



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 16 MARCH, 2015

Town of Marystown and YMCA agree to letter of intent

Marystown, NL and St. John's, NL Today, the Town of Marystown and the YMCA signed an agreement to work together on the Town's Wellness Centre project, which is currently under construction. Both Town Council and the YMCA Board of Directors have approved a letter of intent to guide discussions.

"The Town is very positive about an agreement with the YMCA to operate the new Wellness Centre. The YMCA works in relationships like this with towns and cities all across Canada and the expertise of the YMCA will really help make this whole project a success," says Mayor Sam Synard.

The YMCA recently successfully completed a \$20 million project in St. John's and also signed a similar letter of intent with the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL. The YMCA involves thousands of people in health, employment, and child care programs throughout the province.

The facility is 33,000 square feet and includes a 25 metre six lane swimming pool, play pool, change rooms, fitness centre, gymnasium, and child minding room. It is being constructed by Pomerleau and was designed by Lat 49 Architects. The capital cost of the facility is funded by the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, ACOA, and the Town of Marystown. The Town will be seeking to raise some capital through donations and sponsorships.

Under the letter of intent, the Town and the YMCA will discuss how the YMCA could be the operator of the facility once construction is complete in 2016. The Town would be the owner of the facility and the YMCA would operate any aquatics, gymnasium, exercise, day camp, or child care programs as the Marystown YMCA.

A community survey was undertaken four years ago, and support for the project and the YMCA was high.

"The YMCA is delighted to be entering into these discussions toward an operating agreement. Marystown is a beautiful community, and the building under construction is first rate," says YMCA CEO Jason Brown. "We look forward to the opportunity to help make Marystown an even better place to live."

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Contact: Mayor Sam Synard 709-277-1400
Marystown, NL

Jason Brown, YMCA CEO 709-693-1528
St. John's, NL