

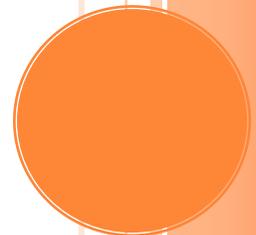
# TOWN OF NIVERVILLE

WHERE YOU BELONG

*Recreation Philosophy*

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# Town of Niverville

## *Recreation Philosophy*

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The Town of Niverville through its Recreation department strives to develop a sustainable and active community through promoting as a positive lifelong experience, team sports, physical fitness, recreational activities, cultural opportunities and personal growth. As the town's population continues to increase and demographics change, we are working towards expanding opportunities that improve the health and wellbeing of all age groups. The Town is committed to offering and endorsing opportunities that contribute to a sense of belonging and enhance a high quality of life for all residents.

We value:

- A shared sense of community
- Engaging and enjoyable interactions
- Enriching experiences
- Active living
- Life-long learning
- Affordable recreational programs for all age groups
- Safe, accessible and welcoming amenities
- Understanding and respecting diversity
- Citizen participation and volunteer engagement
- Environmental stewardship

Strategy and approaches:

- Best practices for recreational programming
- Encouraging volunteer and community involvement
- Excellence in delivery of programs
- Work through partnerships
- Minimize duplication of services
- Initiate and maintain communications with residents
- Identify and remove barriers that limit participation
- Community surveys to remain attune to needs
- Knowledgeable and friendly staff
- Prioritize projects

## 2. TOWN OF NIVERVILLE

The Town of Niverville (“Niverville”) is one of the youngest communities in southern Manitoba. Population growth with all its diversity has created a demand for more recreational opportunities and facilities.

Niverville is situated within 25 minutes from the cities of Steinbach and Winnipeg. Between 2001 and 2011 the population almost doubled to 3,540 residents. With 28 percent of the population under the age of 15 and 57.5 percent of residents under the age of 35, Niverville has the youngest population for any urban center in Manitoba.

As a result Niverville is proposing to build a Multiplex Complex that will encompass a year-round multi-use facility, a new arena and common area that will feature an indoor playground. The Multiplex Complex (the “Multiplex”) will provide diverse opportunities to expand recreation and wellness services for residents of all ages and abilities. This facility proposal is keeping with Niverville’s Mission and Vision statements, namely:

**“Mission Statement:** *The Town of Niverville inspires, supports, and enables its citizens to grow and involve our community through diverse programming and services.*

**“Vision Statement:** *A vibrant, sustainable, progressive community that is Where You Belong.”*

**“A vibrant, sustainable,  
progressive community that is  
Where you Belong”  
-Town of Niverville Vision Statement**

The Multiplex continues the legacy of community leaders who have given direction over the years to shaping a community that is vibrant and progressive.

The Multiplex will serve residents of Niverville and the surrounding towns and rural municipalities. Niverville is bordered by three rural municipalities – RM of Tache (population of 10,284), RM of Hanover (population of 14,026) and RM of Ritchot (population of 5,478). The unincorporated centres of St. Agathe, St. Adolphe, Ile des Chenes and New Bothwell are all located within 10 minutes of Niverville.

## 3. NIVERVILLE RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Niverville Recreation department (“Niverville Recreation”) is the principal provider of sports, recreation, health, leisure, arts, entertainment and related services in the community. The proposed Multiplex reflects the mission, vision and values that guide this department’s activities.

**“Mission Statement:** *The Niverville Recreation is the community connection for sports, recreation, health and leisure, arts, programs and entertainment. Niverville Recreation seeks*

*to promote and encourage programs that benefit all ages—children, youth, teens, adults and seniors; programs that promote personal growth, self-esteem and health awareness and that significantly contribute to the quality of life enjoyed by all Niverville residents.”*

**“Vision Statement:** *Niverville Recreation’s vision is to offer a full range of accessible recreational opportunities for all ages and abilities and to provide a commitment to meeting the challenges of todays and the opportunities of the future.”*

#### **Existing recreation amenities:**

**Niverville Centennial Arena and Curling Rink:** The aging arena and curling rink are two separate buildings located on 5.7 hectares (14 acres) of Niverville owned land. A new arena proposed within the Multiplex will replace the existing arena, a facility constructed by Niverville volunteers in 1967. The arena is not only aged, having been in part constructed of recycled materials, but is limited to winter use as the playing surface is constructed with a sand base and bare pipes. Remediation costs have been determined to be prohibitive due to costs of structural upgrades, as currently the structure has performed well beyond its life expectancy.

Even though in need of replacement, the arena is the home for Niverville’s minor winter sports programs—Clipper Hockey, Red River Rage Ringette, Niverville Skating Club and Public Skating. In addition as ice availability permits, it is used by many adult groups—Jr. Clippers, Lady Clippers, Lady’s Ringette, Good Time Hockey League and Adult Rec Hockey.

Attached to the arena is the South End multiple purpose room. It includes a multipurpose room, two offices, washroom facilities and a kitchenette area. This multiple purpose area houses adult fitness programs, such as boot camps, Zumba, yoga and kick boxing. It is also used for children’s programming and specialty camps; area workshops such as First Aid, CPR and Hunter Education, ‘family holidays and birthday parties’ and for community events such as Winterfest, supper with Santa and pancake breakfasts. All in all, a well-used and essential facility for recreation and wellness service programs.

The curling rink, built in 1978, is one of the few curling rinks left in Manitoba to have three sheets of natural ice. While natural ice levels the playing field for all participants, it also limits the curling season to only three months, January through March. The Niverville Curling Club is operated by motivated and committed volunteers who prepare the ice for the short season, offer league curling for adults and youth, organize a 2 on 2 bonspiel and couples curling.

**Hespeler Park:** Hespeler Park (the “Park”) consists of just over 36 hectares (91 acres) and is named after Hon. William Hespeler, a business man and politician who founded Niverville and played a key role in bringing Mennonite settlers to Manitoba. In the late 1870s, Mr. Hespeler built western Canada’s first grain elevator in Niverville. The replica of this unique round structure is being proposed to be incorporated within the architectural design of the Multiplex, thereby preserving, educating and celebrating the Town’s business and cultural heritage.

Located in the south central sector of Niverville, the Park is home to many of Niverville’s sports teams—Wildcats youth baseball, Knights youth soccer, Rookie Rugby Club and a

significant adult slo-pitch league. Facilities at the Park include mini and full size soccer pitches, baseball diamonds, a beach volleyball court and picnic shelter. All facilities are available for rental.

A new community splash pad opened in July 2016. The splash pad includes two distinct areas of play—a toddler area for children under three years of age and a family play area for children under the age of 12. Water features are bright and colorful. It also includes washroom facilities and a canteen.

The park has plenty of green space for use as a natural playground, accessible and inclusive playground equipment, swings and outdoor exercise equipment. The Park is strategically located to incorporate part of the Crow Wing Trail—a historic trail used by settlers in the 1800's to travel from Fort Garry to Saint Paul, Minnesota. The portion of the Crow Wing Trail running through Niverville is 1.8 kilometers of 191-kilometre trail.

#### 4. NIVERVILLE MULTIPLEX COMPLEX

In the fall of 2014, a volunteer committee called Friends of the Plex (the “FOP”) was formed by the Niverville Town Council to work with the community to improve recreational amenities.

During the spring of 2015 consultation sessions were held to determine the needs, interests and requirements of Niverville residents for a new recreation facility. These consultations were followed up by an independent telephone survey. The overwhelming response was a desire for a year round recreation facility to meet and enhance a broad spectrum of recreation and wellness aspirations.

In September 2015, FOP and the Niverville Town Council announced a Recreation Facilities Needs Assessment and Analysis that fully encompassed the needs and aspirations of Niverville and area residents.

The year-round multi-use facility, the adjoining new arena and lobby / administration area complete with indoor playground will be constructed during the first phase. The refurbishment of the adjoining existing arena will be studied and may be considered part of development plans during a possible future second phase.

The multi-use facility has the potential to accommodate a variety of sports, including soccer, basketball, volleyball, badminton, pickle ball, floor hockey, dodgeball, broomball, lacrosse, flag football, gymnastics, taekwondo, wrestling, archery and other sport and recreation opportunities that arise. Plans also include a running/walking track around fieldhouse perimeter. It will accommodate a range of services from parent and child programs, to older senior activities, and larger community functions where larger audiences could be expected to attend.

The lobby and administration area is designed to provide offices, meeting and activity rooms as well as a viewing area into both the multi-use facility and arena. A children's playground, floor shuffleboard and casual seating could be accommodated in this space.

The new arena has potential to host all ice sports during the winter months and host other sports such as roller-skate hockey, pickle ball, spring sport training (when outdoor fields are not ready yet), socials, large trade shows and other special events during the off season..

Engineering/design consultants indicate that approximately \$16 million is required to build the Multiplex. Niverville is committed to contributing \$5 million towards this project. Fundraising efforts for the remaining amount of \$11 million include grants from various levels of government and appeals for donations from individuals, community organizations and foundations. The sale of naming rights will also help offset the costs of building and operating the building. Upon successful completion of the fundraising campaign, construction is proposed to begin in early 2018.

## 5. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

New and upgraded facilities will enhance the delivery of recreation and wellness services in Niverville. Additional space combined with functional facilities, visionary leadership and a strong supportive volunteer community will lead to a vibrant, active, expanded and inclusive recreation program. This recreational initiative will support economic spin-offs and many other residential benefits that build a sustainable active healthy community.

The proposed Multiplex as a year-around recreation facility which provides a safe environment for people of all ages and abilities to participate in a broad range of team sports, recreation and leisure activities. Over 130 potential programs have already been identified for the facility.

The Multiplex contributes to an improved quality of life by providing a broad range of activities and programs for people of all ages and abilities. It will be an integral factor in ensuring Niverville is a community “*Where you Belong*”.