

## Governance Board

As construction of the Russell Regional Multiplex continues, an operational committee named the Russell Regional Multiplex Governance Board, has begun to meet and deal with operational issues at the facility.

The Board is made up of representatives from user groups and funding partners. Specifically the membership is as follows:

1. Town of Russell (2 reps)
2. RM of Russell
3. Russell Minor Hockey
4. Russell Figure Skating Club
5. Russell & District Chamber of Commerce
6. Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 159
7. Russell Fitness Centre Membership
8. Russell & District Recreation Commission
9. Chief Administrative Officer, Town of Russell

One of the first orders of business for the Board was to determine the makeup of the staff at the new facility. A decision has been made to hire a full time General Manager/Festival & Events Coordinator. This person will not only be responsible to manage the facility but will also be required to coordinate events at the Multiplex as well as other venues in the community and around the Town. Two additional staff will be added to the General Manager position, an Operations Manager and a Maintenance Person, resulting in a full staff compliment of three people at the Multiplex. The hope of the Board is that by increasing staffing levels from the traditional 2 person operation at the Arena, greater access and use of the facility will be gained while ensuring the high level of maintenance and cleanliness enjoyed in the former facility.

User fees are next on the Board's agenda dealing with everything from ice rental rates to commercial lease space rents. Establishing rates that will reflect the goals of the Facility and the desire of its users will be challenging. It is hoped that rates will be determined shortly so that user groups can properly plan for their fall registration.

A third issue being dealt with by the Board is access. Determining times for access to the facility or parts of the facility while balancing priorities of various groups and meeting the needs of the Multiplex to be a truly multi-functional all inclusive venue will be difficult and require give and take from everyone involved. Schedules will need to be done in the near future to accommodate Mass Registration in early Sept.

This is only a small portion of the issues being considered by the Governance Board. It is evident that many difficult decisions need to be made and the community owes a debt of gratitude to the volunteers who are prepared to deal with the issues in a way that is beneficial to the groups they represent and the community as a whole.

For further information on the progress of the Russell Regional Multiplex please visit the Town of Russell website at [www.russellmb.com](http://www.russellmb.com) . If you have any questions or comments regarding the facility please don't hesitate to contact a member of the Multiplex Funding Campaign Committee. The Committee members are Chris Radford, Bruce Christopher, Alan Stanchuk, Symantha Dunn, Keith Popp, Eldon Montgomery, Gerald Keating and Terry Rolfe.