
FOUND MONEY

Recently Manitoba Public Insurance announced a 45% rebate on Autopac Premiums paid by vehicle owners in 2009. The rebate was the result of a Public Utilities Board Order and will provide many people in our area with a significant cash bonus in about a month.

The Russell and District Multiplex Campaign Committee would ask all those who are receiving a MPI rebate to consider contributing a portion of the funds they receive to the Multiplex project and here is why:

1) Rebate is “found” money

Up until a couple of weeks ago few, if any, of us knew about the potential rebate. As a result the Autopac refund truly is found money for many of us. The Committee understands that when it comes to money most of us have a much greater demand than supply. What the Campaign would ask however is that everyone consider contributing 50% of the MPI rebate as a donation to the Multiplex. It is a chance to be part of once in lifetime project that will be part of our community for generations to come and to have a little cash in your jeans.

2) Individual will still benefit

By taking a percentage of the rebate and donating personally to the Multiplex project through the Living Legacy Community Foundation a person will receive a tax deductible receipt and receive a tax break for the 2011 taxation year. The average rebate is estimated to be about \$450 and if the recipient was to donate 50% or \$225 of the rebate to the Multiplex that person would obtain a tax receipt that could save them about \$100 off their personal income tax when they file next year.

3) Win/Win Scenario

The donation of a portion of the upcoming MPI rebate by local residents will truly be a win/win scenario for everyone. The Multiplex Campaign would obviously benefit from a donation to the facility and the total amount available could be significant. If we assume that there are about 1000 registered vehicles in our area and the average rebate is \$450 then the potential exists to raise over \$200,000 for the project, a significant amount. In fact, donations to that level will help to reduce the need for local tax dollars to complete the project.

In addition the individual donating would benefit by using found money from the MPI rebate and supporting a major community initiative. The person would still keep a

portion of the original rebate amount and then receive an additional benefit next year when they file their income tax return. In fact between keeping 50% of the original rebate and the tax refund most people will be able to retain around 75% of the original amount supplied from Autopac.

The Autopac rebate has provided local residents with a unique opportunity. So when you get your MPI rebate cheque plan to spend a little on the things you need or want but also, please consider a donation to a worthwhile project, the Russell Regional Multiplex.

For further information on the progress of the Russell Regional Multiplex please visit the Town of Russell website at www.russellmb.com . If you have any questions or comments regarding the facility please don't hesitate to contact a member of the Multiplex Funding Campaign Committee. The Committee members are Chris Radford, Bruce Christopher, Alan Stanchuk, Symantha Dunn, Keith Popp, Eldon Montgomery, Gerald Keating and Terry Rolfe.