Why an arena first?

The West Coast Multiplex Society remains fully committed to building an arena AND pool on the West Coast. We firmly believe that a phased approach, with the arena coming first, presents the best chance to bring both of these incredible amenities to our communities.

In early 2012, it was determined that the Multiplex project was too costly to achieve all at once, so the project was divided into phases. Building an arena in phase 1 and a pool in phase 2 is the best course of action to ensure completion of both.

So why the arena first?

**Savings on initial construction costs** – In order to freeze a large sheet of ice, a significant amount of heat must be pulled from the ice. This heat is often wasted but it can also be harnessed to heat the pool and buildings. A pool built in phase 1 would be heated separately with its own equipment and additional equipment would then be needed for the ice increasing the overall cost to build the facility.

**Significant ongoing energy cost savings** – An arena built in phase 1 will be able to use runoff heat for the pool and eliminate a significant propane expense that would be ongoing for the entire lifespan of the facility.
Why an arena first?

**Utilizing the energy produced from cooling the ice to heat the pool** will make the facility far more environmentally friendly which will provide increased access to additional green-initiative funding opportunities and may make it easier to attract funding for later phases. Examples of other arenas that utilize this technology are Juan De Fuca, Port McNeill, and Houston to name just a few.

**An arena has many potential uses from the outset** which leads to additional revenue streams for the facility. Less costly to run initially (pools generally run with a $500,000 deficit per year) this additional revenue will be a direct benefit to the taxpayers, keeping operating costs lower and less dependent on tax revenue.

**Many of the additional uses that an arena will provide**, such as an indoor venue for community gatherings like cultural events, art shows, conferences, etc. will be available for community use from the outset.

**The Multiplex will be located on high ground** and with the installation of the dry floor over the ice, can be available for use as an emergency centre or gathering place when needed.

*This phased approach is a proven model that has worked for the construction of many other Multiplex facilities (Whistler and Vanderhoof for example)*

More information can be found on our website [westcoastmultiplex.org](http://westcoastmultiplex.org)
Or follow us on Facebook [facebook.com/WestCoastMulti](http://facebook.com/WestCoastMulti)