

Manitoba PC Caucus



NEWS RELEASE

April 17, 2018

For Immediate Release

House passes Ewasko's resolution to establish Manitoba Curling Week

Province's history and success in the sport is a source of Manitobans' pride: Ewasko

A resolution by Wayne Ewasko, MLA for Lac du Bonnet, to urge the provincial government to declare an annual Manitoba Curling Week was passed today by the Legislative Assembly.

"With nearly 100 curling clubs in the province, Manitoba punches far above its weight in the curling world," said Ewasko, himself a competitive curler and coach of championship high school teams. "We have more national wins in men's and women's competitions combined than any other province. Our success in the sport is something all Manitobans should be proud of – but also something we need to work to maintain."

In passing the private member's resolution, the Legislative Assembly has called on the government to designate the third week of January every year as Manitoba Curling Week. As well, the resolution encourages all Manitoba MLAs to visit and promote their local curling clubs.

The resolution comes as Manitoba moves toward establishing an International Curling Centre of Excellence, which would promote the sport at all levels, train and develop players and coaches to achieve top-class international performance, engage students from across Canada and seek out and host international competitions. As an initial step, the Progressive Conservative government has established an advisory committee to provide recommendations on how best to establish the centre of excellence in Winnipeg.

Ewasko noted that curling is a social and inclusive sport - open to all ages and abilities, ideal for the participation of families and entire communities, and adaptable to those with physical disabilities. He also pointed out the game's health benefits in cardiovascular activity, balance and hand-eye co-ordination.

In addition to Ewasko, the PC Manitoba Caucus has accomplished curlers in Premier Brian Pallister and Crown Services Minister Cliff Cullen. Pallister won the Manitoba mixed championship as a skip in 2000, and Cullen won the Manitoba firefighters curling championship 10 times.

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