

News Release

For Immediate Release

June 22, 2015

Labrador Wellness Centre takes shape

Happy Valley – Goose Bay, NL – Residents, community leaders, Aboriginal leaders, political officials and Expo Labrador delegates gathered at the Lawrence O'Brien Centre on June 22nd to hear updates on the Labrador Wellness Centre Project.

The Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay held a Wellness Centre Reception to announce facility designs and floor plans, YMCA partnership, establishment of a Capital Campaign Committee and the official logo for the Wellness Centre Capital Campaign.

“The Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay is moving forward with important aspects of the Wellness Centre Project which will pave the way for implementation of a long-term, phased approach,” said Mayor Jamie Snook. “This is an exciting project for the Town, for our residents and for everyone living in the Upper Lake Melville region.”

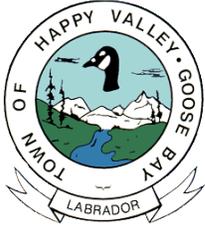
The Town has announced a two phase approach for the design and construction of the Centre. Mayor Snook stated that the current focus is on phase one, the Fitness and Aquatics sections, at a projected cost of \$25 million. This portion of the facility includes:

- multi-purpose gymnasium
- aquatics centre with a competition swimming pool
- fitness centre with strength and conditioning equipment
- indoor walking/running track
- community rooms and a childcare centre

The projected cost of both phases of the Wellness Centre, including the phase two Ice Sports sections, is between \$42.7 and \$58.7 million. The Ice Sports sections will include a hockey rink and curling facility.

The Town has been implementing creative avenues to finance the Municipality's share of the cost, including: partnering with the YMCA to operate the Fitness and Aquatics section of the facility; and has hired Conach Consulting to support a fundraising committee for the project.

During the reception, Mayor Snook emphasized that the success of the Wellness Centre Project is dependent upon financial support and commitment from the Provincial Government.



“The Town is doing its share to finance our portion of the cost, but we need the financial assistance of the Provincial Government to help us meet the serious wellness and recreational infrastructure needs of the community,” explained Mayor Snook. “Residents in the Upper Lake Melville region are passionate about the creation of the Wellness Centre and they are continuously expressing their concerns and interest to government on this initiative.”

The reception included drawings of the initial design of the Centre; and the unveiling of the official logo for the Wellness Centre: a clean, crisp and stylish logo that represents the notion of wellness for Labradorians in their sense of place and connection to the land.

The branding of the Wellness Centre signifies Happy Valley-Goose Bay’s place as a hub, a Government service centre to all of Labrador, our diversity, unity and our regional focus as the “Capital of Labrador”.

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