



**growing for their future**  
 Campaign for the Children & Youth Community Centre

# Arrow

## SPECIAL EDITION: MAJOR PROJECTS

DECEMBER 2008

### Children & Youth Community Centre Renovations Underway

On November 3, Robin Hood Association began renovations for a new \$1.6-million Children and Youth Community Centre in Sherwood Park. When completed in April 2009, the 14,900-square-foot facility will allow the association and its program partners to provide a higher level of service to more children, youth and their families.

The new centre is desperately needed. Population growth, government policy changes and medical advancements have increased the demand for Robin Hood's children's services and programs in the community.

"We have a waiting list right now and that's not ideal," says Ed Riediger, Chief Executive Officer. "Families can easily go into crisis when the services they need are not available when they need them. The only thing stopping us from being able to meet demand right now is space."

To reduce construction costs, the association chose to renovate existing space. The original Robin Hood School, located at 3 Spruce Avenue, was built in 1968 and used until the con-

struction of the Robin Hood Learning Centre in 1998. Since then, New Horizon School leased the building until the RHA took it over again this summer in order to accommo-

The new centre includes a sensory room for quiet sensory stimulation and a motor and activity room for noisier, more physical, sensory activities, as well as a resource library and



Artist's rendering of building exterior

date growth.

Local architects Terry Hartwig and Robert Axten of Hartwig Architecture Inc. have designed a facility that addresses space limitations and allows the RHA to deliver the most up-to-date programs and services.

"Out of necessity, we've had to offer programs in clients' homes, in makeshift space off-site or at the Robin Hood Learning Centre, where the atmosphere can be overwhelming for children. These options haven't allowed us to support clients as fully as is possible when the environment is carefully designed," says Riediger.

resource room for parents. Parents will also be able to borrow, at no charge, from an adaptive equipment library stocked with specialized recreational sensory equipment. An indoor gym with a climbing wall and a wheelchair-accessible playground complete the building.

Program Partners in the centre will include the Boys and Girls Club of Strathcona County, the Strathcona Family and Community Services Parent Link Program, and Capital Health's Neurodevelopmental Assessment Clinic. Says Riediger: "This will be a true community centre, servicing all Community children and youth from one facility."

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For regular updates on the progress of the Children & Youth Community Centre renovations and capital campaign, please visit [www.robinhoodassoc.com](http://www.robinhoodassoc.com) and click on this image:



The Robin Hood Association  
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 Sherwood Park, AB  
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 fax: (780) 449 2028  
 info@robinhoodassoc.com

# Champion Campaign for the Children & Youth Community Centre

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**Please consider becoming a “Champion” and help us raise funds for the Children & Youth Community Centre!**

We are a group of Robin Hood Families and Friends committed to raising a portion of the \$1.6 million goal. We are undertaking a letter-writing campaign.

## It's easy to help:

**1. Call to receive your “Champion” package.**

It will include sample letters, an address tracking form and other relevant instructions.

**2. Create a list of family and friends**

who would like to hear more about the Children & Youth Community Centre and our goals.

**3. Return your list to us.**

We will print your letters and give them to you to sign, complete with an information brochure and postage paid envelopes.

**4. After signing them, drop them in the mail**

or include them with your Christmas cards.

**5. Periodic reports will be provided**

to you as donations come in from your friends and family.

To receive your Champion package, please call Alice before December 19:  
**780-467-7140 ext. 226**

**Thank you for asking your friends and family to help us grow!**

# What the Children & Youth Community Centre Means to Robin Hood Families



"At a typical play centre for children, it is very hard to include Jacob in activities. With the staff at the Children's Centre, Jacob will be more accepted. Everything will be more adapted to him, so he can go and be the kid that he is. Most children with disabilities are very sensitive to their surroundings. A centre created specifically for them will provide a welcoming, relaxing environment enabling their therapy to really work."

-Melanie Proskow, parent of Jacob Proskow, age 4

"My daughter and I have been relying on Robin Hood for almost ten years now. I envision the new Children's Centre as a continuation and expansion of the present excellent programs. It will serve as a place for Emily to grow, thrive and play."

- Violet Poon, parent of Emily Kuefler, age 11

"We are so very excited about the new Children & Youth Community Centre – it is a place for families with younger children to connect and, more importantly, a place where our daughter Britanee really does belong.

To be in an environment where disabilities become invisible and are common place with her peers makes all the difference to us and to Britanee. She is happy and that makes us happier! As parents, we are more comfortable in activities that we would not normally attempt in the community. The specialized equipment and adapted surroundings will allow Britanee to shine and become the superstar we know she is. To be part of a family and community that is made up of staff, families and children that understand and are so very accepting – it is a dream come true. We belong!!"

-Tami Reich, parent of Britanee Reich, age 17

"My son Matthew, who is now 19, has been accessing services from Robin Hood since he was a year old. Now that Matthew is attending the adult day program at the Learning Centre I am absolutely thrilled to see him laugh, learn and play in a facility catered to the needs of the disabled, and where families have opportunities to connect, share stories, and support each other.

The new children's centre will provide the same environment and opportunities to our younger population. This will be a much welcomed facility that will make such a difference in so many lives".

- Debbie Regimbald, parent of Matthew Regimbald, age 19





# You're invited to

## The Robin Hood Family & Staff Children's Christmas Party!

**What:** A children's Christmas party for families supported by Robin Hood and families of Robin Hood staff.

**When:** Friday, December 5, 2008  
6:30 PM—8:30 PM

**Where:** Robin Hood Learning Centre  
141 Broadway Boulevard, Sherwood Park

Join us for a fun-filled evening of activities for children 0—18 yrs including crafts, cookie decorating, face painting and a visit from Santa! There will be a silent auction and door prizes. Updated information on the Children & Youth Community Centre and the "growing for their future" campaign will be available.

We really hope that you will join us. Please RSVP to [familysupport@robinhoodassoc.com](mailto:familysupport@robinhoodassoc.com) or call 780-467-7140 Ext. 229.

## Adult Services: Aspen Village Update

We plan to begin construction of the Aspen Village Residential Complex in the spring of 2009. We had planned to begin our project this fall, but have decided to wait until road construction in front of our building is closer to completion. We are using this additional time to redesign the building. We are working with Douglas Sollows, a very skillful and experienced architect, to improve the building design. Our building will now be a two-story structure. Its current design provides accommodation for 36 individuals. This building will be fully accessible and will serve a wide range of our "more senior" clients.

The Board of the Robin Hood Association has approved the land lease for the Aspen Village project.

This one acre building site has been leased to the Association at no cost by Strathcona County. This is a significant contribution to the project and is greatly appreciated.

We do not have final construction costs. Our current estimate indicates that the Aspen Village Project will cost approximately \$5.5 million. We have already received a grant of \$2.54 million from the Alberta Government Affordable Housing Program. We have also made an application to Strathcona County for funds from their affordable housing program. We plan to sell our residence 4 and 5 property and use the proceeds for the Aspen Village Project. We will obtain a mortgage for the balance of the funds required to complete the project.

We believe the Aspen Village project will help address two major challenges we are currently dealing with. This facility creates good quality housing that is affordable for people who have a limited income. It also allows us to make more efficient use of our limited staffing resources.

The Aspen Village Residential Complex will increase the range of residential options the Robin Hood Association can offer to adults with disabilities. This will help to ensure that all residents have the type of home and lifestyle that meets their wants and needs.

*Ed Riediger  
Chief Executive Officer*

# FAQ's on the Children & Youth Community Centre



**Q: What kinds of new programs will be offered at the CYCC?**

**A:** *With increased space, we will be able to expand current programs (groups, before- and after- school care) and create new ones. Staff are excited to have the opportunity to offer programs such as Musical Theatre, Cooking Class, Movement and Activity Groups, Fitness Classes, Dance and Music groups.*

**Q: Will Adult Services programs be offered at the CYCC?**

**A:** *Yes. Blacklight Theatre and Hip Hop classes will be held in the Gymnasium, as well as Cooking classes in the kitchen. The creation of the CYCC will also free up space for offices and programs at the Centre for Learning that are currently occupied by Children's Services.*

**Q: How will my family benefit from the services offered by the program partners?**

**A:** *Families will be able to access programs from Robin Hood, Parent Link, Capital Health Neurodevelopmental Clinic and the Boys and Girls Club of Strathcona County from one location. At this "one-stop-shop", families will be able to access programs for all of their children. Children and families will have increased opportunities to access our partner programs with support from our staff. More than 4500 families in Strathcona County are expected to access programs at the CYCC, increasing ties within the community.*

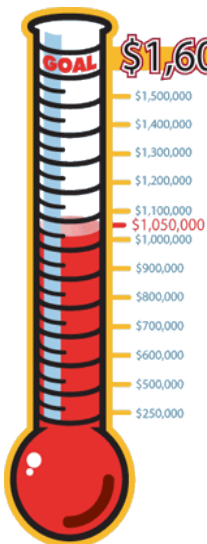
**Q: I normally donate toward the "Target the Hood" annual campaign. Will that campaign happen this year?**

**A:** *No. This year, the annual "Target the Hood" campaign will be replaced by the Children & Youth Community Centre campaign as it is the immediate priority for the Association. It is important to note that Robin Hood has and continues to share resources across all program areas, thus a donation to one specific area is a donation to Robin Hood overall. Our success over the years and ability to deliver more than other service providers is due to our "one for all and all for one" philosophy.*

**Q: My child is in Adult Services, and I had planned on donating to the new Aspen Village. Why should I donate toward the CYCC?**

**A:** *Funding and finances for Aspen Village are virtually in place, thanks to a \$2.5 million grant from the Government of Alberta. The remainder of the financing will come from the sale of our property south of WalMart, room and board and a modest mortgage. Consequently, donations to Aspen Village do not help Robin Hood deal with its current priorities.*

## Special thanks to the following donors, who are helping us grow for their future:



**GOAL \$1,600,000**

- \$1,500,000
- \$1,400,000
- \$1,300,000
- \$1,200,000
- \$1,100,000
- \$1,050,000**
- \$1,000,000
- \$900,000
- \$800,000
- \$700,000
- \$600,000
- \$500,000
- \$250,000

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Government of Alberta Major Facilities | Edmonton Oilers Alumni                       |
| Partition Systems                      | Salvi Homes                                  |
| Sherwood Park Rotary Club              | WCB Millard Centre                           |
| Solid Symbol Society                   | Strathcona County Council                    |
| Kevin Love (Coronet Leaseholds)        | Safeway We Care Campaign                     |
| Mike Tompkins                          | Robin Hood Child & Baby Items Sale           |
| Meyer's Insurance                      | Charlie Farquharson Memorial Golf Tournament |
| Bob Dale Gloves                        | Rosemarie & Catherine Biggs                  |
| Tami & Mike Reich                      | Leslie E. Ahlstrom Professional Corp.        |
| County Clothes Line                    | Debbie Regimbald                             |
| ING                                    |  |

# growing for their future

## Pledge Form

This is my pledge to the Campaign for the Children & Youth Community Centre:

My gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ will commence on \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per year for:                    1       2       3       years  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per month for:                    1       2       3       years  
 I prefer to make a one time contribution on \_\_\_\_\_ (month/day/year)

**Pledge Method:**

Invoice            Cheque            VISA            MasterCard

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiry Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donor Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name (please print) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/Province \_\_\_\_\_  
 Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone (Work) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Specific Donation/Dedication Instructions:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to: Robin Hood Association

**Mailing Address:**

Children & Youth Community Centre Campaign  
 141 Broadway Boulevard  
 Sherwood Park, AB T8H 2A4

Charitable Registration No.: 10790 6091 RR0001

Tel: (780) 467-7140 Fax: (780) 449-2028  
 www.robinhoodassoc.com

**Donations are Tax Deductible**  
 and will be mailed to the address listed above

*For Office Use Only:* Received on behalf of Robin Hood Association by:  
 RHA Representative \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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 Community Centre**