
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DAKOTA COMMUNITY CENTRE OPENS NEW FITNESS PLAYGROUND WITH CONTRIBUTION FROM GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Winnipeg, MB – June 21, 2024 - Dakota Community Centre (DCC) is home to a new community Fitness Playground, thanks in part to an investment through the Government of Canada Community Revitalization Fund (CCRF), supported by Prairies Economic Development Canada (PrairiesCan). Completed this spring and officially opened today, this new fitness playground adds an outdoor space for children and teens to improve their strength and coordination through play on the various pieces of equipment in the playground.

In addition to the fitness playground, the CCRF, provided 75% of the funds necessary to also support the purchase of an outdoor movie theatre, a new batting cage, as well as bike storage lockers for the campus, totaling \$141,236 in contributions, with DCC providing the remaining \$35,339 for these investments.

Today's announcement included Terry Duguid, Member of Parliament for Winnipeg South, on behalf of the Honourable Dan Vandal, Minister of PrairiesCan and Member of Parliament for St. Boniface – St. Vital.

"Recreational community spaces are a vital part of strong communities," said the Honourable Dan Vandal. "Our government is proud to support community spaces where people can come together and have fun."

The new Fitness playground is a unique addition to the Dakota CC campus and features several pieces of fitness equipment made specifically to appeal to children's desire for adventure, while providing them with age-appropriate challenges. Ideally suited for those ages 5 and up, the new playground includes over-under bars, a spiderwalk, stepping rock, boogie board, mobius climber, high step rope and a jump hang. All these elements are to encourage climbing and jumping and improve strength, balance, agility, hand-eye coordination and problem solving.

The outdoor movie theatre offers the opportunity to host both indoor and outdoor movie nights throughout the year, providing children and families in the community an option for a night out close to home or 'under the stars'. The batting cage provides a critical element for area softball and baseball players to practice their skills in a protected and safe environment.

"This playground, movie theatre and batting cage will provide thousands of hours of outdoor fun and entertainment for the kids of our community and visitors for many years," said Cory Shangreaux, Board Vice-Chair of Dakota Community Centre. "We are extremely grateful to the Government of Canada for their financial contributions towards these important additions to our Centre."

Dakota Community Centre, located in the heart of South St. Vital, is both a community and regional sport and recreation hub. As host to thousands of games, programs, tournaments and special events, tens of thousands of people from across the City, Province and Country come to DCC for their sport and recreation pursuits each year.

About Dakota Community Centre

Incorporated in 1987, the Dakota Community Centre has significantly contributed to shaping Winnipeg's sport and recreation landscape and is a gathering hub in the community. It is one of the largest and most successful community centre operations in the City. Serving Winnipeg's south east communities and beyond for over 30 years, it offers a broad range of sport and recreation programs for all ages and abilities, as well as excellent sport and recreation facilities for third party user groups.

Dakota Community Centre

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