



Outdoor Play Canada June 2021 Newsletter

OPC projects and activities encompass all traditional territories of the Indigenous Nations of Turtle Island, within the land we now call Canada.

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Thank you for your input on the State of the Sector Stakeholder Survey!

We had over 320 participants provide invaluable feedback on the major priorities and actions for the outdoor play sector in Canada moving forward over the next five years. You told us how you felt about those priorities and actions, things we missed, and new actions to focus on. Thank you to all for completing the survey and distributing it to your networks! We are now going through those responses and will compile all findings in the Outdoor Play in Canada: 2021 State of the Sector Report, to be released in the fall!

Also, if you would like to publicly disclose your support for the final State of the Sector Report but did not include your email in the survey indicating as such, please email us at: info@outdoorplaycanada.ca.

Parachute Safe Kids Week 2021 Focuses on Outdoor Play!

Parachute Safe Kids Week is on now from **May 30 to June 5, 2021!** Safe Kids Week is an annual campaign to raise public awareness of child safety issues in Canada, encouraging community involvement as part of the solution. This year's theme is #PlaySafeOutdoors, encouraging children to #PlaySafeOutdoors and engage in unstructured, active and exciting play, daily.

As part of the week, OPC Leadership Group Members Dr. Mariana Brussoni, Heather Cowie, and Dr. Mark Tremblay spoke at Parachute Canada's webinar, 'How to encourage kids to #PlaySafeOutdoors'. Visit parachute.ca/safekidsweek to learn more and watch the webinar recording.

Nominations are open for the Outdoor Play Canada 2021 Awards!

The Outdoor Play Canada 2021 Awards will be presented at this year's Breath of Fresh Air Summit (date and format TBD). If you know of an individual or organization that has demonstrated exceptional commitment and leadership in the promotion of outdoor play, nominate them for an OPC award! Award categories include: the 2021 OPC Honour Award, Dr. Mariana Brussoni Award, Policy Award, Practice Award, Research Award, and Youth Award. Learn more about the awards in the members-only section of the OPC site.

Nominators must be members of Outdoor Play Canada. If you're not a member and would like to join, complete the membership registration [here](#). If you have any questions, please contact info@outdoorplaycanada.ca. **The deadline for nominations is June 30th, 2021!**

OPC Presentation at the Alberta Parks and Recreation Association Summit & more!

On April 29th, 2021, OPC's Research Manager, Dr. Louise de Lannoy, presented on the importance of promoting, protecting, and preserving access to outdoor play at the Alberta Recreation & Parks Association Summit Monthly Meeting. Check out her [presentation here](#).

Next, on June 18th Louise will be presenting at the 2021 Virtual Play Conference at which she will provide a brief history of OPC and an overview of the State of the Sector Report. Learn more about the [2021 Virtual Play Conference here](#).

Next OPC Gathering is Friday, June 25th!

The next OPC online gathering (formerly called a townhall) will focus on Indigenous sport and play. We will hear from Aalla (Stranger), a Senior Bridging-the-Gap Presenter at the Inuuqatigiit Centre for Inuit Children, Youth and Families. We are also looking for a youth to speak about their experiences in Indigenous play. If you or someone you know would like to share with us, please reach out (info@outdoorplaycanada.ca)!

[Register now](#) for our next townhall on Friday, June 25th at 12pm EST. Learn more about the Inuuqatigiit Centre for Inuit Children, Youth and Families [here](#).

Not everyone has access to green environments

Our newest blog post comes from Dr. Lauren Pinault, Senior Research Analyst, Centre for Social Data Insights and Innovation, Statistics Canada. In her blog post Dr. Pinault describes findings from her recently published study, in which her research team explored inequalities in residential greenness across socioeconomic, demographic, and ethnocultural lines in urban Canada.

[Read the full blog post here](#).

Join Us!

Join the movement, become an OPC member! Show your support of our effort to promote, protect, and preserve access to play in nature and the outdoors for all people living in Canada. Individual memberships are only \$25! Membership benefits include being highlighted in this newsletter, discounts at Outdoor Play Canada endorsed events, access to resources to support your outdoor-play related work, as well as many professional engagement & development opportunities.

[Learn more here](#).

We welcome blog posts and summaries of relevant research studies for publication on the [OPC website](#). If you have any items that you think would be of interest to fellow OPC members, please contact info@outdoorplaycanada.ca. We respect the amount of unnecessary emails you receive so the plan is for a maximum of one OPC newsletter every other month. Your feedback and comments are always welcome.