

Executive Summary & Current Status

Over the last several months, a Regional Arena & Events Centre Steering Committee with various stakeholders has met to determine if consensus could be reached to proceed with a new regionally-owned facility. Exploration into this shared ownership model showed that there is widespread interest in a new recreational and events centre facility; however, a consensus regarding shared ownership models could not be reached. On May 19, 2026, when the work of the Steering Committee concluded, the City of North Battleford informed Steering Committee members the City would be advancing work on a municipally-owned facility to replace the aging *Access Communications Centre (ACC)*. The City of North Battleford expresses its gratitude to all Steering Committee participants for their shared support and collaboration on this initiative.

A project of this size and scope requires financial support from multiple levels of government and a community-driven fundraising initiative.

During the Regular Council Meeting held on May 25, 2026, the City Council granted authorization to Administration to seek funding for a new arena and events centre, intended to replace the ACC. This facility will be owned by the City of North Battleford and will receive support from communities across the Battlefords region.

Next Steps

Site determination

The Mayor and City Manager have met with the Battlefords Agricultural Society Board to discuss a site location for the City-owned regional arena and events centre. A parcel of municipal land, adjacent to the existing InnovationPlex Recreation & Cultural Centre has been identified in the attached map for reference.

Costing estimate

Our most recent estimate for this project is \$94 million. The City of North Battleford is currently working with a consultant to further refine that cost estimate.

Funding applications & fundraising

The City of North Battleford is working to submit a funding application to the Government of Canada to acquire federal infrastructure funding. While this is taking place, the City of North Battleford is advocating for provincial government funding. A local fundraising committee, the REC Group, has been established and is kicking off a broad campaign, working with DCG Philanthropic, to seek corporate and personal donations in support of this project. We encourage interested parties and businesses to reach out to tom.g@dcgsk.com to explore contribution options.

Letters of support

Communities and organizations throughout the Battlefords have indicated their support for this project by way of resolutions or letters of support. This feedback provides much-needed perspective for other levels of government to help demonstrate widespread interest in the project and highlight its need in the interest of creating jobs, economic spinoff, and recreational/event opportunities in our area.

Key messages

Regional importance & legacy

As the hub of northwest Saskatchewan, North Battleford is well positioned for a regional arena and events centre that would provide shared infrastructure and expand local sport and recreation opportunities for our youth - our future.

A facility built on inclusion and accessibility

The new facility will provide an inclusive and accessible regional space for sport, culture, and community events with meaningful participation from diverse user groups, including people of different cultures and persons experiencing disabilities.

Safer communities and youth opportunities

Investing in recreation and positive opportunities for youth helps build safer communities. A modern facility would create more space for all organized sports, mentorship, youth development, and community connection, while promoting healthy lifestyles and better outcomes for young people across the region who can develop their futures beside others from different cultures, learning to do better, together.

Economic development for the region

A modern arena and events centre would strengthen the region's ability to host major events which generate significant economic benefits for hotels, restaurants, retailers, service providers, and community organizations across the Battlefords. It would also support economic development by increasing visitor traffic, creating partnerships, and strengthening the regional destination economy. During the construction phase, it is estimated the local economic spinoff will reach \$58 million and create more than 200 jobs.

Emergency preparedness & operating reality

The facility will support regional emergency preparedness by providing flexible space for emergency response during disruptions or emergencies. It is expected to operate with an annual deficit, which will need to be addressed transparently in the long-term operating model.

Facility highlights and facts

- twin-pad arena
- main arena - 2600 seating capacity
- secondary arena - 400 seating capacity
- estimated total building floor size - 121,816 sq. ft.
- accessible, multi-purpose community spaces

Project updates, plans, and studies can be found at www.cityofnb.ca.

Proposed site - concept drawing only - subject to change



External arena & events centre concept renderings - subject to change



Courtesy Nustadia Recreation