



MEDIA RELEASE

SPORT MANITOBA CLOSES DEAL TO PURCHASE 145 PACIFIC AVENUE

For Immediate Release – March 2, 2009

Sport Manitoba has acquired 145 Pacific Avenue for development of a new home for amateur sport in Manitoba – the Sport for Life Centre. “We have been putting the Sport for Life Centre together for over three years now and have been negotiating on this location for close to a year,” said Paul Robson, Chair of Sport Manitoba’s Board of Directors. “We are thrilled that the deal has gone through and it’s official.”

Now that the deal is done, Jeff Hnatiuk, President and CEO, says Sport Manitoba is focused on turning their dream of a Sport for Life Centre into a reality. “Now that we have secured the space we are consulting with our partners to finalize the design. We want to ensure that potential users help create the space.”

The Sport for Life Centre is being designed as a place for Manitobans of all ages to participate from a recreation level all the way to high performance. Hnatiuk says, “We are building a centre of inspiration for Manitobans and a place that helps develop linkages between amateur sport and the community while highlighting the importance of heritage, culture and sport in Manitoba.”

The project has been broken into two phases. With financing in place for phase one, Sport Manitoba has already begun work renovating the existing five-story structure and anticipates that it will be ready for occupancy in December 2009. Phase one includes:

Administrative offices for 70+ organizations

Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame and Museum

Community and athlete support areas such as therapy, psychology, nutrition and sport medicine

Education and development areas for the community, volunteers, coaches, athletes, and officials including: meeting rooms, classrooms, and a resource centre and video/web conferencing.

Retail space for food and merchandise

As Sport Manitoba secures additional funding it will begin construction on the second phase of the project. Phase two includes amenities such as a fieldhouse, multi-use activity space, strength and cardiovascular equipment, a running track, and change rooms.

Sport Manitoba is a not for profit organization and the lead planning, programming and funding agency for the development of amateur sport in Manitoba. Sport Manitoba partners with over 100 organizations to deliver sport in our province and is responsible for programs including the Power Smart Manitoba Games, Coaching Manitoba, Team Manitoba, KidSport and the Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame and Museum.

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