

## Speaking points

### **What is FrancoSud (Southern Francophone School Board No. 4)?**

FrancoSud is one of the 4 publicly funded Alberta Francophone School Boards with a total enrolment of 7,000 students Province wide. FrancoSud operates the Francophone schools in Airdrie, Brooks, Calgary (6 schools), Canmore, Cochrane, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat and Okotoks with a total enrolment of 2,800 students.

### **Why does FrancoSud have title to a portion of the Scenic Acres site?**

Municipalities are required, under the Municipal Government Act, to provide serviced school sites on which public schools are built. About 10 years ago, the Calgary Board of Education (CBE) and Calgary Separate School District (CSSD) declared 12 of their allocated sites as surplus school sites and returned them to the City. The City then offered the Francophone Board the opportunity to select 4 of these surplus school sites, preferably one in each quadrant of the City, for future school sites. In November 2011, a City Council decision endorsed the Joint Use Agreement between the City and the Francophone board and the agreement included the allocation of these 4 sites to the Francophone Board. In February 2012, Mayor Nenshi officially signed the agreement.

### **Why was the Scenic Acres site selected?**

Currently, the Francophone Board operates an elementary school, *Terre des Jeunes*, in Varsity. This school is overcrowded, despite the recent addition of 5 modulars. The Scenic Acres site was the most appropriate location for an additional elementary school in the northwest. The location of this school will assist in reducing bus time for students coming from the far northwest.

### **Will the Community residents maintain recreational opportunities on the site?**

The Francophone Board wants the site to retain as much green space and recreational opportunities as possible, and it's the Boards intent that during the planning stage every consideration will be given to minimizing the impact to the sport fields.

### **Will the community have an opportunity for input?**

As part of the design phase process, there will be opportunity for residents input into the school design and placement, and the School Board welcomes this participation and involvement by the Community.

### **Will the community have access to the new school's gymnasium?**

As part of the Joint Use Agreement with the City, the gym and school site will be accessible for use by the residents through the Recreation department of the City.

### **Are there other available school sites in the NW?**

The Francophone Board has made inquiries to the City, the CBE and CSSD, and no other appropriate school sites are presently available for use by the Francophone School Board.