



Quesnel Rotary's Brian Harris, left, Lian Kimmie and Kurt Pederson partnered with Sunrise 2000 Rotary's Glen Lefebvre, Kit Collins and Measuring up the North committee member and city coun. Mary Sjostrom and Mayor Nate Bello to present funds for automatic Curling Club doors.

Andrea Johnson photo

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## Measuring up committee drafts strategies

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Automatic curling club doors a step towards accessibility

With the installation of automatic door openers at Quesnel Curling Club, Gold Pan City took another step in the direction of becoming "the most disability-friendly and senior friendly community in the North."

This is the goal the Measure up Quesnel Committee set itself when it undertook to do an assessment of the challenges facing Quesnel residents with disabilities and seniors.

Earlier this year the Quesnel and District Child Development Centre partnered with the City of Quesnel to apply for a grant from 2010 Legacies Now.

This grant allowed the committee to hire a project co-ordinator to undertake an in-depth community assessment of the city's accessibility needs and to develop a strategic plan to address those needs.

In the course of her work, Liz Neave facilitated eight focus groups comprised of 100 people.

In addition she interviewed many other individuals, hearing directly from them about the issues they face in accessing the things they need in our community.

Her report, written with the support of the Measure Up Quesnel Committee, contains a number of strategies for reaching the goal of becoming a more attractive place for seniors and people with disabilities to live.

The strategic plan, which is available on the Child Development Centre's website or on the City of Quesnel website, represents the most in-depth examination of accessibility issues faced by people with disabilities and seniors ever undertaken in Quesnel and provides a set of goals and the strategies for reaching them.

The automatic door openers at the Curling Club were made possible by a \$5,000 grant from 2010 Legacies Now and \$1,750 from each, Quesnel Rotary and Sunrise 2000 Rotary Club of Quesnel.

This is not the first time the two Rotary clubs have teamed up to address accessibility needs in Quesnel.

A few years ago they were instrumental in raising money to purchase and install lifting and tracking at the arts and recreation centre.

This equipment makes it possible for those with mobility challenges to gain access to the swimming pool.

For information on Measuring Up The North programs and projects log onto [www.measureupthenorth.com](http://www.measureupthenorth.com).

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