

## **Design firm selected for Pictou County Sport, Recreation & Wellness Centre**

Pictou County, NS (January 21, 2010) – The Pictou County Shared Services Authority (PSSA) has announced the selection of Nova Scotia-based DSRA Envision Architects (DSRA) for the design services of the Pictou County Sport, Recreation & Wellness Centre.

“The selection of DSRA Envision Architects for the building design marks the next step in advancing the project and reaching our community’s goal of creating a sport, recreation and wellness centre that will improve people’s lives for generations to come,” said Ron Baillie, Warden, Pictou County.

The state-of-the-art Sport, Recreation & Wellness Centre will create a focal point for Pictou County that provides a variety of amenities appealing to a broad range of ages, interests and abilities. The consultant’s are reviewing concepts including ice surface, aquatic centre, walking track, gymnasium, child care facility, and multipurpose space and community meeting room. Current environmental and energy efficient principles will be included in the design to maximize energy savings and create a healthy environment for visitors.

The building design was awarded to DSRA based on their proposed fee, design timeline, previous design experience and experience of the team.

DSRA has more than 60 years of experience in the design of similar facilities including but not limited to the Canada Games Centre (Halifax), Sackville Sport Stadium (Halifax), The Tower (St. Mary’s University, Halifax) and Foxharb’r Resort and Spa (Wallace).

“The DSRA team is at the leading edge of designing similar facilities throughout our province and we look forward to viewing their design and sharing it with municipal councils and residents of Pictou County,” said Warden Baillie. “Once we have the proposed design this spring we are looking forward to presenting it to the community.”

Building design is now commencing, the site work package will be tendered and awarded in the Spring of 2010 and the building construction will be tendered and awarded in the Fall of 2010. The facility is anticipated to be completed in the Spring of 2012.

“The municipalities of Pictou County collectively are committed to the development of the Wellness Centre and partnering with DSRA to ensure that the facility is designed to meet the immediate and future needs of the community,” said Warden Baillie.

The \$34 million facility will be owned by the PSSA and be jointly operated with the YMCA of Pictou County.

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