

## **Sherbrooke 2013**

Sherbrooke's driving forces are in full swing as they lay the foundations for the 2013 Canada Summer Games Host Society. Indeed, several Sherbrooke delegates travelled to Prince Edward Island last August in order to fully experience the spirit of the Games as well as gain considerable knowledge of the obligations and challenges inherent to hosting this multi-sport competition. In total, some 30 delegates visited the various sites in addition to attending the opening and closing ceremonies.

Our community has received a lot of good news lately regarding its capital plan and sport infrastructure. Bishop's University, future site of the Athletes Village, recently announced the construction of a new sports centre, which will be fully operational at least one year before the 2013 Canada Games. The design includes construction of a new arena, a gym and a health centre that will house various services for university students as well as for off-campus clientele.

In early autumn, the Sherbrooke area School Board made an announcement with great fanfare, paving the way for the construction of a sports complex with two regulation ice rinks as well as a training room, a weight room, locker rooms, coach rooms and a food court with all the modern conveniences. The site may also include a practice rink.

All of these infrastructures are in addition to the investments previously included in the initial bid presented by the City of Sherbrooke as part of the race to obtain the 2013 Canada Summer Games.

As for the Transition Committee, members are actively laying down the foundations for the Host Society, expected to be up and running as early as February 2010. The Marketing and Infrastructure Committees meet regularly and the process of hiring a general manager should be concluded by early 2010.

Sherbrooke and its citizens are in an excellent position in terms of planning for the 2013 Canada Summer Games and will be in full organizational mode three years before the opening ceremony, on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013.