

Centennial Playground Awaits Provincial Funding

Fundraising for a new playground at the Naramata Elementary School has been underway for almost two years, but the project may get a big boost. The provincial government announced in late May a \$4-million program to replace outdated play equipment. School PAC Treasurer Karen Henderson called a representative in the Ministry of Education within hours of the announcement, "This has come at a perfect time for us, and we have asked a whole series of questions of the program which we hope will be answered soon." Henderson says the deadline is tight to order the playground equipment to ensure installation in September, and if she does not hear back soon she will make contact with MLA Bill Barrisoff's office in an appeal for more detailed information and answers about the government program.

In the meantime, her committee has met with the school district installation and maintenance staff regarding the designs and technical aspects, and have narrowed the search down to two playground suppliers (from six submitters). They will want to then involve staff, parents, and kids in the process

The PAC has raised \$18,636 from the community and its own fundraising. Henderson says that once they are sure of how this new provincial funding program works, and after final discussions with the district, they will be in an excellent position to proceed. "We believe the grant program might be enough to fully fund the balance we need to install a great new playground. With the school district's commitment covering labour, installation, surfacing, some equipment budget, etc., we're excited about a new playground at our school very soon, and we hope you are too!" Stay tuned for final details!

*From Karen Henderson, Jill
Doroshuk, & Jodi Trovao,
Playground Committee, Naramata
Elementary School PAC*

School Centennial Contest

To help celebrate this year's Centennial the students at Naramata Elementary School were invited to take part in a special contest. The only criteria for projects submitted was that they had to represent some aspect of Naramata – past or present. Suggestions of projects were given but students were also asked to use their imaginations and come up with their own ideas.

The entries were nothing short of wonderful! We had everything from plays, stories, and poems to models and posters and paintings.

Because the projects were all so good, we just couldn't decide who to pick for a winner. We were pleased to see so many students take the time to enter and have decided to give all students a share of the prize money and *Smile of Manitou* local history books, donated by the Naramata Heritage Museum Society: Laurenz Schirrmeister, Melissa Seddon, Chloe Miller, Brynn Clark, Claire Kincade, Liam Cole, Cassidy Gold, Cameron Gunning, Annick Cole,

Jacob Kirschmann, Sarah Kirschmann,
Joshua Gowe, Breanna Gowe, Gabby McDougall, Meg
Cumming, Jo Gunning, Max Miller, Katarina Young, Cory
Henderson, and Hilary Kopp.

Jennifer Moorhouse, teacher



Time Capsule

Friday: Student Chloe Miller and teacher Jennifer Moorhouse seal up the Naramata Elementary School Centennial Time Capsule. It contains a photo of every child in the school with a short story of who they are and what their lives are like in 2007. The capsule, contained in an old school desk, will be opened in 20 years.

The time capsule sealing was one of many events during the school's Art Show and School Reunion, May 18th. Below: school alumni pour over old school photos and registers. Bottom photo: A spaghetti supper by the school PAC served more than 300 people, followed by a student choir singing old time songs. Tea towels, silk screened with an image done by each child, were hung like an old fashioned laundry line. The children have received their towels as a Centennial keepsake. The project was guided by local artist Sunette Louw.

Let Us Eat Cake!

Saturday: What's a birthday party without a cake, or two! Phil and Lorna Rounds ceremoniously cut the first piece of cake during the Naramata Homecoming event, May 19th. More than 150 dined and got caught up with old friends during the community reunion evening.

