

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Silver Valley Gathering Place and Jordan McIlldoon Legacy Bike Park Officially Opened

Maple Ridge, BC: On Friday, August 19, residents gathered to celebrate the opening of the Silver Valley Gathering Place and Jordan McIlldoon Legacy Bike Park at the Blaney Hamlet Park site at 13712 230A Street. The Gathering Place is the first of two proposed parks within Silver Valley to provide a hub for residents to hold events and support healthy, connected living.

The park site features a covered picnic pavilion and youth-oriented amenities that include a parkour course, street-style skate park, bike pump track, a playground climbing structure and swings that complement the existing nature play area, sports court and trails that were constructed during phase one of the site development.

The opening also included the dedication of the Jordan McIlldoon Legacy Bike Park that has been donated by the McIlldoon family to honour their son, who lost his life in the tragic 2017 shooting in Las Vegas. The bike skills park element was designed by Jay Hoots, President of Hoots Inc., one of the premiere builders of bike parks in Canada.

“Outdoor spaces have never been more important and this new park is a great new addition to Silver Valley. On behalf of Council, I would like to thank the residents of Blaney Hamlet who provided the suggestions and feedback that helped shaped this gathering space,” said Mayor Morden. “We also want to recognize the importance of partnerships and acknowledge the \$200,000 received from the BC Government’s Community Economic Recovery Infrastructure Program and the \$20,000 grant from Kal Tire’s RePlay Fund. These contributions, combined with the City’s \$1.5 million investment have helped bring this community vision to reality.”

“We are also very grateful to Angela and Alan McIlldoon and the donors who made the Jordan McIlldoon Legacy Bike Park possible. From the moment they approached the City with their idea, we knew that it was something special. It is very difficult to process grief, and we admire their courage and determination to create an incredible legacy to honor their son Jordan,” concluded Mayor Morden.

“We are very proud that this investment by Kal Tire was used to create the recycled rubber surface around the parkour element in this great new park. In addition to the safety benefits of the rubber surface, we have diverted approximately 885 car tires from the landfill. This is what our community

partnerships are all about,” said Kevin McCarty, Senior Specialist, Social Responsibility for Kal Tire.

The grand opening event consisted of two ribbon cuttings, the first for the Silver Valley Gathering Place and a second one for the Jordan McIlldoon Legacy Bike Park that provided an opportunity for Angela and Alan McIlldoon to recognize the support of so many individuals and companies as they celebrate the life of their son.

“We want to thank Council for their support as we have brought our vision for the Jordan McIlldoon Legacy Bike Park to reality. This has been a labour of love for our family and so many friends, family members and generous donors,” said Angela McIlldoon. “Our son was full of adventure and lived life to the fullest. Alan and I hope that this place will bring joy to young people and help them live their best lives. This will be Jordan’s legacy.”

Photos of the ribbon cutting and background information on the Jordan McIlldoon Legacy Bike Park donors is provided in the ‘background information’ attached to this release.

- 30 -

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The McIlldoon Family wish to thank the following donors and partners who provided financial support and materials to develop the Jordan McIlldoon Legacy Bike Park:

Canadian Tire Maple Ridge - Bryan and Kathy Hutton

Canadian Tire Jumpstart Charities - Scott Fraser, President

Morningstar Homes

The UBC Research Forest and Gallant Enterprises - Doug Wood and Clayton Arnott

Other donors:

Carlynn and Pedro Fernandes

Lafarge Canada - Greater Vancouver Aggregates (Manik Sharma)

Hanks Trucking and Bulldozing

Skylark Management - Ben and Liam Robinson

Weld BC - Kyle Young

Peace Hills Insurance

EPR Chartered Professional Accountants

Dave Norman

Kathryn Hephner

Jay Hoots, Hoots Inc

Hughes Trucking

Special thanks to:

The Maple Ridge Community Foundation for facilitating the Jordan McIlldoon Bike Park Endowment Fund and the City of Maple Ridge for donating the land.



Silver Valley Gathering Place Ribbon Cutting



Jordan McIlDoon Legacy Bike Park Ribbon Cutting