

16 July 2009

Work underway on Buller's Performing Arts Centre

Contractors Evan Jones Construction (EJC) arrived in Westport at the beginning of this week to begin work on the district's new Performing Arts Centre.

EJC, a Hokitika based company, were awarded the \$1.95 million contract in late June. Council's total budget for the project is \$2.17 million.

Over the coming 12 months, the Community Centre on Palmerston Street will be transformed from a single court/community hall into a 400 seat live performance/event venue, 52 seat cinema and 22 seat multi-use screen room. Additions will be built onto the south and east sides of the building to house new foyer space, shop, kitchen, green room, dressing rooms, piano store and backstage facilities.

"It's great to see the contractors arrive to begin work. There is a good feeling around the town about this project, most people I speak to just can't wait to have this facility finished and useable" says Mayor Pat McManus.

The Performing Arts Centre is due to be completed at the end of February 2010.

ENDS



Further information; Bruce Middleton
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Attached floor plan