

## **Executive Summary**

### **Regional Field House – Portage la Prairie and District**

#### **Purpose**

A regional field house , a multi-sport indoor recreation facility is being explored to address the growing demand for year-round sport, wellness, and event space in southern Manitoba. Comparable facilities such as the Meridian Exhibition Centre, Southeast Event Centre, and Axworthy Health & RecPlex demonstrate the strong health, community, and economic benefits these facilities provide.

Local sport organizations have identified a significant need for indoor training space due to weather limitations and limited existing facilities. Over several years, representatives from baseball, soccer, football, rugby, and other field sports have approached the City of Portage la Prairie, the Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie, and Southport Aerospace Centre Inc. regarding the development of a regional indoor facility.

In response, these three partners are collaborating to explore the project. Engineering firm Stantec has been engaged to prepare a concept design, define project scope, and develop a preliminary construction budget. Design costs will be jointly funded by the partners, with deliverables expected by **November 2025**.

#### **Community and Economic Impact**

The facility would provide important regional benefits by:

- Supporting **year-round training and programming** for youth and adult sport organizations
- Enabling **regional tournaments, competitions, and events** that attract visitors
- Generating economic activity for **hotels, restaurants, and local businesses**
- Expanding opportunities for **sport camps, clinics, and community programming**
- Enhancing **health, wellness, and recreational access** for residents

Potential users include organizations such as Portage Minor Baseball, Portage Youth Soccer Association, Portage Cobras Soccer Club, Portage Wolves Rugby Club, Portage Pitbulls Football, PCI Trojans Football, Central Energy Softball, Keystone Sports Slo-Pitch League, and other youth and adult programs.

#### **Estimated Project Cost (Preliminary)**

The total estimated cost of the facility is **approximately \$20 million**, including:

- Field house building and amenities (changerooms, washrooms, multipurpose space, seating)
- Artificial turf playing surface and field preparation
- Hard-top flooring system for multi-use events
- Site servicing and parking (approx. 50 stalls)
- Sport equipment and furnishings
- Professional design and engineering services
- **15% contingency allowance**

Final costs will be refined through the design process.

### **Proposed Funding Model**

#### **Capital Funding**

- **\$5 million** targeted from provincial, federal, or grant funding programs
- Remaining costs **shared equally** among:
  - Southport Aerospace Centre Inc.
  - Rural Municipality of Portage la Prairie
  - City of Portage la Prairie

#### **Operations**

Annual operating costs would be shared equally among the partners, with additional revenue generated through **facility rentals, sponsorships, donations, and naming rights opportunities.**

#### **Strategic Value**

A regional field house would strengthen sport infrastructure for Portage la Prairie and surrounding communities while supporting economic development, tourism, and long-term regional growth.