



**For Immediate Release**

## **News Release**

### **Recreation Multi-Use Facility Update – December 14, 2022**

**Edson, Alberta, December 14, 2022** – Work continues by the Town of Edson and Yellowhead County towards the construction of a Multi-Use Facility for the region.

In spring of 2022, the Town and County began reviewing the feasibility of redeveloping the existing Leisure Centre to include all the amenities that were proposed for a newly constructed facility: a new aquatic facility, two new ice arenas, a curling rink, walking track and gym space.

In September of 2022, the assessment of the Leisure Centre was completed and much of the Leisure Centre was deemed suitable for reuse, except for the aquatic centre which is beyond its functional life. Since that time, the two municipalities have been examining options to renovate the current facility, combined with new construction that would facilitate all the programs and amenities the community needs.

On December 13, 2022, the Town and County selected a preferred concept to continue to develop and move forward with. This design proposes a new aquatic centre, one new ice surface (arena), while renovating the existing Centennial Arena for ice hockey and other sports, and Memorial Arena to a curling rink facility. The concept also envisions a new gym space, walking track and major renovations to the lobby, common areas and parking areas. This concept also allows construction to proceed with minimal disruption of aquatics and ice arena programming, while the new construction is completed. Both Councils additionally directed administration to further investigate costing options for a second ice arena.

*“I’m excited by the new concept and look forward to the next phase of the project. This new design is a great reuse of the existing facility while also building new components to better serve the region.”*

**- Yellowhead County Mayor Wade Williams**

*“This latest design is fiscally responsible, responsive to the region’s needs, and very exciting. We are making use of what we already have and building new facilities within our original budget. Edson is very excited to see this move forward.”*

**-Edson Mayor Kevin Zahara**

The Town of Edson and Yellowhead County continue to pursue the Federal and Provincial grants needed to make this concept a reality, and to further develop the concept to allow the municipalities to secure a builder in the spring of 2023.

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