

After more than a few years of patient waiting, planning and fundraising, shovels will finally hit the dirt for a new community centre in Breton.

Today's, August 2, 2019 sod turning ceremony, held on location, marks a great leap forward for the community centre project that has held Breton's attention for so long.

Breton Mayor Ivan Bohning and Brazeau County Reeve Bart Guyon joined by fellow Councillors Heidi Swan, Patricia Simpson, Lynn Pritchard, Anthony Heinrichs, Kimberly Plaquin and Janet Young, placed their shovels in the dirt, signifying the official start of construction.

To date \$3.5 million dollars has been raised through fundraising and contributions, two thirds of the funding received is a contribution from Brazeau County in the amount of 2.4 million dollars.

The construction of the new community centre will be undertaken by Binder Construction Ltd. at a cost of \$3,048,742.00. Ground work and utility installation will begin in the next week or two, and building construction will follow shortly after that.

Initially, the village tendered the community centre construction in late May. The village received three bid responses, all of the bids exceeded the proposed budget for the building. A&E Architects and Engineers handled the bid process and proposed a selection of cost reduction options for consideration that would not affect the size or inside design of the building and suggested that those options be incorporated into the project and that they be permitted to approach the low bidder, Binder Construction Ltd. To work with them to reduce the cost of construction to within a budget that the village could accept. On July 29, 2019 the village received a revised bid price from Binder Construction Ltd. in the amount of \$3,048,742.00. Council agreed to accept the revised bid and the decision to proceed to construction was approved.

We understand that this project will continue to be a labour of love and we will continue our efforts to raise funding as the construction of the building does not include amenities such as stage curtains and office furniture.

In closing the Village of Breton is thankful and sincerely grateful to everyone who contributed to this project.