



Sanatan Mandir Cultural Society of Fort McMurray

Lokaa Samastha Sukhino Bhavanthu - Let the whole world live in peace

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www.FortMcMurrayMandir.com

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Dhanyatmans,

We are extremely happy to bring out this Sanatan Mandir Update.

As communicated earlier, a Public Meeting was held on May 16th at Father Mercredi School. The attendance was moderate; Many of the attendees were for the first time, which itself was encouraging.

The salient points of the agenda and discussions were as follows:

1. Registration for Charitable Status

The registration for Charitable status is pending with Revenue Canada and the Service Alberta. The Service Alberta registration may come out in a month's time whereas CRA may take 4-6 months. We are yet to get any feedback from CRA.

2. Membership and Fundraising

- Currently there are around 180 registered Life Members and the Pledge total is more than \$317K.
- The list of L/M with Pledge total is attached along with a blank Pledge form, if anybody wants to use it.
- The Email subscription with FMMandir has reached only 360 names.
- We need to ensure that Mandir messages are reaching all families of our community.
- Members are requested to enroll friends and relatives in our Mandir database.

3. Mandir Website

- Mandir website www.FortMcMurrayMandir.com is slowly being developed.
- Please contribute creatively to improve the content. Any suggestions are always welcome.
- Currently, one of our volunteer is managing the website without any cost.

4. Land Option Survey.

- All four options of Land were explained and discussed in detail
- Abraham's Land (west of Real Martin Drive) was not presented in the matrix as there is little possibility of getting the land.
- As mentioned in the matrix, Options III & IV are not available immediately, but might be a possibility after couple of years.
- Option II – eventhough the land area is more than 5Acres, there are restrictions (due to sliding hills); not more than 2.5Ac will be allowed to develop. The concrete retaining wall against the hill and the car parking arrangement against the steep hillside may push up the cost further.
- Option I – Development cost could be less than \$350K as we may be able to start modular type Mandir with half Acre of developed land.



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Also, there is a potential opportunity of price appreciation after few years when the whole area is developed.

- The current voting feedback on various option is attached.
- Members, who have not yet voted, are requested to submit their opinion through the attached link:
- The Public meeting also authorized the committee to pursue the options more vigorously so that a final decision could be taken at the next meeting.

5. Pillar Patron Drive

- The 30 day Pillar Patron Drive proved a grand success!
- Fort McMurray Lakshmi Devi is waiting for one more blessed soul to join the 'Super 20 LORD's Team'
- It was a quite surprise to the whole community that so many new faces came up voluntarily;
- It brought a feeling of togetherness. It also boosted the Executive Committee's morale that there are plenty of dedicated and devoted members behind us for the cause of Mandir !
- The Committee is working on further details and the required paper work. The details will be issued through separate communication / reminders.

6. Phased Mandir Construction

It was pointed out at the meeting that the phased construction plan should be brought to the public notice, once again. As it stands, the plan will be as follows:

- ❖ Phase I – Land Acquisition (~ \$350-400K)
- ❖ Phase II – Land Development & Module Bldg for Mandir (~ \$350-400K)
- ❖ Phase III – Mandir & Cultural Centre Construction (5000Sq.ft; ~\$600K)

Depending on Fund raising, credit availability and the cost of Land/Development etc. timing for Phase I&II could be 1-2 years.

[Land Option Score Card](#)

If by any chance, the above link is not working, cut and paste the following into your browser and 'Enter'.

(<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/33BMRFS>)

(the Matrix is available in the [Mandir](#) website)

As we mentioned in the last Update, **if GOD's willing, we will perform Bhumi Pooja on our site by 2010 July end !**

May, the Lord Krishna bless all of you;
With love,

Executive Committee -Sanatan Mandir