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For Immediate Release

Sunrise School Division's Education Centre Expanding

Beausejour, Manitoba: Sunrise School Division will soon be adding 6,700 square feet to their Education Centre at 344–2nd Street North in Beausejour. The expansion will allow 16 staff from the division's business department to move from their current location on 5th Street to join 13 staff at the 2nd Street location.

"We are looking forward to having finance, payroll and maintenance staff join our staff here at the Education Centre," says Superintendent/CEO Barb Isaak. "We're anticipating enhanced productivity within the two teams. Being together in one space will encourage collaboration, planning and teamwork."

The vacant Business Centre will then become the new home for the division's clinicians and their support staff. Currently occupying the Green Church at 322-3rd Street, the clinicians will move to a more functional, accessible space which includes room to hold parent meetings.

"The Board of Trustees discussed this building addition for several years. We looked at a number of different options to accommodate the needs of both the business department staff and the clinicians. We were pleased to pass the motion to proceed with the renovations in May and are now excited to see the plans unfold," says Board Chair Lynne Champagne.

The gymnasium within the Education Centre will be kept for community use such as sports and recreation, moms and tots programming and the gymnastics club, which supports athletes from the surrounding area. Divisional use of the gym will include professional learning for employee groups and larger divisional events. Including proposed parking lot improvements, the addition and renovation has a maximum budget of \$3 million.

"Overall, this expansion and relocation is a practical move that makes good business sense for both the business department and the clinicians. It ensures accessible, appropriate working space for both groups of staff and brings the superintendent's team and secretary-treasurer's team under one roof," adds Champagne.

Drawings for the addition will be completed over the winter with construction beginning in the spring of 2017. Expected occupancy is in the summer of 2018.

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