



MEDIA RELEASE

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Larger than expected donation by Ridgeway Lions for Bay Beach Playground!

Last night at Council the Ridgeway Lions presented Mayor and Council with a cheque for the balance of the \$85,000 towards the new playground at Bay Beach. What came as a huge surprise to everyone was that the Ridgeway Lions surpassed their goal of raising \$85,000 and ended up raising \$105, 000 in just under a year.

This accomplishment by the Ridgeway Lions shows the dedication of one of our more prominent community groups whose “job is to serve.” Initially the Ridgeway Lions expected that the fundraising campaign could take up to three years to raise the \$85,000, but with the various initiatives including selling engraved paver stones to be placed at Bay Beach (now over 200 square feet), pasta dinners and partnering with other members of the community including Tim Hortons and their Smile Cookie campaign, they were able to successfully exceed this amount.

The Ridgeway Lions who sit on the playground evaluation committee hope that this extra \$20,000 will allow them to purchase additional playground equipment, making Bay Beach a true family destination for years to come.

Additionally the Ridgeway Lions also purchased three benches for Bay Beach, allowing a space for parents to sit and watch their children play. Visitors to Bay Beach who just want to sit and enjoy the fantastic transformation will also enjoy these benches.

Mayor Redekop stated that “this large donation by the Ridgeway Lions Club is just one example of the true sense of community that exists in Fort Erie, we are extremely thankful to the Ridgeway Lions and to everyone that helped and donated to make the playground at Bay Beach a reality.”

After meeting with the playground evaluation committee a recommendation will be made to Council in February with an install date of May, just in time for the Grand Opening of Bay Beach at the end of May.