

**June 30, 2017**

For Immediate Release

## **REAL, Memorial Cup Committee requesting City financial support for Brandt Centre upgrades**

*Regina, Saskatchewan* – The Regina Exhibition Association Limited (REAL) and the 2018 Memorial Cup Committee (led by members of the Regina Pats' owners Queen City Sports and Entertainment Group) have put forward a request for \$1.3 million in financial support from the City of Regina for upgrades to the 40-year-old Brandt Centre facility at Evraz Place. Funding would be used along with dollars committed from REAL and the Memorial Cup Committee.

The renovation plan determined by REAL and the Memorial Cup Committee will ensure the Brandt Centre meets requirements established by the Canadian Hockey League and will improve the facility for future major events and the community's long-term use and enjoyment. The 2018 Memorial Cup alone is expected to generate gross economic activity of more than \$11 million.

"We've worked closely with the Memorial Cup Committee to determine the necessary upgrades to the Brandt Centre," said REAL President and CEO Mark Allan. "We're putting forward the funding request in partnership with the committee with sights on the 2018 event, and our organization also wants to ensure the facility will continue providing benefit to the community for years. We look forward to the 2018 Memorial Cup and putting on a great event for hockey fans."

The renovation plan includes new arena boards and glass; improvements to the lighting and sound system; additions and improvements to VIP, media and fan seating and hospitality spaces; dressing room improvements and supporting team amenities; washroom improvements; and upgrades for on- and off-ice officials. The total investment required is \$4.06 million, with \$1.5 committed by REAL and \$1.23 million from the Memorial Cup Committee. The remaining \$1.3 million is being requested from the City of Regina.

The City of Regina owns the land and buildings at Evraz Place. REAL acts as steward of all assets on the 100-acre property. Since 2014, REAL has operated as a not-for-profit municipal corporation with oversight from a volunteer Board of Directors appointed by the City of Regina. This governance structure ensures accountability and transparency, especially in a period of major investment to upgrade Evraz Place. All profits from operations are reinvested into the property so the community can continue to enjoy the facilities for years to come.

- 30 -

### **About Evraz Place**

Situated in the heart of Regina, Evraz Place is one of the largest event complexes in Canada. The not-for-profit organization hosts the majority of Regina's major events, including Canada's Farm Progress Show and Queen City Ex. Evraz Place is home to Canadian Western Agribition, the WHL Regina Pats, the Regina Soccer Association and numerous concerts, trade shows and conventions. Visit [www.evrazplace.com](http://www.evrazplace.com).

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