

TOWN OF STETTLER

<u>Prepared By:</u>	Risk Management Committee	Number:	XV-4(a)
<u>Adopted By:</u>	Town of Stettler Council	Original Policy:	1999 01 19
		Previous Policy:	N/A
		Current Policy:	1999 01 19

Title: **Playground Inspection and Maintenance Policy**

Purpose: To provide safe and hazard free play areas. In the event of a claim resulting in a lawsuit, the ability of the Town of Stettler to create and preserve evidence which shows that it took reasonable steps to ensure the safety of those using these areas.

Risks: **1. IDENTIFICATION OF PROBLEMS:**

- Playground area inspection
- Equipment is secured to the ground
- Moving parts on equipment intact
- Broken or missing equipment parts
- Structural integrity of equipment
- Protruding objects which could cause bodily harm
- Surrounding ground compaction
- Playground area fencing

Policy: **2. STATEMENT**

The Town will ensure that the Municipal playground areas are maintained in a safe condition insofar as the Town's resources will allow.

3. STANDARDS

PLAYGROUND AREA INSPECTIONS

- The Town of Stettler will conduct a bi-weekly inspection of all playgrounds from May through September and a monthly inspection from October through April.
- Documentation from this inspection will be recorded on Playground Inventory Sheets using the dates completed and kept on file at the Parks and Leisure Office.
- All playgrounds will be inspected using the following criteria. Playgrounds should be inspected as follows, keeping in mind the child's size and capabilities.

PLAYGROUND AREA INSPECTION CHECKLIST

- a) Shake all equipment to ensure that it is properly secured to the ground.
- b) Test all equipment and make sure all moving parts are not worn or seized.
- c) Check for broken or missing parts. Make sure all railings will support the weight of an adult.
- d) Check for sharp objects which could hurt users. Wood splinters, bent objects, broken ends, nails, screws, broken glass, concrete pilings etc.
- e) Check the ground material under the equipment to make sure it is not compacted.
- f) Check for graffiti and make sure the equipment looks good.
- g) When a fence has been erected around the equipment, check to see that no child could crawl through or under any part of the fence except for the designated access.

REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE

All repairs will be completed within 48 hours of discovery. The area will be barricaded off or equipment removed if a danger exists until the repairs are completed.

NEW CONSTRUCTION

All Construction of playground equipment after 1998 must conform to CSA-2614-98 Standards and any new construction on old equipment must bring the equipment up to the 1998 Standards.

PUBLIC INITIATION

- Upon resident initiation of a playground area problem, a green sheet (Concerns and Request Form) will be filled out and the situation will be assessed immediately and corrective action taken as required within a reasonable length of time.