

## PRESS RELEASE

July 5, 2017

### Mayerthorpe Exhibition Centre Operational Change

Mayerthorpe Exhibition Centre will be operated by the Town effective July 5, 2017. The transition will see the operational and maintenance functions transitioned from a volunteer operating society to the Town. Council passed a motion at their June 26, 2017 regular Council meeting which approved written notice to Mayerthorpe Arena Operating Committee society of the Town's withdrawal from the operating and lease agreements. This decision was made after significant review, consideration of complex technical operational and maintenance requirements, and receiving input from users and citizens of the Town.

Council has met with Mayerthorpe Arena Operating Committee over the past several months. During these discussions, Council has come to recognize the challenges the Society has experienced in operation of the Centre. Council wishes to recognize and thank all operating society volunteers who have dedicated many hours towards operation of the Centre over the years. Council acknowledges that it was too much to expect volunteers to operate this complex public facility in compliance with the Municipal Government Act, Alberta Building Code, standards, regulations in accordance with the Safety Codes Act, Alberta Gaming and Liquor Act, Public Health Act, Occupational Health and Safety Act, and insurance regulations.

Council will be working on establishing policy to put in place rules, regulations, and fees guiding the overall operation of the facility serving the Town and the surrounding communities in a safe, inviting, and protective environment that promotes recreation, culture, and economic development supporting a healthy, viable, and vibrant community.

Town staff will be assessing the current state of the facility, determining operational needs, and establishing operational protocols to enable the continued operation and use of the Centre.

Council requests the community's patience and understanding during this transitional period.

Kate Patrick  
Mayor



My Mayerthorpe



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