



### STRATEGIC DESIGN

The Multipurpose Evacuation Centre will feature three gymnasium floors. It will relocate a community arena that is nearing end-of-life and needs replacement. There is space for a curling rink and aquatic centre.

It will provide much-needed recreation space for local schools and allow for the hosting of regional sporting events and activities. It will also create opportunities for larger community events and gatherings while house additional elements such as play centres, adult secondary education, and space for local group activities.



### ENERGY EFFICIENCIES

The Multipurpose Evacuation Centre will make extensive use of energy efficiencies, from the addition of ample amounts of natural light and take advantage of complementary mechanical set-ups.

Additionally, in terms of building structure, environmental responsibility is achieved by using construction materials high in recycled content. Steel is one of the most recycled construction materials in the industry, and will be heavily-utilized throughout the facility.

Replacing Portland cement with recycled content is a sustainable design choice that will also result in a cost savings. Recycled aggregate can be used successfully in concrete structures as well as for compacted granular fill below slab on grade.

TOWN OF HIGH LEVEL

DENE THA' FIRST NATION

# MULTIPURPOSE EVACUATION CENTRE



Recreation and Emergency Centre

Construction of the facility is expected to generate 650,000 man hours of employment, keeping 156 people employed for more than two years.



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# THE HIGH LEVEL MULTIPURPOSE EVACUATION CENTRE OPPORTUNITY



High Level is a fast-growing community serving an area of approximately 30,000 people. With a location 733 kilometers north of Edmonton and 725 kilometers south of Yellowknife, High Level and its surrounding communities are isolated from cities and other large populated areas around Alberta.

The 2019 Chuckegg Creek Wildfire exposed a serious weakness in northern emergency response. Evacuations in the area resulted in residents scattered across Alberta - stuck in hotel rooms or gymnasiums and fearing for their community.

A community Multipurpose Evacuation Centre would provide recreational opportunities but also act as a registration/evacuation center in times of need. It would serve multiple functions for residents every day while providing a safe haven for the region.

Construction of the facility is expected to cost \$88 million and generate 650,000 man hours of employment, keeping 156 people employed for more than two years.



## LOCATION

The two-story design will be located on the current outdoor running track and will be attached to High Level Public School. This will help increase parking for both High Level Pubic staff as well as Florence MacDougall Community School staff.

Partnering with FVSD, the new facility will be attached to High Level Public School. This will ease student population pressures while giving opportunities to all community public schools to use the facility.

## ATTRACTION AND RETENTION

High Level is a vibrant community with an excellent range of facilities and services. But winter can be extremely cold, making it difficult to get outside for some exercise.

The Multipurpose Evacuation Centre will provide space for tournaments and large-scale events while adding new employment opportunities and attracting and retaining industry and government employees.

It will replace a number of aging community facilities that already attract more than 15,000 visits a year and provide close to 20,000 programming hours.

## COMMUNITY FOCUS

Recreation has a wholesome effect on quality of life. The Multipurpose Evacuation Centre is intended to upgrade existing facilities and ensure residents can benefit from healthy activities. In emergencies, the facility will provide space as a registration and evacuation centre.

The facility will provide both direct jobs and a means to retain workers whose skills are in demand with opportunities for recreation and a bold statement in terms of regional safety; High Level will be more of a destination community in the north.

## FIRST NATIONS CULTURE

The Dene Tha are partners in the Multipurpose Evacuation Centre project and many First Nations people make use of High Level amenities and businesses. A large number of people of Indigenous descent live in and around High Level.

The Multipurpose Evacuation Centre will provide opportunities for Indigenous activities such as dances, ceremonies, and games as well as have First Nations cultural symbols integrated into the building design - showing the value of these important Indigenous partnerships.

## REGIONAL EMERGENCIES

The Multipurpose Evacuation Centre will provide High Level with the capability to respond to emergencies in our region. This means we would assist communities across northern Alberta and into the Northwest Territories.

This would create a faster and more effective response when lives are threatened by fires or other potential disasters. High Level will be a place for northern families to gather in a time of need and stay safe together.