



# Cause for Celebration UN International Day of Play June 11



Presentation to: HRM Youth  
Advisory Committee

May 16, 2024

Alex Smith – [PlayGroundology](#)





NOVA Scotia Visitor Information









INTERNATIONAL  
DAY OF PLAY

June 11<sup>th</sup>

# A DAY FOR PLAY

Play opens up a whole world of possibilities. That's why we got together and successfully called on the United Nations General Assembly to adopt an annual International Day of Play, on the 11th of June. We did this because we believe every child can reach their full potential, with the time, space and access to play.

It's time to put play back on the agenda. On this day, and every day.





**United Nations**



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# Convention on the Rights of the Child



# Article 31

1. States Parties recognize the right of the child to rest and leisure, to engage in play and recreational activities appropriate to the age of the child and to participate freely in cultural life and the arts.
2. States Parties shall respect and promote the right of the child to participate fully in cultural and artistic life and shall encourage the provision of appropriate and equal opportunities for cultural, artistic, recreational and leisure activity.



Chapter 2

WHAT IS  
CHILD-FRIENDLY  
URBAN PLANNING,  
AND WHY DOES  
IT MATTER?

“

When children stopped being allowed to go outdoors on their own, they invented children's parks. Spaces scattered all over cities and which are all the same... When I see these spaces and I argue with administrators, mayors or architects, I always say that they were designed by people who were not lucky enough to have had a childhood.”

— Francesco Tonucci, child-friendly cities activist

Excerpt from  
*Urban Playground*

by Tim Gill



**In the eyes of the  
beholder**



**Green space**

**Accessible natural settings**

**Multiple play opportunities**

**Tomorrow's stewards**





# Active play







New designs





Loose Parts





Out of the box





Simple is beautiful





Net design and  
construction -  
Toshiko Horiuchi  
MacAdam with  
Interplay Design  
and Manufacturing

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We don't stop  
playing because  
we grow old. We  
grow old because  
we stop playing.

George Bernard  
Shaw



**Thank You  
Questions**

**#playeveryday**