

Charles Jago Northern Sport Centre



“The end product of the Charles Jago Northern Sport Centre is a very substantial facility with a commitment to high performance training and sport development that will serve UNBC, our Community and the North. The fact that we were able to achieve a facility of this scope and calibre is truly an amazing feat.”

– Cliff Dezell, Board Chair, Northern Sport Centre Ltd.

Project Overview

The Charles Jago Northern Sport Centre is a \$29 million facility that brings together athletes, coaches, and communities to foster a distinctive culture of excellence by integrating sport and education. Through its location on the University of Northern British Columbia campus, it is expected that the Centre will strengthen Prince George's role as a post-secondary education centre and provide opportunities for citizens of the North to pursue sport and education in their home region. The Centre is expected to contribute to the growth and development of Prince George and the surrounding region by supporting sport tourism and providing a lasting legacy to the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

The initial phase of the Centre encompasses approximately 12,500 square metres of indoor space that includes:

- A three-court gymnasium with seating for 2,000,
- Two indoor fields,
- An elevated 280-metre indoor track,
- An expanded fitness centre,
- Two squash courts,
- Ten offices for coaches,
- A seminar room for coaching clinics,

- Physiotherapy and strength training facilities,
- Connection to the trail network on Cranbrook Hill, and
- Additional exterior space for a sports field and parking.

Project Objectives

The project is expected to achieve the following objectives:

- Establish a regional centre that will attract and assist in retaining students and athletes in the North, and,
- Provide a significant economic stimulus for the City and Northern B.C. through future sport hosting opportunities.

Partnership Highlights

The Design-Build partnership agreement with the Northern Sport Centre Consortium was achieved through an early partnering process that allowed the project and proponent teams to work collaboratively to determine the final scope and design of the project, programming options, variations and cost implications, output-based specifications and the performance requirements.

This process provided for maximum flexibility and innovation, while maintaining strong competitive tension and transparency throughout. In the end, Northern Sport Centre Ltd. was able to maximize the scope of the facility while staying within the stated capital budget.

Expected Benefits

The Design-Build partnership agreement provides value for money and results in a number of advantages in the construction of the Centre, including:

- A guaranteed maximum price of \$29 million for the construction of the facility,
- A guaranteed opening date by September 2007,
- An increase in scope from the original concept of the facility at no extra capital cost, and
- Assurance of high performance specifications for all playing surfaces to ensure that the facility is able to host provincial and national competitions.

Public Sector Partners

Northern Sport Centre Ltd.

- City of Prince George
- University of Northern British Columbia

Private Sector Partners

Northern Sport Centre Consortium

- Giffels Design Build Inc.
- NORR Limited
- Chernoff Thompson Architects
- Western Industrial Contractors of Prince George

Partnerships BC's Role

Partnerships BC acted as the business and procurement adviser to Northern Sport Centre Ltd.