

July 20th, 2023

This is a follow up to the July 11th update sent out and follow up to the City Council meeting on July 17th, 2023.

As seen in previous correspondence and different media outlets Medicine Hat City Council passes the following motion:

IT IS RECOMMENDATION THAT Council approves a budget amendment in the amount of \$870,000 and directs administration to:

- Negotiate a purchase agreement, upon terms satisfactory to the City Solicitor and the City Manager, to purchase the Medicine Hat Curling Club building for \$870,000, funded from Capital Reserves.
- Negotiate an operating and maintenance lease agreement with the Medicine Hat Curling Club, upon terms satisfactory to the City Solicitor and the City Manager.
- If required, prepare a loan bylaw for a loan not to exceed \$870,000 to the Medicine Hat Curling Club, structured as presented, to address any funding shortfall remaining as of December 31, 2023, for the purchase of an ice plant and ice mats.

What does this mean for the Curling Club? The cost of the equipment and installation is valued at \$1.74 million. The city has offered to purchase the Curling Club building for \$850,000, which is half of the cost of the project. Thanks to Crystal Sherwick and other club members an application was submitted for the Community Facility Enhancement Program (CFEP) application for a total of \$850,000. We are optimistic we will receive the grant funds from the Provincial Government. With the city money and a successful CFEP grant application, the new plant and ice mats will be paid for once we raise an additional \$40,000. The Board has already started exploring different fundraising avenues headed by Dave Kowalchuk. Options to this point have included corporate sponsorship, club naming rights, new club apparel, golf tournaments and more.

If the CFEP grant is not successful, then the city will provide an interest free loan for the amount less what has been fundraised. If the CFEP grant is successful, the Curling Club will maintain ownership of the equipment. However, if we do need a city loan, the equipment will be used as collateral and said loan will be a balloon loan. This means that one lump sum payment will be due in full at the end of the five-year term. The amount we pay back will be based on the amount

of funds generated through fund-raising activities. The City has also indicated that the present lease and rental agreements will be honoured after said payment has been made.

In conjunction with the sales agreement the Curling Club will enter a lease arrangement with the City. The intent is to have the Curling Club operate in a similar matter as in the past. The City will be responsible for the building upkeep which will result in a savings to the club. This outlook is favourable for the Curling Club as curling will be treated like other ice sports with the city providing the facility. This will ensure our inclusion in the Facilities for the Future Plan and allow us to be a part of any new recreational compels that are developed.

Overall, we as a board are extremely happy with the outcome of Monday's council meeting, we hope that by continuing to work with city officials we will be able to enter into a lease agreement that will benefit both parties. Throughout this process we have remained in contact with our general contractors and manufacturers of the new ice plant and ice mats. We are hoping that as soon as we can transfer ownership rights of the building and obtain funds from the city, we will be able to make a deposit on the equipment and get to work.

I would like to thank all the board members for their hard work and dedication to the club. I would also like to thank City Council and City Officials for the diligent work and efforts towards our cause. I want to thank all our members and thank you for your patience, dedication, and commitment to the sport of curling. We as a Board feel that we are now on the right path and are getting more excited by the day that curling will be back and better than ever.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bryden