



September 27, 2021

Sandra Masters, Mayor
Office of the Mayor
City of Regina
P.O. Box 1790
Regina, SK. S4P 3C8
mayor@regina.ca

RE: Rosemont and Mount Royal Multi Purpose Community Center

Madame Mayor –

For over 35 years the Rosemont Mount Royal Community Association (RMRCA) has been an integral part of the Rosemont and Mount Royal communities. Not only does RMRCA represent over 4,000 homes and businesses in the area, but it works to improve the health and welfare for the people of the community through program offerings and events that bring people together.

The demographics in the area are mixed with young families, indigenous families, new Canadians, and Seniors. It is of great concern to the RMRCA, that residents, seniors, vulnerable residents, and children alike are forced to venture out of their community to take part in public activities, simply because there has been no commitment to providing like-for-like services in our community which are provided elsewhere in Regina. To that end, we do not have access to a public library, community spaces, storage, or locations to provide daytime access to basic levels of community services.

The RMRCA is formally requesting the City of Regina to build a multi purpose community center in the area so that the residents of Rosemont and Mount Royal have access to the resources they need to thrive within their own communities.

For the last 35 years, the RMRCA has made it no secret about the need of a multi-purpose space or building. Presently, the RMRCA depends on the use of the school facilities in the area for all meetings, events, and programs. This use is limited to evening or weekend access and does not

permit RMRCA to offer any public services like the recent vaccination clinics, clothing drop-offs, host City of Regina engagement sessions and more.

Without the benefit of a multi-purpose space (or any facility space in the area), the RMRCA has had to compete with various other group for school facility access. RMRCA has had classes and events cancelled (last minute) by schools and while this may be addressed in the final draft of the new Joint Use Agreement, this Community Association and the residents that participate in our programs, have real concerns. The revision of the Joint Use Agreement is portrayed as a solution of school use however, to our knowledge this agreement and its final draft has yet to be ratified. This leaves our ability to help our community and provide essential low-cost services to residents in limbo, making it near to impossible to implement changes and supports to help our neighbourhood thrive.

While we watch other groups and communities throughout Regina having full access to their own local supports and community centres, our Fall programming is limited to online classes only, making it incredibly difficult to complete with other organizations or to even provide basic programming for those without access to technology. Currently, the RMRCA has had to cancel its popular *Forever in Motion* and other senior programs because there is no daytime access to facilities. These programs provided exercise, support, and socialization to some of our most vulnerable residents - it is unacceptable that we are unable to provide these bare necessities and access to community resources to those in need.

There are several open areas shared with schools (St. Francis; Martin Academy, etc.) that would be great locations for a multi-purpose space. Alternatively, the Jack Hamilton Arena (located in the AE Wilson Park) is a facility that is seriously underutilized. In fact, for at least half a year, the arena is closed to the public and to the RMRCA. If additional space can be added to the building it could be a great interim solution for the community and the Community Associations in the area. Ideally, a Multi Purpose Community Center would have a gymnasium, 2 or 3 smaller gym areas, meeting rooms/gathering spaces, storage (for RMRCA), library area, bathrooms, and a kitchen.

The communities of Rosemont and Mount Royal border the communities of McNab, Dieppe, and Westerra, with other neighbouring communities to the North. Facilities in these neighbouring areas are also greatly lacking and residents are often faced with many barriers that keep them from participating. The addition of a multi-purpose space in the area would benefit the people of these communities significantly as well as other local organizations which are often at the front lines of our community problems. By working within our areas, we can provide local solutions to local problems.

The RMRCA welcomes the opportunity to discuss this further with you and/or your appointed representatives. The collaborative efforts will have long lasting benefits to the people and areas in Northwest Regina which have typically had their needs ignored when it comes to amenities and social infrastructure projects put in place by the City of Regina.

On behalf of the RMRCA Board of Directors, thank you for your time Mayor Masters, we look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at tmcquoid@rentvictory.com or (306)535-5595.

Yours truly
Rosemont Mount Royal Community Association

Theresa McQuoid,
RMRCA Chair

Cc: Shanon Zachidniak, Councillor Ward 8
Trent Wotherspoon, MLA Regina Rosemont
Warren Steinly, MP Regina Lewvan
Bill Ursel, Coordinator Community Capacity Building, City of Regina
Brent Elsaesser, Community Consultant, City of Regina
Alex Tkach, Chair, West Zone Board