

WAY TO GO, CITY OF TERRACE!

In addition to forming the Measuring Up Terrace Committee, the City of Terrace is also making positive changes to its facilities to help improve accessibility and inclusion for persons with disabilities.

One area receiving particular attention has been the Terrace Aquatic Centre. Mike Carlyle, the Aquatic Manager, has been working with the Committee, in conjunction with other City staff, to make modifications to the weight room, change room and washroom facilities. A grab pole has been installed so that a workout machine can now be utilized by a wheelchair-confined person who is limited in movement by the use of only one arm. Allan Hendricks (shown below), is testing out the eyebolts that have been welded to a weight machine so that his wheelchair can be anchored while he works out.



REC ATTENDANT Chris Dale helps Allan Hendricks secure his wheelchair to the machine.

In addition, adjustable and locking grab bars are being installed in the public washrooms and change room facilities. These types of modifications are relatively inexpensive and go a long way towards making life less challenging for persons with mobility issues.

City Council, in response to concerns expressed by the seniors and the Measuring Up Terrace Committee, readjusted their 2008 capital budget to complete the reconstruction of Park Avenue from Twin River Estates to the Terrace Aquatic Centre, complete with sidewalk, one year earlier than originally planned.

The recent completion of the Sportsplex includes elevator access to the second level (banquet and meeting rooms), and accessible change rooms and washrooms on the arena level. In addition, designated wheelchair seating has been provided in the main arena, and the Hidber Arena will include wheelchair viewing once the bleachers are redesigned, so that persons attending functions in wheelchairs can sit with friends and family.