

A CALGARY MULTISPORT FIELDHOUSE UPDATE

The Calgary Multisport Fieldhouse Society has reason to be optimistic about the future of our project, thanks to a number of encouraging recent developments:

- In July 2010, City Council unanimously approved concept plans for the redevelopment of Foothills and Glenmore Athletic Parks *specifically including* a multisport fieldhouse at Foothills. The fieldhouse would be the centerpiece of a sport and recreation campus at Foothills. (See the plans [here](#).)
- These facilities are now included as *high-priority*, unfunded items in the City's latest infrastructure investment plans.
- A recent feasibility study indicates that the demand for athletic and recreation facilities virtually guarantees a multisport fieldhouse in Calgary would be economically sustainable. In a best-case scenario, it could expect to recover 140 per cent of its operating cost each year.

What is a multisport fieldhouse?

It's a building housing both an indoor track and facilities to accommodate a wide variety of sports, such as basketball, volleyball, soccer, martial arts, tennis, badminton and football to name just a few.

The fieldhouse we propose would house a 400m track with a full-sized infield — large enough to accommodate a full football field or a FIFA-standard soccer pitch — with attached gymnasiums for court sports.

Such a facility would be unique in Canada.

Why should a multisport fieldhouse be built in Calgary?

- Because of our often challenging weather and growing population, indoor sports facilities are desperately needed. In fact, the need for a fieldhouse was recognized in The City of Calgary/Calgary Sport Council 10-year Strategic Plan for Sport Facility Development and Enhancement published in May 2008.
- A fieldhouse would benefit all Calgarians — youth, seniors, the able-bodied, the physically challenged, and recreational as well as high-performance athletes.
- A fieldhouse has tremendous sports tourism potential — providing a venue for major tournaments and other events.
- Calgary is not keeping up. Our city is one of the few in Canada that doesn't have a multisport fieldhouse. Even smaller cities like Saskatoon, Regina and Kamloops enjoy the benefits of year-round training, recreation and competition provided by their fieldhouses. Edmonton is currently building its *third* fieldhouse.

Is there support for the idea?

Yes! The concept has broad support. Advocates include: the Calgary Sport Council, Calgary Sport Tourism Authority, Calgary Track Council, Athletics Alberta, Developmental Disabilities Resources Centre of Calgary, Calgary Recreation and Culture Association (Calgary 55 plus), Calgary Properties Lions Club, Alberta Government Community Spirit Program, Alberta Jiu-Jitsu Association, Alberta Lacrosse Association, Calgary Roughnecks.

Where can you get more information?

Check out our website: www.CalgaryFieldhouse.ca
or to talk to someone from the Society, please contact

Doug Ratzlaff (Chair) at 403-669-5171 or **Donna Dixon** (Vice Chair) at 403-816-0683 email: dixondm1@shaw.ca

