

wintercity
Edmonton



Winter Excitement Guide

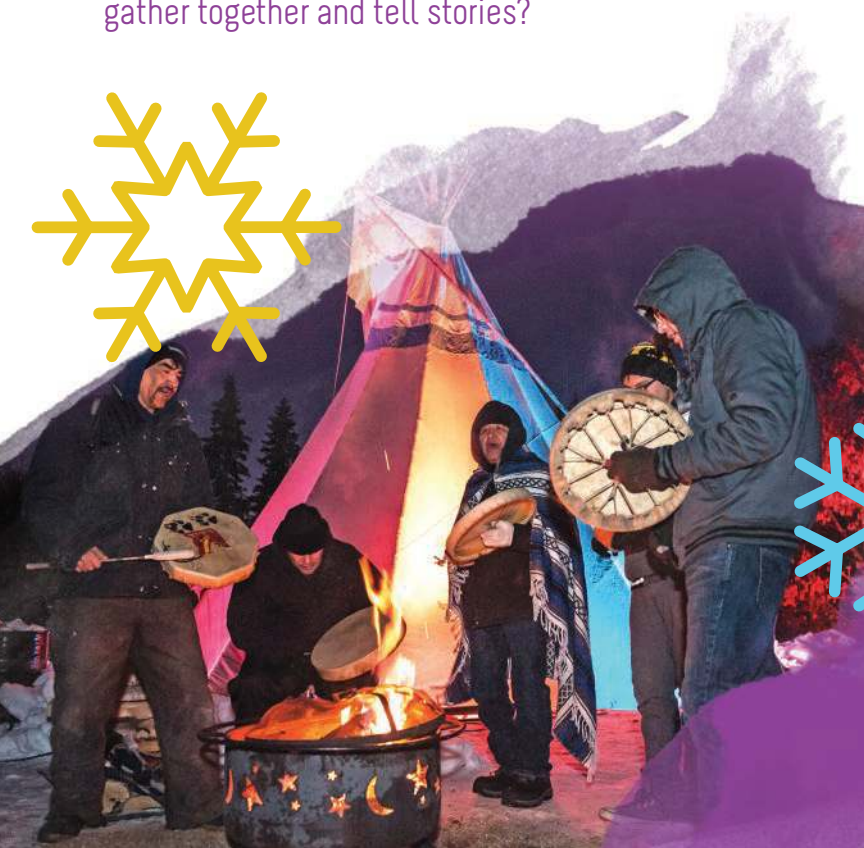


2016 / 2017

Edmonton

Welcome to Winter 2016/2017!

This will be an exciting winter as we celebrate 150 winters as a country! Of course, our Indigenous Peoples have seen many more winters in this land, and we owe some of our modern winter play to them. Did you know that the traditional webbed snowshoes were developed by our Indigenous Peoples? Or that toboggans began as a form of transportation for the Innu and Cree of northern Canada? Or even that winter was a time to gather together and tell stories?





How will you celebrate our 150 winters? Try modern snowshoes. Go tobogganing. Hear stories from the past at the Rubaboo Aboriginal Arts Festival and at the Flying Canoe Volant. Or explore other wintry traditions that have been brought to this fine country: stretch your legs with Nordic skiing, go on a Krampuslauf, try the Netherlands' favourite sport of speed skating, and celebrate Chinese New Year.

Or why not take in something very Edmonton: Candy Cane Lane, Swing 'n' Skate Sundays at City Hall, and Winterus Maximus – the world's only fat bike chariot race!

Whatever you do, get out and celebrate Canada's most famous season. And while you're at it, keep us posted on your wintry adventures on Facebook and Twitter.

Check out our blog to find out more about how Edmonton's WinterCity Strategy is helping more Edmontonians embrace the joy of winter at www.wintercityedmonton.ca



www.edmonton.ca/wintercitystrategy

 [Facebook.com/WinterCityEdmonton](https://www.facebook.com/WinterCityEdmonton)

 [#WinterCityYEG / #wintercityyeg](https://twitter.com/WinterCityYEG)

International Walk to School Week (iWALK)

Oct 3 – 7, 2016

www.shapeab.com

Join millions of walkers around the world and walk to school during this week! iWALK is part of the Active & Safe Routes to School Program. Register online.

Ski & Snowboard Swap

Oct 15 – 16, 2016

Snow Valley, www.snowvalley.ca

Bring your gently used ski and snowboard equipment on Saturday, and then drop by the sale on Sunday to pick up something new-to-you!



Edmonton Ski & Snowboard Show

Saturday, Oct 22, 2016 / 10am – 5pm

Sunday, Oct 23, 2016 / 11am – 5pm

Edmonton EXPO Centre, Hall A, www.powderfest.com

Calling all ski and snowboard bums! Come find amazing deals on gear, discover awesome destinations, and get stoked for the return of winter!

Edmonton Ski Club Winter Equipment Sale at Edmonton Ski & Snowboard Show

Oct 22 – 23, 2016

Edmonton EXPO Centre, www.edmontonskiclub.com

Find new-to-you equipment at unbeatable prices – everything from skis and snowboards to helmets and jackets at the ESC's Winter Equipment Sale!

Boo at the Zoo!

Sunday, Oct 23, 2016 / 11am – 4pm

Edmonton Valley Zoo, www.valleyzoo.ca

Get Closer, Be Not Afraid! Science experiments, crafts, extinct animal graveyard, Witch's Den – make Boo at the Zoo your Halloween tradition!





Headless Halloween

Saturday, Oct 29, 2016 / 7pm

The Carrot Community Arts Coffeehouse (9351 – 118 Ave),
www.thecarrot.ca

Trick or treat?! Prizes for best costume. Join us for fire pits, marshmallows, music, games, and more spooky fun!

Chili Cook Off

Friday, Nov 4, 2016 / 11:30am – 1:30pm

Sir Winston Churchill Square, www.edmonton.ca/RodeoWeek

Try some of the best chili prepared by chili masters from local restaurants, hotels and charity groups.

The DBA Christmas on the Square Holiday Light-Up

Saturday, Nov 12, 2016 / 4 – 7pm

Sir Winston Churchill Square, www.edmontondowntown.com

Kick off the holiday season with family entertainment, a visit from Santa, lighting of the giant X-mas Tree, and an amazing fireworks show!

MEC Snowfest

Sunday, Nov 13, 2016

Mountain Equipment Co-op (12328 – 102 Ave),
www.events.mec.ca



Join us for clinics on ski waxing, cross-country basics and avalanche safety. Check out local exhibitors, win prizes, and drink hot chocolate!





Snow Valley Opening Day!

Mid-November

Snow Valley (check website for conditions), www.snowvalley.ca

Snow Valley Ski Club launches its 63rd season on the snow!
Will you be on the first chair?

All is Bright on 124

Saturday, Nov 19, 2016

124 St between Jasper & 102 Avenues,
www.124street.ca/all-is-bright

Join us to celebrate the coming of the winter season by lighting up 124 Street with illumination, art installations, winter activities, and live entertainment.





Santa's Parade of Lights

Saturday, Nov 19, 2016 / 5pm

Downtown (check website for parade route),
www.edmontonsantaparade.com

Glisten. Sparkle. Glow. Join us for Santa's Parade of Lights, a magical event where every entry is lit to twinkle in the dark. Free fun for the whole family!

The Carrot Christmas Arts Bazaar

Nov 25 – 26, 2016

The Carrot Community Arts Coffeehouse (9351 – 118 Ave),
www.thecarrot.ca

Be distinctive, buy original, support local. Find unique, original, one-of-a-kind gifts for those 'hard to shop for' loved ones.



The Great Sweater Run

Saturday, Nov 26, 2016

Emily Murphy Park, www.thegreatsweaterrun.ca

Dig deep and find your Great Sweater: cheery snowmen, bedazzled snowflakes, and strange reindeer. It might not make the high fashion runway, but it's perfect for our run!

Celebrate the Season at the Alberta Legislature

Dec 1 – 23, 2016

Alberta Legislature Grounds, www.assembly.ab.ca

Thousands of bright lights provide the backdrop for a holiday stroll or skate in the beautiful Legislature Grounds. Musical performances daily in the Legislature.



Servus Free Ski Friday

Friday, Dec 2, 2016 / 5 – 9pm

Edmonton Ski Club, www.edmontonskiclub.com

Free skiing and snowboarding first Friday of every month, sponsored by Servus Credit Union. Rentals and group lessons for beginners \$10 each.

The Great French Canadian Kitchen Party

Friday, Dec 2, 2016

La Cité Francophone (8627 Marie-Anne-Gaboury (91) St), www.cafebicyclette.ca

Embrace winter at Café Bicyclette's Winter Patio Opening Night Party introducing a Snowshoe Polka, a Mukluk Mosh Pit and more..!



Winter Patio Kick-Off Weekend

Dec 2 – 4, 2016

City-wide, www.exploredmonton.ca

Winter patio season begins this weekend and runs 'til March. Every day is memorable when you wine and dine under our glorious winter sun! See Winter Patios section for more.

Winterfest

Dec 2 – 4, 2016

Snow Valley, www.snowvalley.ca

A weekend to kick off the ski season. Refreshments, activities, giveaways and games all weekend!

Luminaria at Devonian Botanic Garden

Dec 2 – 4, 2016 / 5 – 9pm

51227 Hwy 60, Parkland County (5 km north of Devon on Hwy 60),
www.devonian.ualberta.ca

Starlight, firelight and snowlight at Devonian Botanic Garden. Thousands of candles, millions of stars and you. Get tickets early!

Santa Shuffle Fun Run & Elf Walk

Saturday, Dec 3, 2016

William Hawrelak Park, www.santashuffle.ca

This merry event helps The Salvation Army assist families and individuals in need during the Christmas season and throughout the year. 5K Santa Shuffle and 1K Elf Walk.



Christmas at the Park – Family Program

Saturday, Dec 3, 2016

Fort Edmonton Park, www.fortedmontonpark.ca

Explore more traditions from the past by touring the streets of the park during the Christmas season. Discover the magic of Christmas in Edmonton past.



Horse-Drawn Sleigh Rides in Old Strathcona

Saturdays, Dec 3, 10 & 17, 2016 / noon – 4pm

Throughout Old Strathcona, www.oldstrathcona.ca/whytewishes

Two horse-drawn sleighs take you on an experience through Old Strathcona. Rides are by donation to the Red Shoe Society.





Krampusnacht Edmonton

Monday, Dec 5, 2016 / 9pm

Whyte Avenue area (tentative), www.krampusnachedmonton.com

Will you be rewarded by Saint Nikolaus, or punished by Krampus? Join us for an Austro-Bavarian #Krampuslauf Yule Parade along Whyte Ave on #Krampusnachtweg.

Senior's Candy Cane Tea

Dec 6 – 7, 2016 / 1 – 3pm

Edmonton Valley Zoo, www.valleyzoo.ca

A Christmas celebration for seniors! Musical performances and animal encounters with complimentary tea and festive baked goodies!



Zoo minescence: A Festival of Light

Dec 8 – 18, 2016

Edmonton Valley Zoo, www.valleyzoo.ca

Light is Energizing, Light is Revitalizing! Stroll through the zoo after dark and experience one artistic light installation after another!

David Sedaris' Santaland Diaries

Dec 9 – 18, 2016 / 7:30pm

**Nina Haggerty Centre for the Arts (9225 – 118 Ave),
www.yuleave.com**

Back by popular demand! Sold-out show in 2015! Adult-only play about the life of a Santaland dept store elf and other wildly inappropriate North Pole personalities.

Candy Cane Lane

Dec 9, 2016 – Jan 1, 2017

148 St, between 92 & 100 Avenues, www.candycanelane.ca

Christmas in Edmonton is not complete without visiting Candy Cane Lane! Walk, take a sleigh ride, enjoy lights and decorations, and bring a donation for the Food Bank.

Holiday Celebration

Sunday, Dec 11, 2016

Snow Valley, www.snowvalley.ca

Celebrate the holiday season on the slopes with hot chocolate, crafts, face painting and an appearance by Santa Simon.



Jingle Jammin' Christmas Caroling

Friday, Dec 16, 2016 / 6pm

The Carrot Community Arts Coffeehouse (9351 – 118 Ave),
www.thecarrot.ca

Get into the holiday spirit and join us for chilli (6pm) and caroling (7pm)! Dress for the weather and bring your own flashlight.

Yule Ave: A Merry Christmas

Dec 16 – 18, 2016

In & around Alberta Avenue Community League (9210 – 118 Ave),
www.yuleave.com

Free Yule Ave: A Blast concert and chili! Winter clothing accepted and given at the Giving Tree. Decoration creation station, Santa's Northlands Village and wagon rides.



Christmas Reflections

Dec 16 – 30, 2016 (excluding Dec 24 – 27)

Fort Edmonton Park, www.fortedmontonpark.ca

Celebrate winter the way Edmontonians did over a century ago. Discover how people hosted one another, what they did for recreation and more.

New Year's Eve Downtown

Saturday, Dec 31, 2016 / 6pm – midnight

**Sir Winston Churchill Square & City Hall,
www.edmonton.ca/newyareseve**

This fun-filled event will include live entertainment, crafts and ice skating, as well as fireworks at 9pm and midnight.



Swing 'n' Skate Sundays at City Hall

Every Sunday in January / 1 – 4pm

City Hall, City Room & Plaza, www.edmontonarts.ca

Join the Sugar Swing Dance Club and local bands at City Hall for Swing 'n' Skate! Boogie-woogie inside or skate on the plaza. Check website for details.

Servus Free Ski Friday

Friday, Jan 6, 2017 / 5 – 9pm

Edmonton Ski Club, www.edmontonskiclub.com

Free skiing and snowboarding first Friday of every month, sponsored by Servus Credit Union. Rentals and group lessons for beginners \$10 each.



Pump Up the Jam (Freestyle Competition)

Sunday, Jan 8, 2017

Snow Valley, www.snowvalley.ca

It's time to PUMP UP THE JAM with the whole family at Snow Valley's 12-and-under freestyle competition!

Front Yards in Bloom: Winterscapes

Jan 9 – Feb 19, 2017

Edmonton-wide, www.edmonton.ca/winterscapes

Use your creativity to embrace winter with #FYIBwinterscapes! Brighten your neighbourhood with a wintry wonderland made with lights, plants, snow and ice.

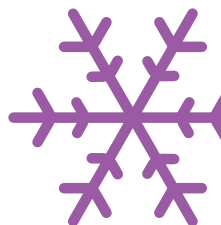
South-East Edmonton Winter Fun Fest

Saturday, Jan 14, 2017

Kenilworth Community League (7104 – 87 Ave),

For more information, contact Lynn Ferguson at 780-496-5926

Join in the all fun that winter offers! Bring the whole family and try new outdoor winter activities: skiing, sliding, skating, snowshoeing, sleigh rides, crafts and more.



Deep Freeze: A Byzantine Winter Festival

Jan 14 – 15, 2017

118 Ave, between 90 & 94 Streets, www.deepfreezefest.ca

The Olde New Year returns to Alberta Avenue: skating, curling, snow carving, street hockey, dancing, live music... a free winter wonderland!



Street Hockey Tourney at Deep Freeze

Jan 14 – 15, 2017

118 Ave, between 90 & 94 Streets, www.deepfreezefest.ca

Game on! Recruit friends and family to make up teams of 4 to 7 players, including goalie. Register your team early – space is limited!

FIS World Snow Day

Sunday, Jan 15, 2017

Snow Valley, www.snowvalley.ca

Bringing Children to the Snow! You're invited to participate in this global initiative of winter fun from the International Ski Federation.



Winter Tales at Chianti Cafe & Restaurant

Thursday, Jan 26, 2017 / 6 pm

10508 - 82 Ave, www.winter-tales-chianti.com



In partnership with Ice on Whyte, we bring you an evening of tantalizing winter tales! Join us for heart-warming stories and delizioso Italian food.



Ice on Whyte Festival

Jan 26 – 29 & Feb 2 – 5, 2017

End of Steel Park (Gateway Blvd & Tommy Banks Way),
www.iceonwhyte.ca

Celebrate winter! Be amazed by ice carvings, play in the kids' zone, carve some ice, enjoy live music and tasty food, and meet ordinary people with extraordinary stories that built Canada!



South West Ski Fest

Saturday, Jan 28, 2017 / 11:30am – 3:30pm

Yellowbird Community Hall (10710 – 19 Ave),
www.facebook.com/ski2LRT

Try cross-country skiing for free with help from volunteers. Explore trails around Blackmud Creek. Free chili, hot chocolate, snowshoes....

Lunar New Year & Chinatown Celebration

Saturday, Jan 28, 2017 / starts at noon

97 St, between 105 & 107 Avenues,
www.yegchinatown.ca / www.chinatownarea.ca

Usher in the auspicious New Year with traditional dragons, lions and firecrackers. Keep local Chinese culture alive through celebration and hands-on experiences!



Tropical Weekend

Jan 28 – 29, 2017

Snow Valley, www.snowvalley.ca

Leave winter behind and join us for a beach-themed weekend on the snow. Try your luck at the limbo and enjoy a cup of hot chocolate from our Tiki Bar.



The Rubaboo Aboriginal Arts Festival

Jan 29 – Feb 6, 2017 (tentative)

La Cite Francophone (8627 Rue Marie-Anne Gaboury (91) St),
www.AlbertaAboriginalArts.com / www.AlbertaAboriginalArts.ca

Rubaboo showcases local and touring Indigenous artists with new and developed works in theatre, music, dance, visual art, and media, as well as artist and cultural workshops.



Sip & Slide Sundays

Sunday afternoons in February

Toboggan hills around Edmonton, www.exploreedmonton.ca

Every Sunday in Feb, grab your toboggan, head to the hills, and sip a free hot chocolate courtesy of the City of Edmonton! Check website for times and locations.

Swing 'n' Skate Sundays at City Hall

Every Sunday in February / 1 – 4 pm

City Hall, City Room & Plaza, www.edmontonarts.ca

Join the Sugar Swing Dance Club and local bands at City Hall for Swing 'n' Skate! Boogie-woogie inside or skate on the plaza. Check website for details.



Winter Walk Day

Wednesday, Feb 1, 2017

Walks held at City Hall, Provincial Legislature, many schools & other venues around Edmonton, www.shapeab.com

Join fellow Albertans to celebrate winter and walking! Schools, work places, seniors' centres, individuals and families can register.

Flying Canoë Volant

Feb 2 – 4, 2017

La Cité Francophone (8627-Marie Anne Gaboury (91) St) & the Millcreek Ravine, www.flyingcanoevolant.ca

Celebrate your inner voyageur with The Flying Canoë Volant! An interactive cultural celebration of our French, First Nations and Métis history.



Servus Free Ski Friday

Friday, Feb 3, 2017 / 5 – 9pm

Edmonton Ski Club, www.edmontonskiclub.com

Free skiing and snowboarding first Friday of every month, sponsored by Servus Credit Union. Rentals and group lessons for beginners \$10 each.

Winterus Maximus at Flying Canoë Volant

Feb 3 – 4, 2017

La Cité Francophone (8627 Rue Marie-Anne Gaboury (91) St),
www.joinmade.org

Get your fat-bike, build a sled and join us for the world's 2nd annual fat bike chariot competition! Ride through winter in a whole new way!

Parka Patio

Saturday, Feb 4, 2017 / 8pm – late

Latitude 53 (10242 – 106 St), www.latitude53.org/parka

Parka Patio – Edmonton's original outdoor patio party. Signature cocktails, music, food, art auction, and, of course, a winter patio. 18+ event.



Fatbikes for MS

Sunday, Feb 5, 2017

Edmonton's River Valley,

E-mail social@revolutioncycle.com for more info

A FatFondo through YEG River Valley raising awareness and funds for MS research. All funds go straight to the MS Society. Looking for riders, title sponsors and volunteers!



Toque Tuesday

Tuesday, Feb 7, 2017

**Various locations downtown, including LRT stations,
www.homewardtrust.ca / www.raisingtheroof.org**

Help Homeward Trust Edmonton and Raising the Roof keep YEG's homeless youth safe and warm this winter. Buy a toque for \$10-20 from volunteers downtown.

Winter Bike to Work Day

Friday, Feb 10, 2017

City-wide (check website for local celebrations),
www.edmonton.ca/cycling

Hop on your bike to celebrate. You may find breakfast or hot chocolate to enjoy along your route! Commit to ride at winterbiketoworkday.org



2017 Canadian Birkebeiner Ski Festival

Feb 10 – 11, 2017

East of Edmonton, in the areas of Cooking Lake-Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area, the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village & Elk Island National Park, www.canadianbirkie.com

Come have fun, ski and be a part of a community! Enjoy fun and challenging cross-country ski events for people of all ages and abilities. Are you Viking enough?

Silver Skate Festival

Feb 10 – 20, 2017

William Hawrelak Park, www.silverskatefestival.org

A winter extravaganza of free art, culture, recreation and sports programming. Play for the day and stay for a night of magic! #yegfests #abart

Hypothermic Half Marathon 1

Sunday, Feb 12, 2017

Highlands Golf Club (6603 Ada Boulevard),
www.hypothermichalf.com

The Running Room is proud to present the Hypothermic Half! Participants also receive a unique finisher's medal and complimentary brunch!

Valentine's Day Disco Skate & Dance

Tuesday, Feb 14, 2017 / 5 – 9pm

City Hall Plaza Rink, www.exploredmonton.ca

Shake your groove thing at the City Hall Rink. Everybody dance, skate, roast bannock and sip hot chocolate. Free skate and helmet use available first come, first served.

Northgate Skate Races at Silverskate

Feb 18 – 19, 2017

William Hawrelak Park, www.silverskatefestival.org

Our 25 km, 10 km and 1 km #skateraces attract local, national and international athletes of all abilities. In partnership with @edspdk8

Family Day Weekend at Snow Valley

Feb 18 – 20, 2017

Snow Valley, www.snowvalley.ca

Free hot chocolate, crafts, face painting and the best obstacle course on snow.... Talk about a whole weekend of family winter fun!



Mammoet Edmonton Winter Triathlon at Silverskate

Sunday, Feb 19, 2017

William Hawrelak Park, www.silverskatefestival.org

Three common winter pursuits – running, skating and cross-country skiing – are hosted in 10 km and 25 km formats. A favourite event of weekend warriors.



Kortebaan at Silverskate

Sunday, Feb 19, 2017

William Hawrelak Park, www.silverskatefestival.org

Who is the fastest of them all? Grab your #skates, head to #Hawrelak and show us your stuff. Discover your best time for a 140 m skate sprint.



Family Day Downtown

Monday, Feb 20, 2017 / noon – 4pm

**Sir Winston Churchill Square & City Hall,
www.edmonton.ca/familyday**

Ice skating, hay rides, bannock making and games are just some of the fun activities you will enjoy on the Square.

Family Day Fun at the Zoo!

Monday, Feb 20, 2017 / noon – 4pm

Edmonton Valley Zoo, www.valleyzoo.ca

Beat the winter blues and “Get Closer” for some Polar Bear Family Day Fun with crafts, a scavenger hunt and a family photo booth!

Coldest Night of the Year

Saturday, Feb 25, 2017

**Start at Hope Mission (9908 – 106 Ave),
www.coldestnightoftheyear.org**

Fun, family-friendly walking fundraiser that raises money for the hungry, homeless and hurting in 80+ communities across Canada. Walk to help Edmonton's Hope Mission. #cnoy17

Hypothermic Half Marathon 2

Sunday, Feb 26, 2017

**Highlands Golf Club (6603 Ada Boulevard),
www.hypothermichalf.com**

The Running Room is proud to present the Hypothermic Half! Participants also receive a unique finisher's medal and complimentary brunch!





Servus Free Ski Friday

Friday, Mar 3, 2017 / 5 – 9pm

Edmonton Ski Club, www.edmontonskiclub.com

Free skiing and snowboarding first Friday of every month, sponsored by Servus Credit Union. Rentals and group lessons for beginners \$10 each.

Mini Hit (Freestyle Competition)

Sunday, Mar 5, 2017

Snow Valley, www.snowvalley.ca

Are you ready for the first annual Mini Air event? Come see all the excitement for yourself as skiers and snowboarders ages 10 – 14 showcase their best tricks in Snow Valley's terrain park.

Winter Warrior Challenge

Saturday, Mar 11, 2017

The Ranch Golf & Country Club (52516 Range Road 252, Acheson), www.winterwarriorchallenge.ca

Conquer a uniquely Canadian obstacle course challenge. 10+ obstacles, 5 kms and sub-zero temps as you crawl, climb and scramble through snow and ice.

Slush Cup

Saturday, Mar 18, 2017

Edmonton Ski Club, www.edmontonskiclub.com

People of all ages dress up and compete to cross an Olympic-sized pond of icy water on skis and snowboards. It's possibly the most hilarious winter event in Edmonton!





Simon's Birthday

Sunday, Mar 19, 2017

Snow Valley, www.snowvalley.ca

Attention Cub Club members! Join us for cake and crafts in celebration of Simon the Snow Leopard's birthday!

Spring Break Activities

Mar 27 – 31, 2017

Snow Valley, www.snowvalley.ca

Nothing beats spring skiing! So make sure you stop by Snow Valley for family fun events and giveaways all Spring Break long.

Other Things to Watch For

November Project

Mondays: Locations vary. Check social media announcements every Friday afternoon for details: #Destinationdeck

Wednesdays: Stair running at Commonwealth Stadium, meet at Gate 2

Fridays: Hill running at Walterdale Hill

All workouts start at 6 am sharp!

**www.november-project.com / www.twitter.com/Nov_ProjectCAN
/ www.facebook.com/NovemberProjectCanada**

November Project Canada meets for FREE, fun and challenging workouts. We are also a smile factory that could change your life. Join the tribe!

Coffee Outside

Most Fridays: 7 – 9pm

Locations vary, but usually at Ezio Farone Park, @coffee_outside (or search #yegbike and #coffeoutside together)

Ride your bike in the morning? Want to connect with others over lively conversation? BYO coffee, tea or hot chocolate – or impress the others and brew it there on a camp stove!

Ice Castles

Winter 2017

William Hawrelak Park, www.icecastles.com

Visit a Narnia-like winter wonderland of ice: icicles, tunnels, slides, frozen waterfalls, nighttime lights, and more! Tickets sell fast – book your time slot early.



John Janzen Nature Centre

Winter 2017

www.edmonton.ca/johnjanzen or call 311

Take a walk on the wild side with programs, events and interactive nature exhibits in Edmonton's River Valley. Watch the website for exciting winter adventures!

Winter Break Camps at Edmonton Ski Club

End of December 2016 – early January 2017

Edmonton Ski Club, www.edmontonskiclub.com

Looking for something for the kids to do during the Christmas break? Let us teach them how to ski or snowboard! We're offering camps for ages 7 – 16.



Photo credit: Marc J Chalifoux Photography

YEG Hot Chocolate Fest

January – February 2017

www.YEGHotChocolate.com

Step outside this winter and sample some of Edmonton's finest hot chocolate. In support of Easter Seals, sponsored by Century 21. Check website for locations. #yeghotchocfest

Flying Canoe Races

Friday, Feb 17, 2017

Edmonton Ski Club, www.flyingcanoevolant.ca

Have you ever imagined racing a canoe downhill and on snow? Join us for the inaugural Flying Canoe Races. A winter rodeo but with a tuque! Register now!



Snowshoe Races at Silverskate

February 2017

William Hawrelak Park, www.silverskatefestival.org

Canada's fastest growing #winter sport! @silverskate partners with @SnowshoeCanada to host 1 km and 5 km races for all ages and abilities.



Dead Cold Run at Silverskate

February 2017

William Hawrelak Park, www.deadcoldrun.ca

5 km #DeadColdRun in #Hawrelak @silverskate offers both a beautiful winter run and solid training for the zombie apocalypse. #yegfun

MEC Nordic Ski Waxing Clinic

Date TBA

Mountain Equipment Co-op (12328 102nd Ave), <http://events.mec.ca>

This session will help you become familiar with all the materials and techniques required to wax Nordic skis.

MEC Alpine Wax Clinic

Date TBA

Mountain Equipment Co-op (12328 102nd Ave), <http://events.mec.ca>

Learn all of the tips and tricks from our ski technician that will keep your skis and boards fast on the mountain.



MEC Nordic Ski Meet-Up

Date TBA

Victoria Park, <http://events.mec.ca>

Our certified CANSI Nordic Ski instructor will lead you through a 1 hour ski with lots of tips and advice to go along.





4th Annual Winter Signature Drink Competition

www.facebook.com/WinterCityEdmonton

Get your creative spirits flowing! Hot, cold, with or without alcohol, we want your winter drink recipes. Final judging will be held at the Fairmont Hotel Macdonald.

Winter Party Toolkit

www.edmonton.ca/wintercitystrategy

We're creating a winter party toolkit for Edmontonians – ideas, tips, games and more! Watch for more information on the WinterCity Edmonton website and social media.



The Long John Index Service of Canada

www.longjohnindex.ca / [@longjohnindex](https://www.facebook.com/longjohnindex)
/ www.facebook.com/longjohnindex

Be prepared! Check this fun, non-scientific service before you get dressed. Reports range from Level 1 (long johns not needed) to Level 5 (wear them indoors!).



City of Edmonton Programs

See what the city has to offer this winter!
See websites or call **311** for more information.

Fall and Winter Green Shacks

Beginning September 17, 2016

**Select locations during the school year,
www.edmonton.ca/dropincommunityprograms**

Free, drop-in program for children aged 6 – 12. Join in winter games, sports, crafts, music, drama, and special events. See website for list of upcoming activities and locations.

I Heart YEG Winter

November 2016

Alfred Savage Centre (13204 Fox Dr)

Celebrate winter with River Valley Programs! Try some outdoor activities in the heart of Edmonton's river valley! Free for all.

River Valley Programs – Registered Programs

December 2016 – March 2017

www.edmonton.ca/rivervalleyprograms

Try something new this winter! River Valley Programs provides a variety of beginner outdoor activity courses throughout the winter season. Snowshoeing and cross-country skiing are among the many programs offered, and all programs include the use of equipment.



River Valley Programs – Daycamps

December 2016 – March 2017

www.edmonton.ca/rivervalleyprograms

Have a 5- to 14-year-old? Get them outside during school breaks! Campers will get the chance to explore the River Valley while engaging in seasonal activities such as snowshoeing, tobogganing, outdoor cooking, nature walks, crafts and games. Programs offered during Winter Break, Teachers' Convention, and Spring Break.

Drop-In Learn to Skate Lessons

January – February 2017

Select community rinks, www.edmonton.ca/activities_parks_recreation/drop-in-learn-to-skate-program.aspx

Children aged 6-12 can learn basic skating skills through on-ice games and activities with trained leaders. Please note that skates and a CSA-approved helmet are required.

Community Leagues

www.efcl.org

Community leagues across Edmonton are run by dedicated volunteers who work hard to bring affordable recreation, sports and social activities to your community. They also advocate for your community on city-wide issues. Check with your league to see how you can get involved.

Did you know that representatives from the Edmonton Federation of Community Leagues (EFCL) have been involved with the WinterCity Strategy from day one? That's right, they're also working to improve how you play, live and work in our great winter city. Toques off to the EFCL winter champions!



Community League Winter Festivals

Looking for a winter festival? Look no further than your own backyard. Community leagues across Edmonton host 50 – 60 winter festivals, most of them around Family Day. Here's a list of some we know about. Check with your local league for other winter events. If you can't find one, maybe it's time to start one!

Belvedere

Beverly Heights

Blackmud Creek

Callingwood-Lymburn

Empire Park

Hairsine

Highlands

Jasper Park

Lessard

McKernan

McLeod

Montrose

North Glenora

Riverbend

Royal Gardens

Twin Parks

Westmount

Willowby



You can register your winter festival on the EFCL website by selecting the **Events & Projects** tab and clicking on **Winter Events** in the drop-down menu.

If you're in the south-east area, make sure you check out the **South-East Edmonton Winter Fun Fest** on Saturday, Jan 14, 2017, from 11am – 4pm. Contact Lynn Ferguson at the City of Edmonton for more details: 780-496-5926.





Community League Skating Rinks

Did you know that volunteers maintain over 100 community skating rinks? Many of the leagues have skate rental programs too, so get out there and play on the ice!

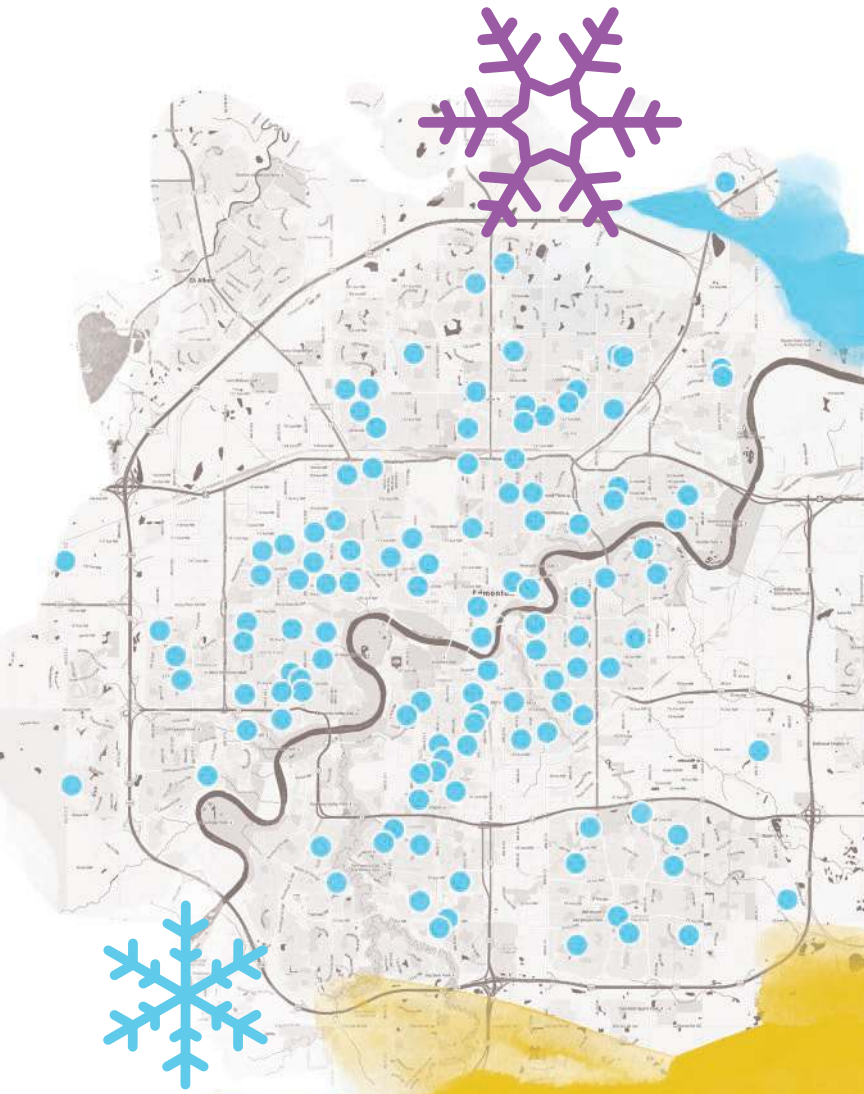
To find a rink near you, go to the EFCL website and click on **Find a Facility/League** tab. Under **Facility Amenities**, select **Rink**. Some snowbank rinks may not be listed on the EFCL site, so check your local league or call **311** to see if there is one in your area.

You will need a community league membership to use most rinks. And remember, many community leagues depend on volunteers to build, maintain and keep their rinks open. What can you do to help?

Kenilworth Community League Skating Loop

www.kenilworthcommunity.com

New for this year! Kenilworth will offer a 400m lit skating loop next to its outdoor rinks and community hall. Check website for hours and more details. (Note: a small fee may be charged for non-members.)



Ice Skating

www.edmonton.ca/skating



Ice skate outdoors this winter for fun, free entertainment for the whole family! Outdoor ice maintained by the City will open as soon as maintenance equipment (snow clearing and watering trucks) can safely drive on the ice. Please obey all posted signs.

Outdoor Rinks

Check out the City website for locations, hours, amenities, and ice conditions before you go. Skate rentals are available at William Hawrelak Park Pavilion.

Castle Downs Park

City Hall

Jackie Parker Park

Rundle Park

The Meadows Community Recreation Centre

***Victoria Park Oval**

William Hawrelak Park

*Check website for times when the Oval is closed to public skating for maintenance and speed skating training.

Community League Rinks

See Community Leagues pages for more information.

Stormwater Lakes

City Drainage Bylaw 16200 prohibits skating on stormwater lakes.

The City has signage posted at all stormwater facilities advising residents to keep off the ice because conditions are unknown. Due to the nature and the function of stormwater lakes, ice conditions can be unpredictable and dangerous. Moving water, temperature changes underwater due to vegetation or drainage, and fluctuating weather conditions can all result in unsafe ice conditions not visible from the surface.



IceWay

Last year's Freeway pilot project was a success! We have updated the name to the IceWay, and are reviewing locations for this year's skating trail(s) so keep your eye on the City's website for details coming in Nov/Dec.

Snowshoeing

www.edmonton.ca/snowshoeing

Explore Edmonton's winter wonderland on snowshoes!

Snowshoeing is a traditional mode of transportation for Canadian Indigenous Peoples, and remains one of the best and most practical ways to travel on deep snow. Snowshoeing provides transportation for exploring and wildlife viewing, and it's just plain old good winter fun.

Most city trails are packed down, but snowshoes perform best in areas that are more open and off the beaten track. Here are a few suggestions for places to snowshoe in and around Edmonton. And if you happen to come across cross-country ski trails in your travels, please be courteous and stay off them.



Good Snowshoeing Locations in Edmonton

John Janzen Nature Centre

Mill Woods Park

Rundle Park

Other Parks That Allow Snowshoeing

Borden Park

Capilano Park

Coronation Park

Emily Murphy Park

Gold Bar Park

Hermitage Park

Jackie Parker Park

Terwillegar Park

Victoria Park

Whitemud Park

William Hawrelak Park



Tobogganing

www.edmonton.ca/toboggan

Our maintained toboggan areas offer different slopes for different folks – gentle, moderate and steep. Spend the afternoon with family and friends enjoying the thrill of tobogganing on a safe, maintained toboggan hill. You'll slide for a mile with a smile!

Tobogganing Hills

Check the City website for conditions and notifications about City-maintained toboggan hills. These hills have safe run-outs, safety signs and reduced hazards. Remember to follow all posted signs and safety rules, and consider wearing a helmet.

Emily Murphy Park

Rundle Park – ACT Hill

Gallagher Park

**Rundle Park –
Walton's Mountain**

Government House Park

Whitemud Park North

Castle Downs Park

Sip & Slide Sundays!

Sunday afternoons in February, www.exploreedmonton.ca

Every Sunday in Feb, grab your toboggan, head to the hills and sip a free hot chocolate courtesy of the City of Edmonton! Check website for times and locations.



Cross-Country Skiing

www.edmonton.ca/crosscountry

Edmonton's expansive river valley and parks system is a perfect cross-country skiing destination! We've even listed a few outside the city, if you're feeling more adventurous.

Cross-Country Skiing in Edmonton

Groomed trails are located throughout the city, but are found primarily in the beautiful river valley. Trails are groomed by the City and Edmonton Nordic Ski Club, providing a fantastic opportunity to explore on skis. Check the City website to find current conditions, and more.

Groomed Cross-Country Ski Trails in Edmonton:

Capilano Park

Kinsmen Park

Gold Bar Park

Riverside Golf Course

Gold Stick Park

Rundle Park

William Hawrelak Park

Victoria Golf Course

Hermitage Park



Park Amenities & Trail Lighting

Please carry a cell phone, especially if you are skiing alone or at night. See the Winter Chalet Network Map for types and locations of building and washroom amenities. The trails at Gold Bar/Gold Stick and Kinsmen Parks are lit at night for evening or night skiing.

Ski2LRT

Have you thought about commuting on your skis? Well now you can! Cross-country ski to the Century Park LRT Station, and lock your skis and poles in a rack before hopping on the train. Make sure to take your own padlock for the rack. Approach routes are found at <https://goo.gl/gRQNEY> More details are available at www.facebook.com/Ski2LRT

Cross-Country Skiing Close to Edmonton

Cooking Lake-Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area (60 km east of Edmonton), www.albertaparks.ca/cooking-lake-blackfoot

Elk Island National Park (Amiskwuche and Lakeview trails recommended. 48 km east of Edmonton), www.elk.island@pc.gc.ca

Strathcona Wilderness Centre (16 km east of Edmonton), www.strathcona.ca/wildernesscentre



Learn How to Cross-Country Ski!

The City of Edmonton offers cross-country and biathlon courses, as well as group programs. Register through **311** or www.edmonton.ca/ereg

Edmonton Nordic Club also offers cross-country ski lessons for all ages. www.edmontonnordic.ca

Nordic Waxing Clinics

Date TBA, Mountain Equipment Co-op (12328-102nd Ave), <http://events.mec.ca>

This session will help you become familiar with all the materials and techniques required to wax Nordic skis.

Downhill Skiing, Snowboarding & Tubing

The City of Edmonton leases land in the river valley to private downhill ski operators. Conveniently located in the central, west and east parts of the valley, these private recreation areas have downhill skiing, snowboarding and tubing at reasonable prices. Check their websites for pre-season discounts on passes.

Locations

Edmonton Ski Club (9613 – 96 Ave, beside the Muttart Conservatory), www.edmontonskiclub.com

- Ski & snowboard rentals
- Group, private & terrain park lessons
- Terrain park





Snow Valley Ski Club (119 Street, off Whitemud Freeway),
www.snowvalley.ca

- Ski & snowboard rentals
- Group, private, women-only & freestyle lessons
- Terrain park

Sunridge Ski Area (17 Street, south of the Yellowhead Trail),
www.sunridgeskiarea.com

- Ski & snowboard rentals
- Group & private lessons
- Terrain & tubing parks

For more adventure, drive 20 minutes southwest of the city to
Rabbit Hill, www.rabbithill.com

Winter Patios

@WinterCityYEG / #wintercityyeg / #yegpatio

Edmonton's winter patio culture is growing! Be sure to share your favourite winter patio with us on Twitter. Here are a few we know about – and some of them even have blankets if you need one.

Bistro tables in Sir Winston Churchill Square

Café Bicyclette (8627 Rue Marie Anne Gaboury (91) Street)

Culina Café / Muttart Conservatory

Latitude 53 Parka Party on Feb 4, 2017 (10242 – 106 Street)

Little Brick (10004 – 90 Street)

Urban Green Café / Louise McKinney Park

Wild Earth Zoo / Valley Zoo



Dogwood Café River Valley Nordic Experience

Saturday: Nordic Brunch at Victoria Golf Clubhouse

Sunday: Nordic Bruch at Victoria & Riverside Golf Clubhouses

Thursday – Sunday: Nordic Suppers at Victoria Golf Clubhouse
www.culinafamily.com

Looking for a little avant- or après-ski experience in the river valley? Dogwood Café returns with its Nordic Brunch... and introduces Nordic Suppers!

Chez Vous

Why not create your own winter patio at home? We get lots of beautiful sunny days in the winter. Find a sheltered spot, dig out your deck chairs, grab your woolly blankets, and enjoy a hot drink while basking in the sunshine.

We also have spectacular Northern Lights at night. Enjoy a mulled wine under nature's light show, snuggled up in a blanket by your backyard fire. You could even add some fairy lights to make your winter yard sparkle.

Share your #yegpatio with us on Twitter!



Winter Picnicking

www.edmonton.ca/picnic

(Note: This site is for general information only; sites cannot be booked in the winter.)

Many of our winter days are bright, sunny and mild. Grab your sense of adventure, bundle up, slip on your shades, and head out to a park near you for a winter picnic.

The City moves snow in some areas to improve access to picnic sites, but you might have to clear snow off the tables or from the BBQ/fire pits. Maybe you'll get lucky and find one already cleared by someone else! City picnic sites can't be booked in the wintertime, so just head out and claim an empty space.

Things You Might Need

- A shovel to clear the snow
- Fire-building materials (newspaper, matches and wood)
- Blankets to cover the benches and your knees
- Winter whimsy
- Hot chocolate



Parks With BBQ Pits

Capilano Park

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Park

Coronation Park

Victoria Park

Emily Murphy Park

Whitemud Park

Gold Bar Park

William Hawrelak Park

Hermitage Park

Jackie Parker Park

Rundle Park





MADE Winter Architecture and Design Exhibition – Sheltered | Exposed

Feb 16 - Apr 2, 2017, Latitude 53 (10242 – 106 St),
<http://joinmade.org/alberta-winter>

All too often the design and presentation of architectural projects are shown in the limited time span of a verdant summer environment. MADE (Media Architecture Design Edmonton) has challenged local architects and designers to answer the question: How can architecture and design improve our experience of winter?

This exhibition will foster a discussion around the design of public space and the built environment in winter. See how architects and designers are responding to and portraying snow and cold inherent to our climate. Join the conversation on what it means to be a winter city.



Winter Events

www.edmonton.ca/facilityrentals



Planning a social gathering, winter wedding, meeting or corporate getaway? Why not include some snowy outdoor activities! Book your next event at a facility that gives you the indoor space you need, but also provides opportunities for embracing the beauty of winter.

Muttart Conservatory

Rundle Family Centre

Alfred H. Savage Centre

Victoria Golf Course Social Room

Equipment Rentals

No skates? No skis? No snowshoes? No problem!

Want to try something new this winter, but don't want to invest in equipment right away? There are many places around Edmonton that rent winter equipment. Go online to find a commercial rental shop near you.

Skate rentals are available at **William Hawrelak Park Pavilion** for use in the park. Some community leagues have skates for community members to use on their rinks, too.

Let us know on Twitter what you tried this winter!

@WinterCityYEG / #wintercityyeg



PechaKucha Night™

February 16
edmontonnextgen.ca

In partnership with Edmonton's NextGen, the Winter Cities Shake-Up is offering a unique winter-themed Pecha Kucha Night on Thursday, February 16th, 2017! Tickets are available to conference attendees as well as members of the public.

Join us to hear how people are thriving in winter cities!



WINTER CULTURE



WINTER DESIGN



WINTER BUSINESS



wintercitiesconference.com

 [@wintercities](https://twitter.com/wintercities)

wintercity
 Edmonton

Edmonton



Winter Calendar

October

- Oct 3 – 7** *International Walk to School Week (iWALK)*
- Oct 15 – 16** *Ski & Snowboard Swap*
- Oct 22 – 23** *Edmonton Ski & Snowboard Show*
- Oct 22 – 23** *Edmonton Ski Club Winter Equipment Sale at Edmonton Ski & Snowboard Show*
- Oct 23** *Boo at the Zoo!*
- Oct 29** *Headless Halloween*

November

- Nov 4** *Chili Cook Off*
- Nov 12** *The DBA Christmas on the Square Holiday Light-Up*



- Nov 13** MEC Snowfest
- Mid-Nov** Snow Valley Opening Day!
- Nov 19** All is Bright on 124
- Nov 19** Santa's Parade of Lights
- Nov 25 – 26** The Carrot Christmas Arts Bazaar
- Nov 26** The Great Sweater Run

December

- Dec 1 – 23** Celebrate the Season at the Alberta Legislature
- Dec 2** Servus Free Ski Friday
- Dec 2** The Great French Canadian Kitchen Party
- Dec 2 – 4** Winter Patio Kick-Off Weekend
- Dec 2 – 4** Winterfest
- Dec 2 – 4** Luminaria at Devonian Botanic Garden
- Dec 3** Santa Shuffle Fun Run & Elf Walk
- Dec 3** Christmas at the Park – Family Program
- Dec 3** Horse-Drawn Sleigh Rides in Old Strathcona
- Dec 5** Krampusnacht Edmonton
- Dec 6 – 7** Senior's Candy Cane Tea
- Dec 8 – 18** Zoo minescence: A Festival of Light
- Dec 9 – 18** David Sedaris' Santaland Diaries
- Dec 9** Candy Cane Lane
- Dec 11** Holiday Celebration
- Dec 16** Jingle Jammin' Christmas Caroling
- Dec 16 – 18** Yule Ave: A Merry Christmas
- Dec 16 – 30** Christmas Reflections
- Dec 31** New Year's Eve Downtown

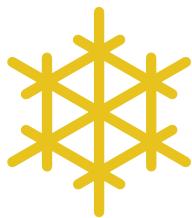


January

- Jan 1** *Swing 'n' Skate Sundays at City Hall*
- Jan 6** *Servus Free Ski Friday*
- Jan 8** *Pump Up the Jam (Freestyle Competition)*
- Jan 8** *Swing 'n' Skate Sundays at City Hall*
- Jan 9 – 31** *Front Yards in Bloom: Winterscapes*
- Jan 14** *South-East Edmonton Winter Fun Fest*
- Jan 14 – 15** *Deep Freeze: A Byzantine Winter Festival*
- Jan 14 – 15** *Street Hockey Tourney at Deep Freeze*
- Jan 15** *FIS World Snow Day*
- Jan 15** *Swing 'n' Skate Sundays at City Hall*
- Jan 22** *Swing 'n' Skate Sundays at City Hall*
- Jan 26** *Winter Tales at Chianti Cafe & Restaurant*
- Jan 26 – 29** *Ice on Whyte Festival*
- Jan 28** *South West Ski Fest*
- Jan 28** *Lunar New Year & Chinatown Celebration*
- Jan 28 – 29** *Tropical Weekend*
- Jan 29** *Swing 'n' Skate Sundays at City Hall*
- Jan 29 – 31** *The Rubaboo Aboriginal Arts Festival*

February

- Feb 1 – 6** *The Rubaboo Aboriginal Arts Festival*
- Feb 1 – 19** *Front Yards in Bloom: Winterscapes*
- Feb 1** *Winter Walk Day*
- Feb 2 – 4** *Flying Canoë Volant*
- Feb 3** *Servus Free Ski Friday*
- Feb 3 – 4** *Winterus Maximus at Flying Canoë Volant*
- Feb 4** *Parka Patio*
- Feb 5** *Fatbikes for MS*
- Feb 5** *Sip & Slide Sundays*



- Feb 5** **Swing 'n' Skate Sundays at City Hall**
- Feb 7** **Toque Tuesday**
- Feb 10** **Winter Bike to Work Day**
- Feb 10 – 11** **2017 Canadian Birkebeiner Ski Festival**
- Feb 10 – 20** **Silver Skate Festival**
- Feb 12** **Hypothermic Half Marathon 1**
- Feb 12** **Sip & Slide Sundays**
- Feb 12** **Swing 'n' Skate Sundays at City Hall**
- Feb 14** **Valentine's Day Disco Skate & Dance**
- Feb 17** **Flying Canoe Races**
- Feb 18 – 19** **Northgate Skate Races at Silverskate**
- Feb 18 – 20** **Family Day Weekend at Snow Valley**
- Feb 19** **Mammoet Edmonton Winter Triathlon at Silverskate**
- Feb 19** **Kortebaar at Silverskate**
- Feb 19** **Sip & Slide Sundays**
- Feb 19** **Swing 'n' Skate Sundays at City Hall**
- Feb 20** **Family Day Downtown**
- Feb 20** **Family Day Fun at the Zoo!**
- Feb 25** **Coldest Night of the Year**
- Feb 26** **Hypothermic Half Marathon 2**
- Feb 26** **Sip & Slide Sundays**
- Feb 26** **Swing 'n' Skate Sundays at City Hall**



March

- Mar 3** **Servus Free Ski Friday**
- Mar 5** **Mini Hit (Freestyle Competition)**
- Mar 11** **Winter Warrior Challenge**
- Mar 18** **Slush Cup**
- Mar 19** **Simon's Birthday**
- Mar 27 – 31** **Spring Break Activities**



Connecting Winter Fun in Comfort

As a world-leading winter city, Edmonton offers a network of Winter Chalets, making it easy and enjoyable to connect with nature in our amazing River Valley year-round.

Winter Chalets

Alfred Savage Center Toboggan hill, winter hiking, snowshoeing & winter picnicking

William Hawrelak Park Pavilion Outdoor skating, cross-country skiing & winter picnicking

Victoria Golf Course Café, cross-country skiing & snowshoeing

Victoria Park Pavilion Outdoor skating, cross-country skiing, winter picnicking & snowshoeing

Goldbar Park Pavilion Cross-country skiing & winter picnicking

Rundle Park Family Centre Outdoor skating, cross-country skiing, tobogganing & winter picnicking

Attractions & Recreation Centres

John Janzen Nature Centre Snowshoeing

Edmonton Valley Zoo Winter patio & café

Kinsmen Sports Centre Cross-country skiing

Louise McKinney Riverfront Park Café

Muttart Conservatory Winter patio, winter garden & café

ACT Recreation Centre Café

Washroom Shelters

Terwillegar Park (portable toilet)

Whitemud Park (building)

Buena Vista/Laurier Park (portable toilet, building)

William Hawrelak Park Pavilion & Shelter #2 (building)

Government House Park (portable toilet)

Emily Murphy Park (building)

Louise McKinney Riverfront Park (building)

Dawson Park (building)

Riverside Golf Course (portable toilet)

Capilano Park Pavilion (building)

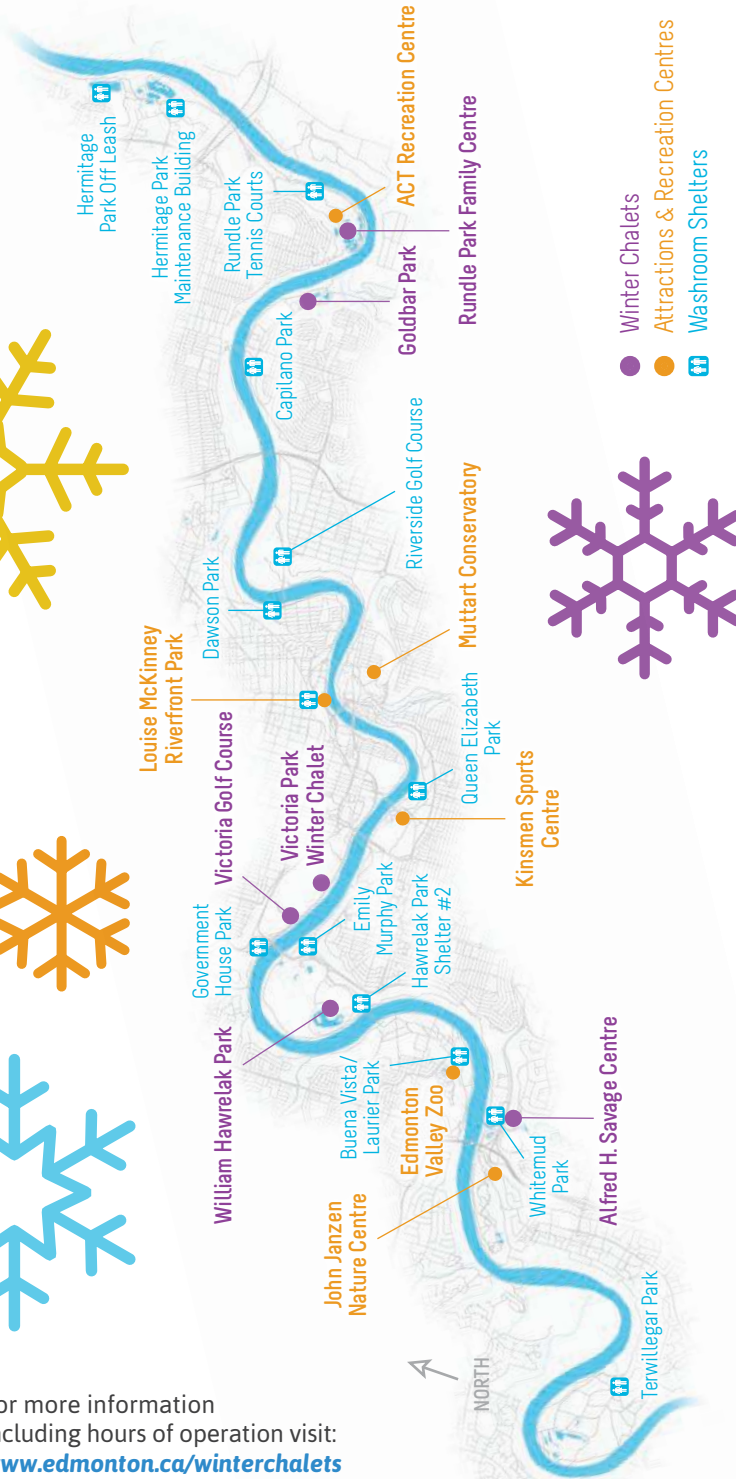
Rundle Park Tennis Courts (building)

Hermitage Park Maintenance Building (building & portable toilet)

Hermitage Park Off Leash (portable toilet)



For more information including hours of operation visit: www.edmonton.ca/winterchalets



wintercity

Edmonton



www.wintercityedmonton.ca

www.exploreedmonton.com

 [Facebook.com/WinterCityEdmonton](https://www.facebook.com/WinterCityEdmonton)

 [#WinterCityYEG / #wintercityyeg](https://twitter.com/WinterCityYEG)



Photo credit: Eric Kozakiewicz