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# Frequently Asked Questions About the Lakeland YMCA

## 1. Is there going to be a YMCA in the Lakeland area?

Answer: At this time, it cannot be definitively answered. A Steering Committee has been established and is currently exploring the possibility of starting a new YMCA in association with the YMCA of the Northwoods, which currently operates branches in Rhinelander and Park Falls.

## 2. Where will the new YMCA be in the Lakeland area?

Answer: The proposed YMCA will be located at the Lakeland Fitness & Golf site, 669 Veterans Pkwy, Woodruff, WI 54568.

## 3. What facilities will be in the newly proposed YMCA?

Answer: The specific facilities cannot be determined until the feasibility of conducting a fundraising campaign is evaluated. However, since the new YMCA will be located at the Lakeland Fitness & Golf facility, it will initially include all the facilities currently available at the Lakeland Fitness & Golf Center. (add LF&G link here) Additionally, depending on the success of fundraising and donations, potential building additions could include a gymnasium, an indoor turf area, a pool, additional locker rooms, childcare services for participants, youth development spaces, teen spaces, older adult programs through Generations (add link to Generations here), and outdoor space for youth sports and youth day camp.

## 4. When will the new Lakeland YMCA be open?

Answer: The opening date for the new YMCA cannot be determined until the fundraising Feasibility Study is completed, its results analyzed by the Steering Committee, building plans are refined, fundraising activities finalized, and a construction schedule is outlined.



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## 5. Is there a relationship between the newly proposed Lakeland YMCA and The YMCA of the Northwoods Ys in Rhinelander and Park Falls?

Answer: Yes, there will be a relationship between the newly proposed Lakeland YMCA and the YMCA of the Northwoods when the project is completed. The Lakeland YMCA will be a Branch of the YMCA of the Northwoods similar to the Beck Family YMCA in Rhinelander and the Flambeau River YMCA in Park Falls in which membership in one facility is good in all of the other Branches. In the meantime, Lakeland Fitness & Golf and the YMCAs of the Northwoods are separate entities and membership privileges are not reciprocal.

## 6. Will there be a fundraising campaign for the newly proposed Lakeland YMCA?

Answer: Yes. A YMCA is built using donated funds from contributions and grants. A fundraising campaign, with the amount to be determined, will commence following analysis of the Feasibility Study Report, which is expected in early Fall, 2026.

## 7. Can I contribute now to the newly proposed YMCA in Lakeland?

Answer: Not yet. The Lakeland YMCA Steering Committee will first complete an analysis of the Feasibility Study Report to determine the scope of the new facility and set the capital campaign goal. The Lakeland YMCA Steering Committees will communicate to the general public within the next six months the expected timeline.

## 8. Are there other partners involved in the newly proposed YMCA in Lakeland?

Answer: Yes. In addition to the YMCA of the Northwoods, Lakeland Fitness & Golf (owned by John & Shelly Weis), and Generations-Lakeland Retirement Foundation are consolidating efforts. Together, they aim to serve their existing constituents and to recruit new members and participants for the new Lakeland YMCA.



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## 9. Who are the community leaders involved in the newly proposed YMCA in Lakeland?

### Steering Coalition Partners

Co-Chair: John & Shelly Weis – Owners Lakeland Fitness & Golf Center

Co-Chair: Linda May, - CEO, Y of the Northwoods

Nancy & Matt Ritchie – Owners Ritchie Oil & Propane/Golden Karet Jewelers

Fred Hauser – YMCA Owner Representative

Pam Carroll, Executive Director, LUHS District Foundation

Ty Erickson – COA, Marshfield Clinic Health System

Trig Solberg – President, T.A. Solberg Company

Steve Allison – HYMC Therapy Manager, Aspirus Health

Tracy Petrie – Owner, Willow Creek Press

Dr. Jamie Koepp – District Administrator, Lakeland Union High School

Victor Gee, Lakeland Area Baseball Association

Judy Juries – Owner, JJ's Acres

Jon Agnew – CEO YMCA Upper Midwest Alliance

Adam Redman – President Realty Group

Abbie Cline – YMCA Mission Advancement Director

Krystal Westfahl – President Minocqua Area Visitors Bureau

Jake Weinand – Forward Band & Prior YMCA CVO

Tony Pharo, Executive Director, Oneida County Economic Development Corporation

Mike Heppe, Generations Board President

Trish Snider – Generations General Manager

Ashly Weis – Operations Manager, Lakeland Fitness

Rob Denis – Owner, Northstar Steel Fabricating & Y CVO

Brian Colianni, Retired Ford Motor Company & Generations

Randy Zoesch

Matt Steingraber –Y Leadership Advancement Director

## 10. Will the newly proposed Lakeland YMCA have all the rights and privileges provided in other U.S. YMCAs?

Answer: Yes, although YMCA facilities can vary, the newly proposed Lakeland YMCA will be a branch of the YMCA of the Northwoods, an organization in good standing with the YMCA of the USA. All YMCAs in the U.S. are autonomous with their own Board of Directors and are required to adhere to all membership standards as outlined by the YMCA of the USA.



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## 11. What would the YMCA proposal mean for Lakeland Fitness & Golf members?

Answer: all (All) current Lakeland Fitness & Golf members will have the opportunity to join the YMCA. Membership rates, program fees and membership categories may change, but no existing services will be diminished. The new Lakeland YMCA will continue to uphold the high standards of programming and customer service established by Lakeland Fitness & Golf.

## 12. How will Lakeland Fitness & Golf staff be affected?

Answer: all existing Lakeland Fitness & Golf staff will be encouraged to stay and will go on the YMCA of the Northwoods payroll. Those employees will be subject to the salary administration plan of the YMCA of the Northwoods.

## 13. How will Generations be affected by the Lakeland YMCA?

Answer: the Lakeland YMCA will become the new home of Generations. All programs and services provided at their current site will be offered at the Lakeland YMCA. Additionally, there will be a variety of new programs and services available to Generations members as result of the new on-site facilities of the YMCA.

## 14. Who should I contact about getting involved?

Answer: there will be a variety of ways to get involved with the fundraising efforts or future employment at the newly proposed Lakeland YMCA. For more information contact: Linda May, CEO, YMCA of the Northwoods. [lmay@ymcanw.org](mailto:lmay@ymcanw.org)

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