

Riverview revives street skating

■ **New indoor
skateboard park to
open in January to
resemble urban
skating environment**

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TIMES & TRANSCRIPT STAFF

HF - ~~Development~~

Riverview's new indoor skateboard park will replicate an urban skating environment, featuring many of the common items boarders love to use as props such as picnic tables and concrete steps.

"It all goes towards the theme of street skating, as opposed to extreme skating," says Bob Clive, the town's director of recreation and parks.

The park is set to open in January in the former Kinsmen Centre which became a town asset last spring.

Riverview has operated a popular boarding venue in the Byron Dobson Arena for part of each year, and now, shortly after the new year, the town will boast the region's only permanent indoor park.

Construction is in a bit of a lull right now, but there's a good reason. Town staff are in the midst of consulting with Riverview teens about what they want included in the new facility.

"So we're sort of bogged down right now," Clive said yesterday.

"But once we get the kids to give us some input, you'll see things really pick up."

The consultation process is important, and not only because it's always best to ask users what they want to see put into a facility like a skateboard park, but because the Kinsmen Centre offers a bit less room than the former park in the arena, so not every rail and ramp they've enjoyed at the arena can fit into the new quarters.

Those meetings should wrap up "within the next two weeks," Clive believes.

While the final floor layout and list of equipment is not yet set, users can count on, at least, a picnic table and concrete steps, three rails, three launch ramps, a quarter pipe and two fun boxes.

More details will become available as the project and the consultation process progresses.