

March 2010

Winakwa Community Centre Expansion News

As you know Winakwa Community Centre will be going through a major expansion starting this spring. When construction is completed at the end of March 2011 we will have a centre that has more than doubled in size. This expansion project will give us a new full size gymnasium, new main floor multi-purpose room, new washrooms that are handicap accessible, new manager's office that has a panoramic view of the club's new common room, four new dressing rooms that are at least 250 square feet each and a new front entrance off our parking lot.

All this wonderful news does come with a cost to our centre besides our major financial contribution. After discussions with the city of Winnipeg, the Building Committee came back to Winakwa's Board of Directors at our last monthly meeting with the recommendation that we close our centre as of September 20, 2010 and reopen it at the completion of construction at the end of March 2011. This will allow our contractor the freedom to work on all areas of the club and not have to worry about disrupting programs. There are also liability concerns with programming going on in proximity of major construction. One of the major reasons for this decision was the shrinking time line as one of our major grants has a drop dead date of March 31, 2011 for substantial construction to be completed.

All this being said we are actively looking for homes for all of our in-house programs. Hopefully by using all our gym permits we can move most of the programming. We are in discussions with Louis Riel School division, neighboring community centres, Prendergast Centre and the churches in our area to hopefully find some more programming space we can use.

I know we will all find the next year difficult and at time very frustrating but please keep that vision of our expanded centre and what it will mean to all the members of our community.

Thank You for all Your Support

Robert K. Gobeil
President
Winakwa Community Centre