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McCall's Ponderosa Center Reaches Key Fundraising Milestone to Acquire Lakefront Building Site

McCALL, ID (Tuesday, May 9, 2023) – The vision for a lakefront performing arts and community center in McCall is one crucial step closer to reality. The non-profit Ponderosa Center has secured enough privately donated funds to acquire the .83 acre land parcel where the 29,800 square foot structure will be built.

The current owners of the land, the Carey family of McCall, are benefactors of the Ponderosa Center and are excited to see the project take this important leap forward.

"We have owned this property for nearly 30 years and have always debated its best use. We wanted it to be something that could be enjoyed by everyone in our community, but struggled to define what that could be," says David Carey. "When we were approached by the Ponderosa Center years ago, it became clear to the family that this could be the ideal use. A beautiful building for so many folks to enjoy year-round, downtown and looking at Payette Lake. Not sure what could be better than that."

"This project would not be possible without the ongoing generosity of the Carey family, both in this beautiful piece of land, and in the gift of time to raise the funds needed," says Ponderosa Center President, Chet Wood. "It has been a true community effort to bring us to this point. From public input on the design and function of the center to the private donations – both large and small."

The group's plan is to build a multi-level, multi-functional facility beside McCall's lakefront Legacy Park. The 29,800 square foot building will feature unparalleled views of Payette Lake and have many features of a traditional Performing Arts Center, but its flexible design will also allow it to be used for classes, community and school events and conventions.

The center was designed with the input of the public and key community partners like the [McCall Music Society](#). The center will also be home to the [McCall Ski Heritage Foundation's](#) exhibits.

To learn more about the Ponderosa Center vision, visit www.ponderosacenter.org.