

Ryder Lake Branch



British Columbia
Women's Institute



Chilliwack Foundation Grant- Report from Ryder Lake Women's Institute, April 2022

The Ryder Lake Women's Institute (RLWI) received a \$10,000 grant from the Chilliwack Foundation in July 2021 to assist with renovations to the Ryder Lake Hall and the women's washroom. The men's washroom and stage had been renovated in late 2017 but the women's washroom probably dated from when the Hall was built in 1963.

With the funds provided we have been able to totally renovate the previous space to provide a wheelchair accessible women's washroom, another washroom, and to update the cloakroom to replace the storage space that was lost.

To accommodate the design requirements for a wheelchair accessible washroom, the space was divided into two rooms to allow for the requisite turning radius. Both have been clad in the same knotty pine and flooring as the men's washroom. The loss of the under sink cabinets and a floor to ceiling cupboard meant we had nowhere to store toilet paper and other supplies. The storage room was renovated to add a large cupboard, and transformed back into a functional cloakroom with a sliding barn door, a coat rail and new flooring, drywall and paint.

The old washroom was stripped back to the studs and concrete, and the plumbing reconfigured in the floor to remove the water pipe from the outside wall where it was subject to freezing. We tied into the men's washroom and kitchen plumbing and created new venting through the roof, and fixed the grey water discharge, and the sink backup issues in the kitchen. The wiring and lighting was significantly upgraded as previously the lights in both washrooms and a noisy fan had to be left on when the Hall was in use, as they were all controlled by one switch. Lights now come on automatically only when the washrooms are occupied and the fan was replaced by a modern quiet product. All lights are now energy saving LED's. We were able to add new features like a baby changing table and a GFC outlet into the women's washroom. The wooden boards over the septic tank will be replaced by a concrete cover.

We received wonderful support from the community, local businesses and a team of volunteers. All plumbing work was donated by Hellam Plumbing and the electrical by Modular Electric. The pine panelling in the entire Hall was clear coated for the first time with labor donated by Master Painting and paint through the Dulux PPG Colorful Communities program. Volunteers Rick Higginson, Herb Hinterberger, Tim Lawrence, Peter Bryce and especially Mike Moore spent upwards of 300 hours on the renovations and construction.

The RLWI would like to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Chilliwack Foundation for their support with this project.

Women's Washroom

Before



After



December 2021



April 2022

Cloakroom

Before



December 2021

After



April 2022

Thank You

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE SUPPORT OF THE FOLLOWING
WHO FUNDED AND PARTICIPATED IN THE RENOVATION OF THE
RYDER LAKE HALL WOMEN'S WASHROOM.



and to our wonderful team of volunteers:

**Mike Moore
Rick Higginson
Herb Hinterberger
Tim Lawrence
Peter Bryce**

**on behalf of the Ryder Lake Hall Committee and the Ryder Lake
Farmers' and Ryder Lake Women's Institute.**