



Measuring Up Accessible and Inclusive Communities

Measuring Up is a collaborative process that engages people with disabilities, local government, the business sector and other community leaders to assess and improve local accessibility and inclusion for people with disabilities, seniors and the community as a whole. The Measuring Up process includes a guide that assists communities to assess, prioritize and take action on accessibility and inclusion issues.

Measuring Up was created in partnership between 2010 Legacies Now, the Vancouver Agreement, the Vancouver Foundation, the Province of British Columbia (BC), and 80 disability organizations throughout the province. The program was officially launched in 2006.

Measuring Up aims to foster opportunities for the active engagement, participation, and contribution of people with disabilities in their communities by demonstrating the social and economic benefits of accessibility and inclusion, encouraging all communities in British Columbia to implement Measuring Up, and by embedding accessibility and inclusion into all aspects of community life.

Currently, over 100 communities throughout the province are involved with Measuring Up. These communities are striving to advance local accessibility and inclusion through community-specific projects such as upgrading access to public buildings, creating an accessible community art studio, building accessible outdoor trails, and promoting inclusive hiring and business practices.

Measuring Up is also used by the Measuring Up The North project, which is a partnership between the North Central Municipal Association (NCMA), British Columbia Paralegic Association, 2010 Legacies Now and BC Healthy Communities to implement Measuring Up in all 41 member communities of the NCMA.

In 2007, with support from the Ministry of Employment and Income Assistance, 2010 Legacies Now established the Measuring Up Fund. The Measuring Up Fund assists communities to implement Measuring Up and to complete related projects. Communities are eligible for grants ranging from \$15,000 to \$25,000, based on population size.

The first round of 30 community grants were awarded in September 2007. The second round of grants were awarded to 29 communities in February 2008. The next round of funding is scheduled for fall 2008.

For more information about Measuring Up or about the Measuring Up Fund, please contact us at 778-327-5123 or measuringup@2010LegaciesNow.com, or visit our website at www.2010legaciesnow.com/measuring_up/.