

***Book now  
for 2002-  
2003!!***



**Joint Use News**

***SPRING 2002 Edition***

**GOT QUESTIONS?  
CONTACT ONE OF US:**

**STEERING COMMITTEE  
MEMBERS**

*Edmonton Public Schools*  
Brian Fedor; Michael Ediger

*Edmonton Catholic Schools*  
Garnet McKee; Bob Steele

*Edmonton Community Services*  
George Witt; Doug Costigan

*Joint Use Coordinator*  
Ann McCluskey

Phone: (780) 496-3090  
Fax: (780) 496-4942  
email: jointuse@edmonton.ca



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.

---

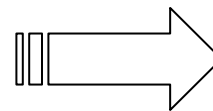
## Success Breeds Challenge

The success of the Joint Use partnership is evidenced in the ever-increasing use of facilities. People expect facilities to be available when and where they want them, and continue to demand more facilities and improved access. Of course resources are limited, and so the challenge.

Through the JUA, schools provided over 73,000 after-school hours of gymnasium time to community groups in 2001. In exchange, schools accessed nearly 34,000 hours in city facilities, including arenas and swimming pools during school hours. In addition, there were over 121,000 hours of school and community use of sports fields on school/park sites.

To meet the demand, the JUA committees are striving to be pro-active in improving processes and systems, supporting initiatives that create new opportunities for facility users, and maintaining and encouraging the spirit of cooperation and collaboration that has served them so well.

Lots more inside!!

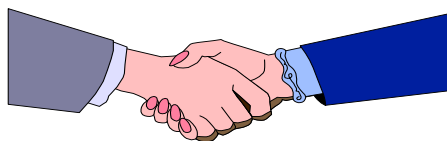


## New Names and Faces

In January 2001 Michael Ediger was appointed to the Steering Committee by Edmonton Public Schools. Michael's expertise in the planning area has brought new perspectives on the proliferation of land use issues. Luckily the skills and knowledge of Don Zabloski have not been lost, as he continues to chair both the School and Recreation Facilities and the Sports Fields Working Sub-Committees.

The retirement of Rick Mooney in June 2001 left big shoes to fill at the Joint Use table. Brian Fedor from Edmonton Public Schools has established his leadership as the new chair of the Steering Committee, and Bob Steele is making his mark as the new representative for Edmonton Catholic Schools.

There has been growth and turnover on the sub-committees as well. A hearty thanks and farewell to Dave Melney, Dwight Milton, Bryce Card, Julie Pullan, Bernice Neufeld, Paul King, Jim Sutherland and Phil Arendt. And a warm welcome to Connie Schwartz, Bill Babowal, Ron Stauffer, Heather Rootsart, Janice Pytel, Aaron Skillen, Dean Zingle, Bill Brown, Cindy Skolski, Norma Smith, Clark Mayzel, Rob Marchak and Willard Hughes. Thanks too to the many people who have agreed to act as alternates on the sub-committees. (Sincere apologies to anyone I may have failed to mention.)



## It's In The Mail

### Principals:

Watch your mail for a package from Community Services early in May. It has all information you need to book arenas, sportsfields, and tennis courts for the next school year.

Swimming pool bookings are required by May 31, 2002. If you haven't received your booking package, contact the manager of your local leisure centre. (Listed in the City of Edmonton Blue Pages under Swimming Pools)

### School User Groups:

Watch for the new consolidated 2002/2003 gymnasium booking package coming your way in April.

For the first time, the same application package will be used for all schools, and all applications will be forwarded to the one address for processing. Booking units for Edmonton Public and Edmonton Catholic schools will work together as a team to review requests and apply the standards of play.

The deadline for requests will be May 31, 2002. Implementing the new process and "working out the kinks" may result in a brief delay in sending out permits this year.

## Fields of Dreams

We all know what happened to our yards and gardens last year with the record low snowfall. The impact on sportsfields was significant. Community Services operations staff did a tremendous job rescuing and revitalizing fields in the summer of 2001. Sixteen large rectangular fields were re-sodded. A proactive approach is being taken in 2002. Watering trucks will be working around the clock this spring on all rectangular fields. **All users are requested to stay off the fields in April.**

One Joint Use field that wasn't subject to drought was Foote Field at the University of Alberta. You didn't know it was a Joint Use field? Well thanks to an agreement between the City of Edmonton and the U of A this facility, developed for the 2001 Championship in Athletics, is "under the umbrella". Negotiated under the auspices of the Sports Fields Working Sub-Committee, the agreement provides good quality and quantity of time to minor sport users at the artificial turf field at very reasonable rates. Community users held a significant number of events and games at the facility in the fall of 2001. As planning continues for development of additional fields adjacent to the site, JUA representatives continue to work with the university to secure community access.



## Working for You

The Joint Use Steering Committee keeps tabs on new developments that may impact the Joint Use Agreement, the partners, and the many community user groups. One of the issues addressed this year was the Land Drainage Utility concept, which could see tax-exempt property owners paying a user fee for stormwater management. The Steering Committee expressed concerns about shortcomings of the consultation process and about potential impacts on minor sport and recreation. Other organizations also expressed concerns. As a result, a recommendation has now gone forward to provide stakeholders with an opportunity to be heard on the issue at the May 14, 2002 meeting of City Council's Transportation and Public Works Committee.

For information on how to make your voice heard contact:

*Office of the City Clerk  
3rd Floor, City Hall  
1 Sir Winston Churchill Sq.  
Edmonton, AB. T5J 2R7  
Phone: (780) 496-8178  
Fax: (780) 496-8175  
e-mail: [city.clerk@gov.edmonton.ab.ca](mailto:city.clerk@gov.edmonton.ab.ca)*

## Standards of Play - An Equity Tool

Both the School and Recreation Facilities Working Sub-Committee and the Sports Fields Working Sub-Committee are busy with the development and implementation of Standards of Play to address concerns about fair and equitable distribution of facility use.

User groups propose standards, which define the amount of time a sport or activity requires to run a good program. Input from “experts” in the sport or activity is also brought in to defining the standard.

Gymnasium standards will be implemented for the 2002-2003 booking season. The Sports Fields standards are currently under development with the intent to implement for the 2003 season.



### **PRINCIPLES OF THE JOINT USE AGREEMENT**

The Joint Use Agreement is guided by the following principles:

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>SHARED USE</b>                   | That school sites and recreation sites, facilities and resources be shared.  |
| <b>COOPERATIVE PLANNING</b>         | That school sites and parks and recreation sites, and facilities be co-operatively planned.  |
| <b>CONSULTATION</b>                 | That the parties to the Agreement undertake ongoing consultation with User Groups during the lifetime of the Agreement.  |
| <b>EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS</b> | That the resources of the three parties and User Groups be efficiently used and extended for the maximum benefit of the community.   |
| <b>SHARED COST</b>                  | 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. |
| <b>EQUAL PARTNERSHIP</b>            | That there be an equal partnership among the three parties to the Agreement.   |
| <b>RESERVE DEDICATION</b>           | 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.  |