

## MULTIPLEX NEWS

The impact of differentiated fees at the Russell Regional Multiplex has been debated for many months. Unfortunately this discussion has not yielded a positive result for anyone. Current users from municipalities outside of the Town and RM of Russell are concerned about what level of fees might be charged and if they as individuals would be able to afford them, while many others who support the facility from outside municipalities haven't donated to the construction costs because of the potential of a fee being imposed. At the same time, existing groups from within the Town and RM of Russell are worried about the impact a fee may have on their user registrations and thus their long term viability.

The current Council has once again reviewed the differentiated fee issue and for a number of reasons decided that **differentiated fees would not be charged at the new Multiplex.** The Town of Russell realizes that this project requires the support of the entire region in order to be successful. Penalizing some of the users doesn't make sense if ultimately we are attempting to increase usage numbers in totality at the facility. Make no mistake however; the multiplex project still needs funds to assist with its capital completion. Funds that need to come from more than just the Town and RM of Russell.

It is hoped that the Town Council's decision to put an end to the differentiated fees debate will help those currently using or benefiting from the facility to financially support the project. In addition, the Town will continue to work with its municipal partners in an attempt to demonstrate how this facility, like many others that have been developed in partnership throughout the region, will be used by both people from inside and outside our community and has the potential to become an economic benefit for the whole area.

The Russell Regional Multiplex is a facility with first class amenities being built to meet the needs of everyone in the region. Only through partnership can we ensure that the multiplex is completed and that the operation of the facility is successful as are the groups that use it.

For further information on the progress of the Russell Regional Multiplex please visit the Town of Russell website at [russellmb.com](http://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 and Terry Rolfe.