

IMPROVING OUTDOOR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR RURAL YOUTH IN YELLOWHEAD COUNTY



BACKGROUND

- 2016 Yellowhead County completed a Parks and Outdoor Spaces Plan.
- Overarching theme identified in all of our hamlets: opportunity for unstructured, spontaneous youth play.

THE BUILD

- Velosolutions Inc. was contracted to design and construct three pumptracks within the hamlets of Niton Junction, Wildwood and Evansburg, \$125,000 each.
- Due to our cold winters and wet springs, the pumptracks were built above rather than in ground.
- 2017 saw the construction of two more tracks in Peers and Marlboro, \$135,000 each
- Total budget: \$645,000!

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COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Grand opening events were held at each location featuring give-aways, a complimentary BBQ, raffle prizes and a “nick-name” the park contest.
- By involving residents in the naming of the park we were able to provide a sense of ownership and pride to the community.
- We contracted a local tattoo artist to create a graffiti style name sign for each location.

FINAL OUTCOME

- Yellowhead County is now home to five, state of the art asphalt pumptracks which provide youth in these communities an opportunity to get active outdoors and experience free play.
- From the very young to the mature adult, Yellowhead County residents are hooked! No matter how small the town, the pumptracks are flooded with kids who never stop riding until the sun sets!

