

April 20<sup>th</sup> update:

This is a follow-up to the April 5<sup>th</sup> update that was sent out to our members, and our April 17<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting.

I want to start off by saying thank you, from myself and the entire board. There were roughly 100 curlers that came out to support our presentation to City Council and countless others expressing their support online through our various social media platforms. On April 17<sup>th</sup> Cal Hauserman, co-chair of our Facilities Committee, went before City Council with an ask for aid regarding our club's current situation. In a short presentation Cal outlined our present situation our club faces and the solution that The Board feels will provide us the most efficient way to continue curling in our current building.

Below are a few highlights from the presentation that was put forth to council on Monday:

- Current needs: Ice Mats (see below), New Ice Plant, additional infrastructure.
- Total Project Budget: \$1,542,450.
- Timeline for repairs/retrofitting: 7-9 months.
- Over \$28 million in economic benefit to the city of Medicine Hat from curling over the last 25 years.
- In 2022/2023 curlers were forced to relocate to Brooks, Redcliff, Irvine, Schuler, Bow Island or didn't play at all.

These highlights offer the major speaking points of the presentation, a full copy of the presentation will be attached.

As presented to council, The Board feels that best way for us to have curling in our current building for the upcoming season is to retrofit our building with ice mats. These ice mats are simply large rolls of plastic tubing that can be rolled out onto our existing surface allowing us to use our current building. Some of the benefits to these mats include, easy installation, easily repairable, portable, and reusable. As we plan on using this new system for our flooring, we will also need a new ice plant. The new ice plant is eco friendly, portable, and more energy efficient reducing utility costs.

The Board has done hours of research, conference calls, and many meetings trying to determine the best outcome to get curling back in our community. The solution we have concluded is by no means a complete long-term solution but should allow us to get by until a new facility can be built.

Overall, The Board feels hopeful as we continue to work towards a solution with the city. We thank you again for your continued support and patience. Additional information can be found in the presentation attached, as well as news articles in both Chat News and Medicine Hat News.

Thank you all again!

Respectfully submitted,

Bryden Smith