

## PRESS RELEASE

The Town now has a new electric Olympia ice resurfacer! This replaces the 20 year old Olympia that serviced our community faithfully and was originally bought with financial assistance from the Firefighters Association.

In purchasing the new Olympia, the Town received generous donations from Schooten and Sons and Serfas Farms who paid close to \$60,000 each for the new Olympia. The Town also received funding through the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre (MCCAC) in the amount of \$50,000 to pay for the extra cost of purchasing an electric ice resurfacer compared to a traditional propane fueled, combustion engine ice resurfacer. MCCAC is a partnership between Alberta Municipalities and the Government of Alberta.

*“As a parent, I know that how important arenas are to communities, and how much energy they can use,” said Rebecca Schulz, Minister of Environment and Protected Areas. “Energy efficiency upgrades can carry a high price tag, which is why we’re pleased to help fund this project. This Olympia ice resurfacer will help lower utility costs while reducing emissions and supporting family fun at the rink.”*

Having an electric ice resurfacer boasts several benefits compared to our old, propane fueled unit as it will be:

1. Quieter – The new Olympia does not have an engine and will thus be quieter to operate;
2. Cheaper – Electric ice resurfacer will run more efficiently and require less maintenance. Less maintenance on air circulation units and monitoring for greenhouse gases is also a benefit;
3. Safer – The new Olympia will not emit any greenhouse gas emissions into the arena and;
4. Cleaner – The new Olympia does not produce any greenhouse gases during operation and will have a reduced impact to the environment.

When asked about the new electric ice resurfacer Mayor Cathy Moore said, “We’re happy, excited and honored to have the new Olympia in Town and for the generous support we had from Schooten and Sons, Serfas Farms, MCCAC and the Government of Alberta. I am looking forward to seeing the new machine in action and take comfort knowing that this machine will be better for the environment, more cost efficient, thus saving our residents money and safer for our users and staff with no greenhouse gases being emitted from the new machine.”

The new Olympia will be on display at the Jamboree Days breakfast and will ready for action for the 2024-2025 ice season.