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Runestone Community Center Expansion Project inches closer to finish line with significant backing from Alexandria Area Hockey Association

ALEXANDRIA, MINN. (April 24, 2023) —The Alexandria Area Hockey Association (AAHA) recently announced its pledge of \$700,000 toward the Runestone Community Center (RCC) Expansion Project.

The significant financial backing from AAHA comes just weeks after PrimeWest Health, Bremer Bank and Hilltop Lumber pledged \$1.42 million, \$325,000 and \$300,000, respectively. The RCC Capital Campaign Committee continues working to raise \$8.8 million through sponsorships and private donations for the project, with a goal of breaking ground in 2024.

“We’re proud to make this contribution and add to the positive momentum behind this project,” said Brian Klimek, president of AAHA. “Many of our kids and grandkids have benefitted from the vision of the people who built the original RCC 46 years ago, and those who made the West Rink a reality in 1994. It’s our turn to ensure the RCC meets the needs of Alexandria today and into the future.”

An expanded RCC will provide more opportunities for ice activities and meet the increased demand to host ice and dry-floor events such as hockey tournaments, figure skating competitions, curling events, graduations, concerts, home shows and trade shows. As currently envisioned, it’s estimated expanding the RCC will generate an additional \$2 million annually for local businesses.

“We’re nearly halfway to our \$8.8 million goal,” said Kent Kopp, chair of the Capital Campaign Committee for the RCC Expansion Project. “It’s going to take our entire community stepping up to support this project in order to get it across the finish line.”

To learn more about the RCC Expansion Project, including how to make a pledge, visit the [RCC Capital Campaign page on the City of Alexandria website](#). Donors who contribute \$500 or more will have the opportunity to be recognized on a donor wall in the RCC. For questions about the project, contact Marty Schultz, city administrator, at mschultz@alexandriamn.city or (320) 759-3629.

About the RCC Expansion Project

The RCC Expansion Project will expand upon the existing 76,000-square-foot community center to align the space with current demand, maximize the RCC’s economic benefit to Alexandria, and continue to provide significant health and wellness opportunities to youth and adults in Alexandria.

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