

Dear Parents,

**A Riddle:** What is big, cold, and plays a huge role in the determination of our budget? If you said Jeff Solheim, shame on you. If you said the Bemidji Community Arena (BCA), you would be absolutely correct. Out of BYHA's annual budget of \$275,000, **\$75,000** (27%) goes directly towards paying the debt that was necessary to get the building constructed. Just think what it would be like if that payment was removed from our budget! Why am I bringing this up?

The BCA "Completion Campaign" is underway and to those who are giving currently or have given in the past, THANK YOU!! Can you imagine what our fees would be next year if we accomplished our goal? How does \$50 for Mites and \$300 for 10U girl's sound? How about a \$100 fundraising obligation instead of \$300? Goodbye calendars! Does all of this sound good? Great? Fantastic?

The attached press release outlines the most recent generous contribution. The gifts that this community and our membership continue to bestow on Bemidji Youth Hockey amaze me however, it is has not been without a sustained and dedicated effort. While we are grateful to ALL of the past and current contributors to this project, this latest contribution allows me to say, with utmost certainty that **WE HAVE NEVER BEEN CLOSER TO COMPLETING THE BCA AND ELIMINATING OUR DEBT!!!!!!!!!!**

We can only complete this with your help. We need help with; potential donors list, soliciting funds, marketing and promotion aid, and an open mind toward a personal contribution. Every effort, large or small, gets us closer to our goal. We can do this!!

Through this effort, our goal is only **\$300,000**. When we achieve this goal, it will allow BYHA to complete the BCA to game ready capabilities with groundbreaking in the spring of 2008, and will allow us to retire our debt. We can do this!!

As hockey parents, we want our kids to do their very best and have fun. I challenge you to ask yourself if you are doing your very best to positively impact OUR program. Yes, it is OUR program as it is OUR arena. Finishing this arena will hugely benefit our program for decades to come.

It is and will always be a community arena. When the BCA is completed next fall, you can proudly say to friends, visitors, and relatives, WE built that rink. The COMMUNITY built that rink. I built that rink! I can say it, how about you? Let's get it done!

Respectfully,

Jeff Solheim  
BCA Capital Campaign Quarterback