



YMCA

We build strong kids,
strong families, strong communities.

For Immediate Release

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YMCA receives \$486,846 from government for new Youth Energy Zone

Sarnia, ON – The YMCA of Sarnia-Lambton will benefit from government funding of \$486,846 to support a new Youth Energy Zone, an ‘*exer-gaming* centre’ that will contain the latest in interactive fitness and video gaming equipment for children and youth. The YMCA Youth Energy Zone, which will be built within the existing Jerry McCaw Family Centre on Finch Drive, is part of a project that will also see the YMCA improve the facility’s energy efficiency and water treatment system for the pool.

Two-thirds of the funds for the Youth Energy Zone and renovations come from the Federal and Provincial government’s Recreation Infrastructure Canada program (RinC). The entire project is budgeted at @ \$750,000 and scheduled to be completed by Christmas 2009.

“The YMCA is grateful to the government for demonstrating their commitment to our community with a focus on youth”, said Jim Janzen, CEO, YMCA of Sarnia-Lambton and Chatham-Kent. Janzen regards the Youth Energy Zone as a direct response to the issue of childhood obesity in the community. “The Youth Energy Zone takes the same technology often associated with the sedentary lifestyle of today’s youth, and uses the equipment to motivate children and youth to be physically active through participation in video gaming equipment requiring activity to make it work”, said Janzen. “Through the YMCA Youth Energy Zone, we’re able to provide local kids with an interactive and fun way to be physically active.”

About the YMCA

The YMCA is a charity that, for over 150 years, has been committed to improving the lives of children, youth and families in our communities by providing safe places, caring and trained staff, and programs that teach life skills. The YMCA is dedicated to helping people attain a healthy lifestyle and encouraging them to get involved in making their community a better place.

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For further information, please contact:

Jim Janzen
CEO

YMCA of Sarnia-Lambton and Chatham-Kent
519-336-9622 x224