



MEDIA RELEASE

World's Oldest Basketball Court Project Announces \$1.7 Million in Fundraising Commitments at The Archie Celebrations

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Stephen, New Brunswick —The totals are in and organizers of last week's *The Archie* are thrilled to announce they have raised more than \$1.7 million in the days leading up to the three-day event. The Archie fundraiser included a celebrity golf tournament at the Algonquin Golf Course in St. Andrews. Organizers also welcomed Canada Basketball as they hosted their 2026 Basketball Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony in St. Stephen, just steps away from the building that houses the World's Oldest Basketball Court. It was the first time in history the ceremony has been held east of Toronto.

"We surprised attendees at the Hall of Fame ceremony by announcing two very generous gifts that will advance the development of the court project," said David Ganong, board member and advocate for the World's Oldest Basketball Court project. "Frank McKenna and Bob Quartermain are each donating \$250,000 with the objective of encouraging others to donate as well. In addition, New Brunswick Premier Susan Holt announced a provincial contribution of \$431,000 which is being matched by the federal government. We have a further commitment of more than \$200,000 from other donors bringing us to a total of more than \$1.7 million raised in the month of August alone."

The funding will be used for the next round of engineering and design work for the project which is expected to begin this fall.

"We have picked up an incredible amount of momentum in the last few weeks and couldn't be more thrilled," said Ganong. "After years of advocacy and hard work by a dedicated team of volunteers, the World's Oldest Basketball Court project is coming to fruition. Canada Basketball

will be returning in 2028 for their next Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, and we can only imagine what will happen in the next two years. The excitement in St. Stephen and beyond is palpable.”

Located in a former YMCA building in the heart of downtown St. Stephen, the World’s Oldest Basketball Court is the oldest known existing basketball court in the world. Funds raised will help to turn the building that houses the court into an exceptional \$18-million basketball experience centre and national attraction.

Background

The World’s Oldest Basketball Court was first used on October 17, 1893, when Lyman Archibald introduced the game to St. Stephen. Funding for the \$18-million restoration project is being proposed from private, provincial and federal contributions. Currently the World’s Oldest Basketball Court Fundraising Committee has raised more than \$3-million of their \$6-million goal from private donations.

For more information on the World’s Oldest Basketball Court Project, please visit:

www.worldsoldestbasketballcourt.com.

Photography available on request.

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Media Inquiries:

Holly Johnson

Holly Johnson Media and Public Relations

St. Stephen, New Brunswick

hollyjohnsonpr@gmail.com

(506)921-0280