



## The Portage Recreation Committee responds to frequently-asked questions about the new Portage Credit Union Centre in Portage la Prairie.

**Question:** How does the Portage Recreation Committee rationalize moving the Island Park site from ninth or 12th in the Stantec Consulting feasibility study report to first or second as the best location? Who voted to do this?

**Answer:** The Stantec report had a number of locations that were identified ahead of the chosen site. Some of these did not take into account things like cost, parking or access. For example, the PCI location was ranked fairly high, but we can see already with the amalgamation of the two high schools, there are major traffic, parking and drop-off issues. The location that was number 2, the old provincial building was totally unacceptable. We needed around five hectares (12 acres) that would accept major traffic loads, both vehicular and pedestrian in a safe manner and that location would not fit our needs, but because of a number of other factors, it scored very high.

Not only does the Island location suit our geographic and physical needs, it also allows us to showcase our city. With all the use the facility will have, people will have to come to the centre of our city, which will give everyone an opportunity to see what our great city has to offer.

The councils of the City of Portage la Prairie and the Rural Municipality had the ultimate decision on the 16 sites that were presented.

*The Daily Graphic welcomes questions or comments from the community regarding the multiplex. E-mail [editor@cpherald-leader.com](mailto:editor@cpherald-leader.com), fax 239-1270 or send your letter to P.O. Box 130, Portage la Prairie, MB, R1N 3B4. The responses will be posted on our website: [www.portagedailygraphic.com](http://www.portagedailygraphic.com).*