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GOT QUESTIONS? CONTACT ONE OF US:

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Joint Use News

FALL 2002 Edition

Joint Use News is published by the Joint Use Agreement Steering Committee and circulated to the three partners and all users groups of joint use school and city recreation facilities.

The Joint Use Agreement (JUA) is a legal agreement of the City of Edmonton, Edmonton Public Schools and Edmonton Catholic Schools that makes schools available to community groups in after-school hours and arenas, pools and other City facilities available to school children during school hours. The agreement also clarifies how the parties work together to design, build and maintain school and park sites.

The work of the JUA is managed by the Steering Committee and carried out by three sub-committees composed of volunteers and staff from community groups and staff of the three partners.

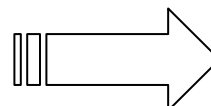
Celebration at Foote Field!

The High School football season got off to a bang at Foote Field at the University of Alberta South Campus on September 16. The evening included a reception hosted by the Joint Use Steering Committee, an Edmonton Public Schools game, and an Edmonton Catholic Schools game. Representatives of the Edmonton Catholic School Board, Edmonton Public School Board, City Council and the University of Alberta took part in a ceremonial kick-off between games.

The Foote Field venue, built for the 2001 World Championship in Athletics, encompasses an artificial turf field, natural turf field, running track, field event areas, and an indoor facility including a fitness centre.

This event was planned in celebration of the cooperation and collaboration that resulted in these state of the art facilities being made available for use by school and community sport groups, creating a legacy for all of Edmonton.

Lots more inside!!



User Fees for Schools

Many inquiries have been made about the potential impact of implementation of a land drainage utility on school user fees.

At this point in time, both Edmonton Public and Edmonton Catholic Schools are still in the process of determining the financial impact and do not know if fees will result.

Accessibility Project

The Joint Use Steering Committee has launched a review of policies and practices guiding who gets access to what facilities and under what conditions within the framework of the Joint Use Agreement. A task force brought recommendations to the Steering Committee in June, and the partners are now reviewing them. The long-term goal is to pull all of the information on available facilities and access criteria into one document. The document will also clarify some of the current gray areas.

Standards of Play



Update

Standards of Play were implemented in the school gymnasium booking process for the 2002-2003 season. There were some expected glitches in the system, and work will continue to iron them out. On the whole however, the implementation went well and user groups are now accessing gym time on a “fair share” basis.

Standards of Play for sports fields are currently being developed.



Land Issues

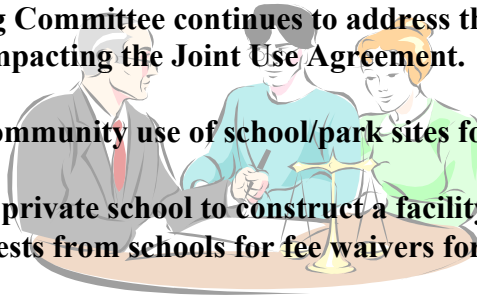
The Site Planning and Facility Design Working Sub-Committee has been revived and spent a half day in a workshop identifying land issues that affect the Joint Use Agreement.

The committee is now moving on with categorizing the issues, and will present a report to the Steering Committee and develop a Terms of Reference and work plan for the next year.

Working for You

The Joint Use Steering Committee continues to address the “big picture” and discuss broad issues impacting the Joint Use Agreement. In the past months these have included:

- Questions about community use of school/park sites for “non-typical” activities and events.
- A proposal from a private school to construct a facility on reserve land.
- Discussion of requests from schools for fee waivers for facility use outside of Joint Use time.
- Review of the potential impacts of implementation of a land drainage utility.



PRINCIPLES OF THE JOINT USE AGREEMENT

The Joint Use Agreement is guided by the following principles:

SHARED USE	That school sites and recreation sites, facilities and resources be shared.
COOPERATIVE PLANNING	That school sites and parks and recreation sites, and facilities be co-operatively planned.
CONSULTATION	That the parties to the Agreement undertake ongoing consultation with User Groups during the lifetime of the Agreement.
EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS	That the resources of the three parties and User Groups be efficiently used and extended for the maximum benefit of the community.
SHARED COST	That costs associated with the Agreement be fairly shared among the three parties to the Agreement. User groups may have to participate in basic operating costs of facilities, and will be offered the opportunity to purchase or supply enhanced levels of service and to participate in capital improvements.
EQUAL PARTNERSHIP	That there be an equal partnership among the three parties to the Agreement.
RESERVE DEDICATION	That all reserve land and funds generated in lieu of reserve land be used solely for the purposes of school sites and parks and recreation sites.

JOINT USE AGREEMENT
P.O. BOX 2359
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