

NEWS AND KNOWLEDGE FROM



BUILDING UP

ISSUE 2 | 2024 | VOLUME 1



SOUTHDALE FITNESS CENTRE

SOUTHDALE
FITNESS CENTRE

NORTH END
WELLNESS CENTRE

BIRDS HILL SHOWER
& WASHROOM FACILITY

ASPER JCC
EARLY LEARNING CENTRE

Westland Construction TAKES A TEAM APPROACH to community-based facilities



MIKE WHALEN

If the upcoming summer season has you hitting the gym, taking up a new sport, or planning a few trips to the park, you know just how important community-based facilities are to keeping you active, connected, and involved. Washroom facilities at the beach are essential, community centres are the hot spot for celebrating, gathering, and meeting together, and new and updated recreational buildings and childcare centres provide a place for both you and your children to play.

If you're looking for the hub of activity in your neighbourhood, just go to the nearest community-based building. Chances are you'll also see Westland Construction's contributions. Over the last 45 years, the general contractor has tackled important community-based construction projects.

As construction manager on the ambitious Upper Fort Garry Provincial Park project and general contractor on the Bird's Hill Park shower and washroom facility to constructing full-scale recreation and fitness facilities, like Good Life Fitness on Regent Avenue and North End Wellness Centre (known today as Win Garner Place), Westland has had a pivotal role in building community.

At Win Gardner Place, several organizations work together for community wellness, including the YMCA-YWCA of Winnipeg, an organization Westland has partnered with on numerous construction projects, both large and small.

"Being a community organization like we are, we have heavily used facilities," explains Mike Whalen, Vice President Asset Management, Capital & Camping, YMCA-YWCA of Winnipeg. "And we always have to adapt our facilities to the changing needs of the community. The communities that we have today might not fit the buildings that we created 25 or 30 years ago. So, we always need to reinvest in our buildings to meet the needs of the community."

That could mean building an entirely new recreational facility, adding a small play structure or food service area to an existing building, or refreshing multiple YMCA-YWCA of Winnipeg childcare facilities, each with varying scopes of architectural, mechanical, and electrical work.

"We have to maintain operations," Whalen says. "We don't have the ability to fully shut down during operations.

It's essential for us to be able to find partners that are able to work with us in a way that we can maintain our facilities operations during construction. And that can always be a challenge."

Gary Gallaher is no stranger to being in the starting lineup for Westland as superintendent on various community-related projects, including those at the YMCA-YWCA of Winnipeg, and understands the unique circumstances of working on a project that is also open for business.

"When we're working at the YMCA-YWCA, there's a lot of eyes on you at all times, whether it's the public, like children, or people just going to work out," he shares. "You're interacting with those people every day and people are obviously curious and asking questions. So, it's trying to work with that the best you can."

With construction taking place alongside existing and operating facilities, safety measures and adhering to systems are of greatest importance. A trailblazer in construction safety, Westland has been COR certified since 2004.

"We've got an excellent safety record," Peter Grose, CEO and President of Westland Construction, explains. "Making sure that everyone comes to work safe and goes home safe has always been a top priority for us."

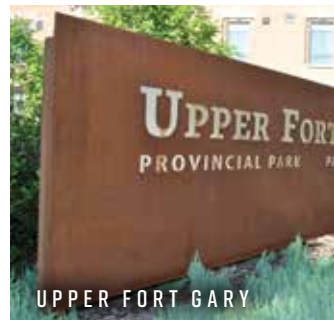
"The safety certification gives us the confidence to know that these guys put the time into their employees and safety is the utmost concern to them," Whalen says.

Westland's capability to work safely alongside the public, as well as with their partners - both the client and the design team, is something that Whalen says gives the contractor a lead over the competition.

"The biggest thing about working with Westland that I particularly enjoy is their ability to work with the architects and the owner," Whalen details. "I've been partners with other contractors, other architects, firms, but being able to work in an environment where everybody is really trying to help people is not something we always come across in a partner. And I use the word partner because it does feel like everyone is working together. And they are working for me and my client and my members, to make sure that things get done in a way that doesn't disturb them. It truly is a collaborative approach, which I've always appreciated."



GOODLIFE FITNESS



UPPER FORT GARY



NEWC COLUMNS



SOUTHDALE FITNESS CEN



THE GROSE REPORT

THOUGHTS FROM WESTLAND'S CEO



Community is at the cornerstone of Westland Construction. We build community. We support community. And we provide community.

We build community: Over the last four and half decades, Westland Construction has had the opportunity to make our mark on many thriving communities in Winnipeg and rural Manitoba. We are proud to have had a hand in resurrecting the history of Upper Fort Garry Provincial Park in downtown Winnipeg. As construction manager, Westland transformed the city's 100 Main Street site into an interactive green space honouring the iconic fort, its people, and its legacy.

Across the street, Westland partnered with The Forks to fulfill projects of varying sizes at Winnipeg's most-loved meeting place, including converting the 10,000-sq.-ft. Travel Manitoba Visitor Information Centre into a hybrid of modern office space and a state-of-the-art interactive visitor information hub, adding new eating establishments in The Forks Market, installing art pieces, and updating gathering spaces.

And then there are community centres and childcare centres - facilities like Win Gardner Place and TransCanada Centre in Île des Chênes that provide areas for playing, celebrating, and congregating. As a construction company, it's a privilege to see the complete life cycle of a project, especially a community-based project that we'll see the public benefit from for years to come.

We support community: At Westland Construction, it is our privilege to make a difference not only by delivering quality projects to our clients, but by contributing to worthwhile causes in the community. Often these contributions are for our community-based clients, and we appreciate the reciprocal nature that this provides. Whether it's providing funds for charities such as Ronald McDonald House Charities, YMCA-YWCA, ongoing support to Riverwood House, or sponsoring a community event or sports team, we are committed to supporting our community and beyond. Last year alone we provided in excess of \$95,000.00 of community support!

We provide community: We also provide our own community here at Westland Construction. We pride ourselves on developing a team approach to everything we do - both on and off the job site - that makes for a more collaborative, positive, and engaging work environment. And we have fun! From company events like our annual golf tournament, to tobogganing, curling, bowling outings, and picnics, we build a strong sense of community within our company that goes a long way towards everybody's wellbeing. In addition to regular activities, we've recently established an additional spending account to our health benefits program that provides extra support for our staff to use for health and wellness, such as gym memberships or additional healthcare services.

Finally, we highlight our staff, our functions, our projects, and our memories in our annual staff yearbook. It's not only a way to look back and see what we accomplished and remember the people and good times, but it's a physical representation of the community we've built here at Westland Construction.

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Grose agrees, adding that collaboration creates trust amongst the team. "I would say that the care factor along with the trust factor are probably top tier when we're working with organizations on community-based projects."

The teamwork with YMCA-YWCA of Winnipeg, and other community-based project partners have resulted in parks, playgrounds, and plenty of mixed-use buildings featuring basketball courts and social halls - the heart of community activity.

"It's neat seeing people using the space," Gallaher says. "The last [project] I did at the YMCA-YWCA was a play structure. I went by that location a couple of months ago and I saw it in full use which I haven't seen since I turned over the keys. It's great to see the area being used and people enjoying it."

In addition to literally building community, Westland contributes financially to the organizations that use the facilities they build, including YMCA-YWCA of Winnipeg initiatives.

"They've been very good in supporting us as a charity by providing funding for some of our projects, which is very, very kind," shares Whalen. "And I know most recently, Westland also provided a donation to help with our current Strong Kids campaign, giving children an opportunity to get memberships who wouldn't otherwise afford it. They've always supported a lot of community initiative programs that we put in place."

Next on the schedule is the Southdale Community Centre project, which includes a renovation to the existing building space and construction of a new building addition. Westland will oversee the scope of work, which includes architectural, landscape, civil, mechanical, and electrical, as well as commissioning and energy performance verification. Once complete, the community will enjoy expanded activity space and services.

"I think people appreciate it when they know that you're part of building the community, so to speak," Grose says. "I really enjoy that aspect of it - to be able to be part of the visual community. To see people at The Forks utilizing the space or at a community centre having a wedding, to be part of our society is really quite cool. Community spaces and public spaces are being used and enjoyed by everybody."



GARY GALLAHER



Gary Gallaher is building a career at Westland Construction.

Twelve years ago, Gallaher joined the general contracting company as a labourer and he's been learning, growing, and advancing ever since.

"I started as a labourer and then I got rolled into my level one," Gallaher says, explaining that Westland supported him as he went through his carpentry apprenticeship. "Every year I would take another level until I [achieved] my journeyman ticket. I worked for about a year as a journeyman and then they asked me if

I wanted to look after a smaller job, which I did. And then the jobs just kept coming and getting bigger and now I'm running larger projects."

As a superintendent, Gallaher sets the tone on the job sites, meets with his team and trades, manages project timelines, and ensures the project is running smoothly. When it's not, he's always game to tackle the issue.

"I love problem solving," he shares. "Every day something new comes up. Drawings can never be perfect or site conditions or sometimes you uncover something that you never would have thought would have been there."

Most recently, Gallaher and his project team completed a silver production line project at the Royal Canadian Mint - a highlight in his Westland career for its intricacies and intent. While some Westland staff members focus on projects in specific sectors such as hospitals or institutions, Gallaher has worked on a variety of projects, including community-based facilities and updates.

"I always develop pretty good relationships with whatever clients we have. I'm pretty easygoing," he says, explaining that a good experience and strong relationships lead to repeat customers. "If they're happy with us, then they're obviously going to call us back and want to do future projects with us."

Next up for Gallaher is captaining the Southdale Community Centre project at 254 Lakewood Boulevard in Winnipeg. As superintendent on the project, Gallaher will oversee and facilitate the renovation of the existing building space and construction of a new building addition which will feature a dryland training centre, a shower and change room area, and meeting spaces.

As a father of two young children - Wells and Mia - and partner to Brittany, Gallaher is excited to put his skills and energy into contributing to a community-based facility that will benefit children and families in the Southdale area, as well as others who compete and play at the updated space.

"My kids are in a lot of sports - soccer, hockey, gymnastics, dance, all sorts of things. Baseball now," he shares. "So, most of my time is doing stuff like that. And we enjoy camping and travelling. During the summer months, we usually do a week or two of camping. And once a year, we'll go [on a trip] somewhere." 📍

YESTERDAY, TODAY & TOMORROW

YESTERDAY

Ile de Chenes Community Centre

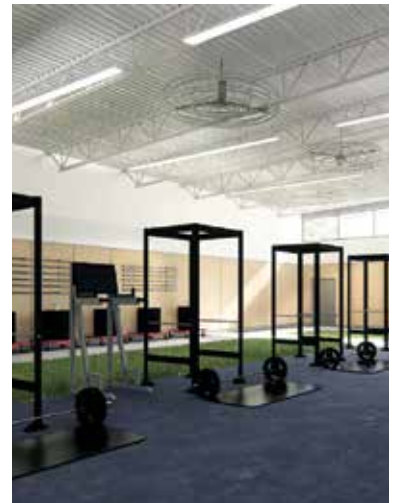
Working as Construction Manager, Westland constructed the new 18,000 sq. ft. LEED certified community centre in 2011. The new facility acts as hub for the community inclusive of a social hall community kitchen and daycare.



TODAY

Southdale Community Centre

Westland has just begun this 8,300 sq. ft. project as General Contractor to provide and addition to the existing community centre as well as some interior renovations within the existing space. The project is focused on expanding the north-west corner of the building to develop a new indoor, dryland training centre, a shower/change room area, and supportive meeting space.



TOMORROW

YMCA - YWCA Daycare Renovations

Awarded as General Contractor through another hard-bid opportunity, Westland will be renovating multiple occupied daycare spaces within the Fermor, Downtown and Portage West locations. Renovations are mainly architectural in nature but also include Electrical and Mechanical scopes of work. 📍



ABOUT US

Westland Construction Ltd. is a full-service General Contractor serving the institutional, commercial, and industrial sectors through new construction, civil support, and renovations.

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