiting: <http://www.bcrpa.bc.ca/familyday/apply>

Previous BC Family Day funding has supported a range of recreational activities such as skating, swimming, snowshoeing, face painting, dancing, photo booths, live music and more.

For more information about BC Family Day and to discover what's happening in your area, visit: <http://www.gov.bc.ca/BCFamilyDay>

#### **Quotes:**

#### **Peter Fassbender, Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development –**

“BC Family Day is an opportunity for British Columbians to spend some extra time with their loved ones. Our government is proud to support free events in communities throughout the province to bring families together and help make the weekend memorable for everyone. Thank you to the organizations planning events and activities in their communities, where we can all celebrate over the BC Family Day weekend.”

#### **Heather Turner, president, BC Recreation and Parks Association –**

“These grants enable local governments and First Nations band councils to bring families together in recreational activities that celebrate family and community, fostering social inclusion and promoting active living. Over the years, families have skated, swam, danced, made music and art, tried new fitness activities, and learned traditional games and sport. The Family Day grants enable kids and their parents to freely try out recreational activities in community centres and parks they would not have otherwise have a chance to explore.”

#### **Learn More:**

- BC Family Day events listing: <http://www.bcrpa.bc.ca/familyday/2017/events>
- BC Recreation and Parks Association: <https://bcrpa.bc.ca/>

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