## WINNIPEG ENTERPRISES CORPORATION



As Chairman of the Board of Winnipeg Enterprises Corporation (WEC) it is my pleasure to highlight the events, accomplishments and challenges of our fiscal year ending May 31, 2002. During this time, over 725,000 patrons enjoyed a range of quality entertainment and professional sports at the Winnipeg Arena and Canad Inns Stadium.

This year's highlight was the challenge of delivering on our mandate to improve our financial support and assistance to the Winnipeg Football Club and the Manitoba Moose. Arrangements with these tenants resulted in payments to them of over \$1.4 million. We maintained solid relationships with these prime tenants, enhanced the properties in our care, provided entertainment despite the impact of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, and continued our support of amateur sport.

New lease arrangements with the Winnipeg Football Club helped them realize improved access to revenues. WEC also made payments to the Football Club as part of the Stakeholders Agreement. This was our share of a collective plan to stabilize the operation of the Football Club, and with the Province and key Bomber supporters, help the Club build their long-term future.

We worked closely with The Manitoba Moose Hockey Club to improve their access to revenues, a goal we achieved through new rental arrangements.

This relationship with the Manitoba Moose and the Winnipeg Football Club remains a priority. We continue to work closely with them in the development of a transition plan as the True North Sports and Entertainment Center takes shape.

Improvements to the Winnipeg Arena this year included upgrades to the scoreclock valued at over \$100,000, and the installation of safety netting and higher hockey glass. These and other arena assets have the potential to be transferred at fair market value to the new True North Sports and Entertainment Centre.

The Winnipeg Arena hosted numerous ice rentals, Christmas parties and events like the Great Skate Date & Donate, offering children and adults the unforgettable experience of skating on the "Big Ice."

Over 25 amateur events took place at the Winnipeg Arena. We supported the Winnipeg High School Hockey program by sponsoring their play-offs and Annual Rookie Tournament. As in past years, we were pleased to accommodate the Brandon Wheat Kings with a temporary home for their play-off games.

The Winnipeg Arena has also proven to be a popular location for filming movies, with our most recent experience being the ESPN film, "A Season on the Brink."

Canad Inns Stadium saw a lot of action this year as home to the CFL Winnipeg Blue Bombers. During the regular season, the stadium played host to the Bombers winning efforts for the Eastern Final game, which took them to the Grey Cup. The stadium also hosted a variety of amateur sporting events, including the Manitoba Bisons' three play-off games on their quest for the Vanier Cup, and the spectacular Opening Ceremonies of the North America Indigenous Games.

Our support of amateur sports focused on the talents of up-and-coming young athletes and dedicated organizers. Approximately 20 amateur events were hosted this season at Canad Inns Stadium, giving young participants the opportunity to experience the thrill of stadium competition first hand. This included the annual Red Feather High School Football Tournament, High School Football regular season and play-off games, Touch Football, and the Winnipeg High School Senior Bowl.

WEC continued to improve the Select-A-Seat ticketing service by expanding our field of ticketing distribution to accommodate on-line Internet sales, offering increased access and convenience to patrons and clients.

Despite the entertainment industry downturn in the aftermath of Sept. 11, 2001, we played host to a large variety of events. Concerts in this fiscal period included Psykoblast, Pantera, Guess Who, Barenaked Ladies, Alabama, Merle Haggard, Nickelback, Lonestar, and Ozzy Osbourne. Visitors were delighted by the ever popular Lipizzaner Stallions, Old Timers Hockey Challenge, WWE Wrestling, Sesame Street Live, Shrine Circus, Military Tattoo, Stars on Ice, Disney on Ice, and Manitoba Moose Sports Carnival. Winnipeg also welcomed the Josee Chouinard Farewell Tour, Outlaws of Motor Sports, Promise Keepers, and the National Police Dog Championships.

WEC Board, management and staff remain committed to providing Manitobans with a wide variety of world-class entertainment. Recent events such as Cher and Neil Diamond, and the upcoming tennis exhibition featuring Anna Kournikova and Monica Seles exemplify our mandate of providing a full array of the best entertainment available. We look forward to hosting the Ford World Curling Championships in the spring of 2003, and to a new turf in Canad Inn Stadium to better showcase the Bombers in their 2003 season.

The governing body of the Corporation is made up of a volunteer Board of Directors who are appointed by the City Of Winnipeg or elected by the Board. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I am pleased to present our audited statement of financial position and accompanying notes as at May 31, 2002, and management's un-audited statement of operations and changes in unrestricted net assets for the year then ended.

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Kathy Gaudry, Chairman Board of Directors

## 2001/2002 WINNIPEG ENTERPRISES CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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