



## **Key Messages on behalf of BGC Fort Saskatchewan and BGC Strathcona County**

BGC Fort Saskatchewan and BGC Strathcona County have been providing quality life-changing, community-based programming for children and youth for the past 35 and 21 years, respectively. These Clubs have been collaborating closely since December 2021 with the goal of ensuring the continuity of these important services, particularly during these challenging economic times. Increased collaboration, shared services and unification have become much more common in the non-profit sector in recent years, providing greater financial stability and efficiencies for all organizations involved.

The Boards of the two Clubs recently signed a new management agreement on July 1st, 2022, with BGC Strathcona County assuming responsibility for Club operations in Fort Saskatchewan. This agreement will allow both Clubs time to perform due diligence and explore the next steps towards a possible, more formal unification going forward. At all times, the needs of the children, youth and families at both Clubs will be paramount in any decision-making for the future.

An Integration Committee consisting of Board members from both Clubs will be formed to consider all aspects of a potential unification. This process will be supported by BGC Canada and Club staff and will take a number of months to complete. The decision to proceed with unification will only be made if the exploration process shows clear benefits. The Integration Committee will be responsible for making recommendations to the Boards of both the Strathcona County and Fort Saskatchewan Clubs on unification and the Boards will then make the ultimate decision.

In the meantime, both Clubs will continue to provide safe, supportive places where children, youth and their families can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships, and develop confidence and skills for life.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Karen Sliwkanich (Board Chair at BGC Fort Saskatchewan) at [ksliwkanich@shaw.ca](mailto:ksliwkanich@shaw.ca) or Leta Shannon (Board Chair at BGC Strathcona County) at [Leta.Shannon@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Leta.Shannon@gov.ab.ca)

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