



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A LARGE LABRADOR DAY - YMCA OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR OPENS THIRD NEW FACILITY SINCE 2011

7 July, 2021

Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL - The Central Labrador YMCA opened its doors to the public earlier today. The phased opening is the result of seven years of effort by the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay, the YMCA of Newfoundland and Labrador, the capital campaign cabinet, provincial and federal governments, and the community. COVID-19 restrictions are in place. An official ribbon cutting is being planned for September, 2021.

The \$30 million, 55,000 square foot facility is owned by the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay and operated by the YMCA of Newfoundland and Labrador. Under 20-year renewable agreements, the Town will provide an annual operating grant after YMCA revenue off-sets expenses. The facility includes an aquatics centre, gymnasium, indoor walking/running track, family wellness centre, gymnastics centre, judo room, change rooms, youth centre, and 60-space regulated child care centre. Gymnasium and fitness areas will open first, followed by the aquatics, youth, and child care areas. The YMCA is a charity and has been part of life in Newfoundland and Labrador since 1854.

According to Happy Valley-Goose Bay Mayor Wilson (Wally) Andersen, “the YMCA is going to provide a new way of life for our children, our seniors, the people of the whole region of Lake Melville, and indeed to the whole region of the Big Land; Labrador.”

“This is the first permanent YMCA presence in Labrador. We also understand this is Canada's first Northern YMCA, and YMCA of Newfoundland and Labrador is the first YMCA organization in the country to operate across two time-zones,” says Jason Brown, CEO of the YMCA of Newfoundland and Labrador.

YMCA of Newfoundland and Labrador looks forward to working with the Town, engaging with Indigenous governments and communities, and serving the people of the Upper Lake Melville region in Labrador for generations to come.



Photo Caption: The Central Labrador YMCA welcomes the community in English, French, Inuktitut, and Innu-aimun.

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More information: <https://ymcanl.com/labrador/central-labrador-ymca/>