



CITY OF MOOSE JAW

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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March 7, 2006

The Honourable Glenn Hagel
Minister of Culture, Youth and Recreation
Legislative Building
Regina, SK
S4S 0B3

Dear Minister Hagel:

Re: Funding Request for Major Recreational Complex – Moose Jaw

Please accept this letter as a formal request for capital funding for construction of a multi-purpose arena to replace the city's current 46 year old Civic Centre.

The City of Moose Jaw engaged Nustadia Recreation Inc. to prepare a business plan report (copy attached). The report indicated the estimated cost to be \$36.3 million plus land acquisition costs. The new facility would be designed to accommodate a broad range of community needs including conventions, trade shows, concerts, community ice sports and be the home for the Western Hockey League's Moose Jaw Warriors.

I can advise that City Council, at a regular meeting held on December 12, 2005, adopted the following motion:

“THAT the City of Moose Jaw endorse the Multiplex as a municipal project; and

THAT the City endorse the building of a Multiplex at an estimated cost of \$36.3 million as envisioned in the report from Nustadia Recreation Inc. dated November 2005; and

THAT the City of Moose Jaw commit a capital investment of \$10 million in the capital budget planning process towards the project, subject to a due diligence process that includes negotiating and signing contracts for all the contractually obligated operating revenues to substantiate the assumptions made in the Nustadia Business Plan; and

THAT in addition to the \$10 million investment, the City of Moose Jaw commit matching dollar for dollar, all private and corporate donations up to an additional \$5 million; and

THAT the City of Moose Jaw, in conjunction with the Multiplex Committee, approach other levels of government to raise additional capital funds to complete the project.”

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A facility of this type is important to the continued social, recreation and economic development of a community. The facility would also enhance Moose Jaw's ability to continue as a rural service centre.

City Council has committed up to \$15 million towards this project. The community group, led by Ray Boughen, is currently pursuing funding for the remaining \$24.3 million, including land costs. They are optimistic that a minimum of \$5 million can be raised locally and through corporate sponsorship. Due to the magnitude of the project, significant financial assistance from the provincial and federal governments will be required in order for this project to proceed.

At this time, the City of Moose Jaw is seeking combined commitments from the Province of Saskatchewan and Government of Canada totaling \$20 million.

The project will proceed to the design stage once all required funding is in place.

I look forward to partnering with the two senior levels of government to make this project a reality in the foreseeable future. I would be pleased to meet at your convenience to provide you with additional information about the project, as required.

Yours truly,



Al Schwinghamer
Mayor

c: Premier Calvert
Members of City Council
Ray Boughen, Co-Chair, Multiplex Group
Garry McKay, City Manager
Jody Hauta, Director of Parks & Recreation