



NEWS RELEASE



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Multi-Centre project advancing

Quesnel – The North Cariboo Multi-Centre project continues to progress as many key steps and actions have been taken over the summer months. Two key areas; fundraising and design work, have been the focus of both the elected officials and staff.

“We’ve made a lot of progress and are rapidly approaching the point where we’re going to need a significant investment from our senior government counterparts,” said Cariboo Regional District Vice-Chair and Area A Director Ted Armstrong. “We can’t begin construction until all funding is in place, but we can do a lot of preparation, which is exactly what we’re doing.”

“We’ve been working diligently on this file since the referendum was successful,” added Quesnel Mayor Mary Sjostrom. “Director Armstrong and I take every opportunity to remind my colleagues in senior government that local residents have provided their approval for this and are eager to see construction begin. We need to secure senior government funding so we can begin construction.”

The Cariboo Regional District applied for funding under the Building Canada Infrastructure Program in spring 2009. In addition, the Multi-Centre Finance Committee, created to coordinate fundraising efforts, expects to begin meeting this fall. Finally, the City and CRD have issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to develop operational, marketing and financing plans for the Multi-Centre.

On the facility planning side, the Design Advisory Committee was created to provide input into the design of the Multi-Centre. The firm of MHPM Project Managers was hired to develop the Design/Build RFP package. The City and CRD also issued an RFP to develop the design specifications that will be used in the Design/Build RFP package. Public consultation meetings will be held this fall with stakeholder groups as part of this process.

The North Cariboo Multi-Centre contains a 2,000-seat ice arena, 450-seat performing arts theatre and accompanying event and assembly space. North Cariboo residents voted in favour of the project in a November 15, 2008 referendum.

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Media: This release is available online at www.city.quesnel.bc.ca/multi-centre.asp

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