



News Release – For Immediate Release Wednesday, January 3, 2013

County of Grande Prairie Sportsplex Now Open for Business

The County Sportsplex is now open and encourages everyone come stop by today for the Ronald McDonald House ® fundraiser event.

To celebrate the Sportsplex first day open Pat's Auto Rink and Chris McMillan rink is reserved for skating, pictures with the ice resurfacer, and stick and puck; and the Trican fieldhouse for drop-in soccer. A glitter tattoo and face painting booth and stand with complimentary beverages and snacks are also set up. Punch passes – a seasonal promotion – will be available for purchase today as well. Admission today is free; however, cash donations are greatly encouraged. One-hundred per cent of the proceeds will go to the Ronald McDonald House ® Northern Alberta.

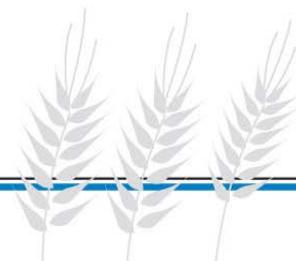
“It’s hard to believe that not even two years ago, the Sportsplex was just a blueprint on paper,” says John Simpson, County Director of Planning. “In less than 16 months we’ve seen this project come to life and now we have a 176,043 sq.ft., cutting edge regional sports and recreation facility that we can call our own and that our communities can use.”

The Sportsplex located west of the County Administration Building is the largest construction project the County has ever undertaken costing a budgeted total of \$37 million.

“The Sportsplex has taken great shape since the groundbreaking ceremony in fall 2011. Crews worked diligently to ensure the twin NHL sized ice rinks, 50,000 sq. ft. fieldhouse, 240 metre track and spectator seating were ready in time for the New Year,” says Simpson.

Other areas of the Sportsplex such as the meeting rooms, retail space, 4,000 sq. ft. fitness area, and food and beverage kiosk are currently under construction and aren’t scheduled to open until later on in the year. The eight fully irrigated athletic outdoor fields will be ready in 2014.

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The Sportsplex facilities are ideal for holding just about any function from special events, fundraisers, tournaments, and sports and recreation camps, to parties, corporate functions and meetings, and sports games and practices.

“Evening and prime time slots for the ice rink rentals especially, are filling up quickly; so we encourage anyone interested in booking any of the facilities to reserve now,” says Dave Stecyk, County Sportsplex General Manager.

For more information on booking opportunities; and Sportsplex schedules, programs and fees please visit www.cgpsportsplex.com, contact 780-830-7407 or email.

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