

wintercity  
Edmonton



# Winter Excitement Guide



2018/2019

Edmonton



# Welcome, #YegWinter! 2018 / 2019

Edmontonians are really embracing winter.  
How do we know this? **We asked!**

In 2017, we evaluated the work we've done so far,  
and here's some of what we heard:



**Over 352,000**  
*of you attended outdoor winter  
festivals and events in 2017;*

**36%**  
*of you are attending more festivals and  
events than you did five years ago; and,*

**46%**  
*of you are dressing better for being outside in winter.*



We also heard that the City is doing a better job of maintaining trails and facilities, but you'd like more amenities and better snow clearing for pedestrians. We're working on it!

**44% of you agreed that your perception of winter in Edmonton has become more positive.** We'd love to hear how your ideas of winter have changed. Share your winter adventures with us on Twitter [@WinterCityYeg](https://twitter.com/WinterCityYeg).

**And here's a fun fact:** Edmonton winters are so cool they're attracting visitors from around the world. It's true! Our partners at Edmonton Tourism are being asked for more winter tourism excursions. Next time you run into a winter tourist, share your favourite [#yegwinter](https://twitter.com/WinterCityYeg) activity with them.



For more information on the WinterCity Strategy and our Evaluation and Report, visit [edmonton.ca/wintercitystrategy](https://edmonton.ca/wintercitystrategy)

For stories, events and inspiring ideas for winter play, visit [wintercityedmonton.ca](https://wintercityedmonton.ca)

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

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

 [wintercityyeg](https://www.instagram.com/wintercityyeg)

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A night scene of a winter festival. In the foreground, two people wearing dark winter jackets and hats with pom-poms are seen from behind, looking towards a large display of fireworks in the sky. The fireworks are bright yellow and red, exploding against a dark night sky. The scene is decorated with a large, irregular purple shape in the upper half, and several stylized snowflake graphics in yellow, purple, and blue. The overall atmosphere is festive and celebratory.

Winter  
2018 / 2019  
Events

# Edmonton Ski & Snowboard Show & Winter Sport Equipment Sale

**Oct 27 – 28, 2018 / Sat 10am – 5pm / Sun 11am – 5pm**

**Edmonton EXPO Centre, Hall H, [powderfest.com](http://powderfest.com)**

Heaven for skiers and boarders, minus the mountain! Find deals on gear, discovery destinations, and get in tune with the right vibe at the start of season! Find new-to-you equipment at unbeatable prices – everything from skis and snowboards to helmets and jackets. #EdmSkiBoardShow





## First on the Ice Rink Contest!

**Nov 1 – 30, 2018**

**Edmonton Community Leagues Outdoor Rinks, [efcl.org](http://efcl.org)**

An annual EFCL contest showcasing the community leagues that are the first to open their outdoor rinks in Edmonton. [#yegCLs](https://twitter.com/yegCLs)

## Snow Valley Ski SWAP & Sale

**Nov 3 – 4, 2018 / Sat: consignment / Sun: sale**

**Snow Valley Ski Club, [snowvalley.ca](http://snowvalley.ca)**

Sale of new and 'new to you' snowboard and ski equipment. Lots of help for those new to the sport. Proceeds to Snow Valley Ski Club and Racing, and Snow Valley Staff Scholarship Fund.

# Winter Cycling Workshop

**Saturday, Nov 3, 2018 / 10:30am – noon**

**Mountain Equipment Co-op Downtown,  
[edmonton.ca/wintercycling](http://edmonton.ca/wintercycling)**

Keep Rolling While It's Snowing! Join the City's Bike Education Street Team and learn how to dress, ride, plan your route and cycle with confidence and comfort this winter.

# All is Bright on 124

**Saturday, Nov 10, 2018 / 4 – 8pm / 6pm: Light Up  
the Night Ceremony**

**Helen Nolan Park, [124street.ca/all-is-bright](http://124street.ca/all-is-bright)**

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

# Winter Cycling Workshop

**Saturday, Nov 10, 2018 / 10:30am – noon**

**Queen Alexandra Community League,  
[edmonton.ca/wintercycling](http://edmonton.ca/wintercycling)**

Keep Rolling While It's Snowing! Join the City's Bike Education Street Team and learn how to dress, ride, plan your route and cycle with confidence and comfort this winter.

# Holiday Window Decorating Contest

**Starting mid-November 2018 – watch website for dates**

**Throughout downtown, [edmontondowntown.com](http://edmontondowntown.com)**

Stroll through downtown and take in the festively decorated shop windows. Vote for your favourite online. Sponsored by the Downtown Business Association.





## The Carrot Christmas Arts Bazaar

Nov 16 – 17, 2018 / Fri 5 – 9pm / Sat 9am – 4pm

**The Carrot Community Arts Coffeehouse, [thecarrot.ca](http://thecarrot.ca)**

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

## Santa's Parade of Lights

Saturday, Nov 24, 2018 / noon

**Jasper Avenue, [edmontonsantaparade.com](http://edmontonsantaparade.com)**

We're excited to be part of the CN Grey Cup Parade! Look for us after the last Grey Cup entry. [#yegsantaparade](https://twitter.com/yegsantaparade)

## The Great Sweater Run

Saturday, Nov 24, 2018

**Emily Murphy Park, [thegreatsweaterrun.ca/edmonton](http://thegreatsweaterrun.ca/edmonton)**

Dig deep for your Great Sweater: cross-eyed reindeer, elves with pompoms, and tacky Santas. It's not high fashion, but it's perfect for our run!

# Holiday in the Park

**December 2018 – watch website for details**

*Fort Edmonton Park, [fortedmontonpark.ca](http://fortedmontonpark.ca)*

Celebrate winter the way Edmontonians did over a century ago. Watch website for all dates and times, as well as tickets and details. #fortedmontonpark

# Holiday Window Decorating Contest

**December 2018 – watch website for dates**

*Throughout downtown, [edmontondowntown.com](http://edmontondowntown.com)*

Stroll through downtown and take in the festively decorated shop windows. Vote for your favourite online. Sponsored by the Downtown Business Association.

# Krampusnacht Edmonton

**Early December 2018 – watch Facebook page for date**

*Location TBA, [facebook.com/krampusnachedmonton](https://facebook.com/krampusnachedmonton)*

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





## Santa Shuffle Fun Run & Elf Walk

**Saturday, Dec 1, 2018 / 10am**

**William Hawrelak Park, [santashuffle.ca](http://santashuffle.ca)**

This merry event helps The Salvation Army assist families and individuals during the Christmas season and throughout the year. 5km Fun Run, 1km Elf Walk.

## Great French Canadian Winter Patio Party – Opening Night

**Saturday, Dec 1, 2018 / 5 – 9pm**

**Café Bicyclette, [cafebicyclette.ca](http://cafebicyclette.ca)**

Embrace winter at Café Bicyclette's Winter Patio Opening Night Party. Try our new signature winter drink and dance a few jigs and reels! [#cafebicyclette](https://twitter.com/cafebicyclette)



# Red Ribbon Ride

**Saturday, Dec 1, 2018 / 5 – 10pm**

**Revolution Cycle, [showpass.com/red-ribbon-ride-2](http://showpass.com/red-ribbon-ride-2)**

This is a fun winter ride from Revolution Cycle to the iconic Hotel Macdonald patio for hot cocoa, returning for food, beer and wine post ride! [#WorldAIDSDay](#) [#RedRibbonRide](#)

# Winterfest at Snow Valley

**Dec 1 – 2, 2018 (weather permitting) / 10am – 2pm**

**Snow Valley Ski Club, [snowvalley.ca](http://snowvalley.ca)**

Usually the first full weekend in operation and we're celebrating! Scavenger hunt, hot chocolate and other activities in the lodge and on the snow!

# Zoominescence: A Festival of Light

**Dec 1–2, 7–9, 14–16, 21–23, 26–30, 2018 / 5 – 9pm**

**Edmonton Valley Zoo, [buildingourzoo.com](http://buildingourzoo.com)**

Explore our zoo and let us light up your night with an evening of light displays, local artists, hot chocolate, entertainment and more! [#yegzoo](#)

**Note:** This is a fundraiser for the Valley Zoo Development Society in support of the Edmonton Valley Zoo. Passes are not valid for this event. Tickets start at \$8.50/adult and \$6/child.



# Seniors' Candy Cane Tea

**Dec 4 – 5, 2018 / 1 – 3pm**

**Edmonton Valley Zoo, [valleyzoo.ca](http://valleyzoo.ca)**

Stroll through the Zoo and enjoy tea, hot chocolate, and baked goodies! Special performance by preschool children, as well as animal encounters. #yegzoo

# Marché de Noël du Quartier Francophone / French Quarter Christmas Market

**Friday, Dec 7, 2018 / 4 – 9pm**

**La Cité Francophone, [lacitefranco.ca](http://lacitefranco.ca)**

Enjoy a series of magical winter markets with a French twist both indoors and out at La Cité Francophone. Joyeux Noël! #fqmarket



# Luminaria

**Dec 7 – 9, 2018 / 5 – 10pm**

**University of Alberta Botanic Garden, [luminaria.ualberta.ca](http://luminaria.ualberta.ca)**

Fire light. Star light. Snow light. And you. Thousands of candles, sprites, song, cider, and an introduction to the new Aga Khan Garden by night. *#LuminariaUABG*

# Celebrate the Season at the Alberta Legislature

**Dec 7 – 23, 2018**

**Alberta Legislature, [assembly.ab.ca](http://assembly.ab.ca)**

Thousands of bright lights provide the backdrop for a holiday stroll or skate in the beautiful Legislature Grounds. Daily musical performances. *#ableg #CelebrateTheSeason*



# YEG Candy Cane Lane – 50th Anniversary!

**Dec 7, 2018 – Jan 1, 2019**

*148 Street, between 92 & 100 Avenues,*

*Facebook @YEGCandyCaneLane, Twitter @yegccl*

Come and celebrate our 50th Anniversary! Lights, sleigh rides, decorations. Remember a donation for the Food Bank.

## Marché de Noël du Quartier Francophone / French Quarter Christmas Market

**Friday, Dec 14, 2018 / 4 – 9pm**

*La Cité Francophone, [lacitefranco.ca](http://lacitefranco.ca)*

Enjoy a series of magical winter markets with a French twist both indoors and out at La Cité Francophone. Joyeux Noël! #fqmarket

## Jingle Jammin' Christmas Carolling

**Friday, Dec 14, 2018 / 6pm: chili / 7pm: carolling**

*Twice the fun – now at two locations! The Carrot Community Arts Coffeehouse and Eastwood Community League. Check [thecarrot.ca](http://thecarrot.ca) for details.*

Get into the holiday spirit and join us at either location for chili and carolling. Dress for the weather and bring your own flashlight.



# Yule Ave: A Merry Christmas

**Dec 14 – 15, 2018**

**Alberta Avenue Community League and Nina Haggerty Centre,**  
[yuleave.com](http://yuleave.com)

Concert, chili, ornament and gingerbread house decorating, Santa's Snow Village, wagon rides. Giving Tree: winter clothing accepted and given.

## Holiday Celebration at Snow Valley

**Sunday, Dec 16, 2018 / noon – 4pm**

**Snow Valley Ski Club, [snowvalley.ca](http://snowvalley.ca)**



Crafts, seasonal music throughout the lodge, and maybe a visit from Santa before he heads to the North Pole.

## Edmonton Christmas Bird Count

**Sunday, Dec 16 2018**

**City-wide, [edmontonchristmasbirdcount.ca](http://edmontonchristmasbirdcount.ca)**

Be part of a #yeg tradition that started in 1955! This citizen-science project shares data with the National Audubon Society and Bird Studies Canada.

## Marché de Noël du Quartier Francophone / French Quarter Christmas Market

**Friday, Dec 21, 2018 / 4 – 9pm**

**La Cité Francophone, [lacitefranco.ca](http://lacitefranco.ca)**

Enjoy a series of magical winter markets with a French twist both indoors and out at La Cité Francophone. Joyeux Noël! #fqmarket





## Elk Island National Park Free Admission Day

**Saturday, Dec 22, 2018**

*Elk Island National Park, [parks.canada.ca/elkisland](https://parks.canada.ca/elkisland)*

Kids are out of school for the holiday season and we're kicking off the winter season with free admission!

## Snowshoe & Stargaze

**Saturday, Dec 22, 2018 / 7 – 9pm**

*Elk Island National Park, [parks.canada.ca/elkisland](https://parks.canada.ca/elkisland)*

Take a guided snowshoe hike around Astotin Lake to a warm fire, and learn to navigate the stars in the Beaver Hills Dark Sky Preserve.

**Note:** Registration is required. Call 780-922-5790, beginning Nov 15.

## One-Day Holiday Camps at Snow Valley

**Dec 22, 2018 – Jan 4, 2019**

*Snow Valley Ski Club, [snowvalley.ca](https://snowvalley.ca)*

See website for exact times and schedule for Juniors and/or Mites.



## Santa on the Slopes

**Monday, Dec 24, 2018**

**Snow Valley Ski Club, [snowvalley.ca](http://snowvalley.ca)**

A quick run or two before the sleigh hits the skies, Santa rides Snow Valley! Get a selfie with Santa.

## Friends of Elk Island Society Annual Bird Count

**Wednesday, Dec 26, 2018**

**Elk Island National Park, [parkscanada.gc.ca/elkisland](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/elkisland), [elkisland.ca](http://elkisland.ca)**

Join the Friends of Elk Island Society for the annual Boxing Day Bird Count. Visit the Friends of Elk Island Society webpage for more information.

## Snowshoe & Stargaze

**Saturday, Dec 29, 2018 / 7 – 9pm**

**Elk Island National Park, [parkscanada.gc.ca/elkisland](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/elkisland)**

Take a guided snowshoe hike around Astontin Lake to a warm fire, and learn to navigate the stars in the Beaver Hills Dark Sky Preserve.

**Note:** Registration is required. Call 780-922-5790, beginning Nov 15.



# New Year's Eve Downtown

**Monday, Dec 31, 2018**

*Capital Plaza, [edmonton.ca/newyears eve](http://edmonton.ca/newyears eve)*

Celebrate New Year's Eve downtown! Check website for time, program and details.

# Bonnie Doon Skate Party

**January 2019 – watch website for date**

*Bonnie Doon Rink, [bonniedoona.ca](http://bonniedoona.ca)*

Enjoy skating and music at the Bonnie Doon Rink. Warm up by cooking a hotdog and marshmallows at the fire pit during this free family event.

# Snowshoe & Stargaze

**Saturdays in January 2019 / 7 – 9pm**

*Elk Island National Park, [parkscanada.gc.ca/elkisland](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/elkisland)*

Take a guided snowshoe hike around Astontin Lake to a warm fire, and learn to navigate the stars in the Beaver Hills Dark Sky Preserve.

**Note:** Registration is required. Call 780-922-5790, beginning Nov 15.

# 34th Annual Resolution Run

**Tuesday, Jan 1, 2019 / 11am**

*[runningroom.com](http://runningroom.com)*

Write your New Year's Resolution on your race bib and share with fellow runners. Youth participants receive a Resolution Run medal! Proceeds to YMCA.





## Hayrides & Hot Chocolate

Tuesday, Jan 1, 2019 / 3 – 5:45pm

**Strathearn Community Hall, [strathearncl.org](http://strathearncl.org)**

Celebrate New Year's Day with chili, marshmallow roasting, live music and of course hayrides. Presented by Strathearn Community League.

## New Year's Day In the Park

Tuesday, Jan 1, 2019 / 3 – 5:45pm / 5:15pm: fireworks

**Glastonbury Park**

Sleigh rides, skating, and hot chocolate. #myglastonburyyeg

## One-Day Holiday Camps at Snow Valley

Jan 1 – 4, 2019

**Snow Valley Ski Club, [snowvalley.ca](http://snowvalley.ca)**

See website for exact times and schedule for Juniors and/or Mites.

# Front Yards in Bloom: Winterscapes!

**Jan 1 – Feb 28, 2019**

**City-wide, [edmonton.ca/winterscapes](http://edmonton.ca/winterscapes)**

Embrace your winter creativity with #FYIBwinterscapes! Brighten your neighbourhood by making a wintry wonderland with lights, plants, snow and ice! #yegwinter #fyib

## McLeod Community League Newcomer Skate

**Saturday, Jan 5, 2019 / 11am – 2pm**

**McLeod Community Hall**

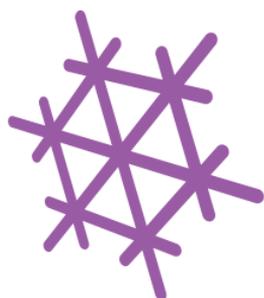
This newcomer skate welcomes everyone, including new Canadians, to McLeod Community League to try a day of skating.

## Pump Up The Jam

**Sunday, Jan 6, 2019 / 11am – 3pm**

**Snow Valley Ski Club, [snowvalley.ca](http://snowvalley.ca)**

A fun freestyle competition for kids 12 and under. Prizes, judges, and a ton of fun!



## Deep Freeze: A Byzantine Winter Festival

**Jan 12 – 13, 2019 / Sat noon – 10pm / Sun noon – 6pm**

**Alberta (118) Avenue, between 90 & 94 Streets, [deepfreezefest.ca](http://deepfreezefest.ca)**

Come embrace our cold northern climate by melding artistic panache with authentic cultural and heritage winter games!  
#deepfreezefest



# FIS World Snow Day

**Sunday, Jan 20, 2019 / 10am – 2pm**

**Snow Valley Ski Club, [snowvalley.ca](http://snowvalley.ca)**



International Ski Federation's 'Bring Children to the Snow' day. We'll have giveaways, hot chocolate, an obstacle course, scavenger hunt and more!

# Birkie Hot Chocolate Sundays

**Sunday, Jan 20, 2019 / 11am – 4pm**

**Cooking Lake-Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area,  
Waskahegan Staging Area, [canadianbirkie.com](http://canadianbirkie.com)**

Cross-country ski on Birkie trails the three Sundays before the festival and get complimentary hot chocolate! #cdnbirkie

# Winterfest in Castle Downs

**Saturday, Jan 20, 2019 / noon – 3pm**

**Castle Downs District Park**

Free community fun! Sleigh rides, refreshments, music, pallet races. Sponsored by the Castle Downs Recreation Society.

# Boardwalk Ice on Whyte

**Jan 24 – Feb 3, 2019 / Weekdays 2 – 10pm /  
Weekends 10am – 10pm**

**CP Rail Lands (Whyte Avenue & Gateway Boulevard),  
[iceonwhyte.ca](http://iceonwhyte.ca)**

Be amazed by ice carvings created by world-renowned artists at the Canada Cup of Ice Carving. Experience the ice bar and take an ice carving lesson. #iceonwhyte





## South West Ski Fest & Chili Cook Off

**Saturday, Jan 26, 2019 / 11:30am – 3:30pm**

**Blue Quill Community League, [southwestareacouncil.ca](http://southwestareacouncil.ca)**

Have a go at cross-country skiing. Explore neighbourhood ski trails. Free equipment for all ages. Helpful tips! SWYEG chili cook-off and hot cocoa. #SWSkiFest #Ski2LRT #SWAC #SkiLocal #ChiliCookOff

## Del Golinowski 3-on-3 Hockey Tournament

**Jan 26 – 27, 2019 / 9am – 6pm**

**McLeod Community Hall Rink**

This fun 3-on-3 adult outdoor hockey tournament is about having fun and playing hockey. Contact softball @mcleodcommunityleague.ca for more info.

## Birkie Hot Chocolate Sundays

**Sunday, Jan 27, 2019 / 11am – 4pm**

**Cooking Lake-Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area,  
Waskahegan Staging Area, [canadianbirkie.com](http://canadianbirkie.com)**

Cross-country ski on Birkie trails the three Sundays before the festival and get complimentary hot chocolate! #cdnbirkie





## Flying Canoë Volant

**Jan 31 – Feb 2, 2019 / 6pm – midnight**

**La Cité Francophone, [flyingcanoevolant.ca](http://flyingcanoevolant.ca)**

Discover your inner voyageur with the Flying Canoë Volant! An interactive cultural celebration of Indigenous, Métis and French history. #yegcanoe

## Snowshoe & Stargaze

**Saturdays, February 2019 / 7 – 9pm**

**Elk Island National Park, [parkscanada.gc.ca/elkisland](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/elkisland)**

Take a guided snowshoe hike around Astotin Lake to a warm fire, and learn to navigate the stars in the Beaver Hills Dark Sky Preserve.

**Note:** Registration is required. Call 780-922-5790, beginning Nov 15.

## GLOW Lantern Workshops

**February 2019 – watch website for dates and location**

**[quartersarts.com](http://quartersarts.com)**

Make your very own lantern for the GLOW Festival 2019 in March! Everyone is welcome to attend.



# Boardwalk Ice on Whyte

**Feb 1 – 3, 2019 / Weekdays 2 – 10pm /  
Weekends 10am – 10pm**

**CP Rail Lands (Whyte Avenue & Gateway Boulevard),  
[iceonwhyte.ca](http://iceonwhyte.ca)**



Be amazed by ice carvings created by world-renowned artists at the Canada Cup of Ice Carving. Experience the ice bar and take an ice carving lesson. [#iceonwhyte](https://twitter.com/iceonwhyte)

# YEG Hot Chocolate Fest

**Feb 1 – 15, 2019**

**City-wide, [YEGHotChocolate.com](http://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](https://twitter.com/yeghotchocfest)

# Front Yards in Bloom: Winterscapes!

**Feb 1 – 28, 2019**

**City-wide, [edmonton.ca/winterscapes](http://edmonton.ca/winterscapes)**

Embrace your winter creativity with [#FYIBwinterscapes](https://twitter.com/FYIBwinterscapes)! Brighten your neighbourhood by making a wintry wonderland with lights, plants, snow and ice! [#yegwinter](https://twitter.com/yegwinter) [#fyib](https://twitter.com/fyib)





## Hypothermic Half Marathon 1

**Sunday, Feb 3, 2019**

*Highlands Golf Club, [hypothermichalf.com](http://hypothermichalf.com)*

Participants will receive a Commemorative Hypothermic Half package from the Running Room, a unique finisher's medal, and complimentary brunch!

## Birkie Hot Chocolate Sundays

**Sunday, Feb 3, 2019 / 11am – 4pm**

*Cooking Lake-Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area,  
Waskahegan Staging Area, [canadianbirkie.com](http://canadianbirkie.com)*

Cross-country ski on Birkie trails the three Sundays before the festival and get complimentary hot chocolate! #cdnbirkie

## Toque Tuesday

**Tuesday, Feb 5, 2019 / 8 – 9am**

*Downtown LRT stations, [raisingtheroof.org](http://raisingtheroof.org)*

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



# Winter Walk Day

**Wednesday, Feb 6, 2019**

*Various locations around Edmonton, including Alberta Legislature Grounds & City Hall, [shapeab.com](http://shapeab.com), @WinterWalkDay*

Celebrate winter with a walk outside! This provincial initiative gets Albertans moving during winter months. Register on the website to be counted! #winterwalkday #shapeab #YegWalk

# Winter Bike to Work Day

**Friday, Feb 8, 2019**

*City-wide – check website to register and for local celebrations, [edmonton.ca/bikeedmonton](http://edmonton.ca/bikeedmonton), [winterbiketoworkday.org](http://winterbiketoworkday.org)*

Hop on your bike to celebrate. You may even find breakfast or hot chocolate to enjoy along your route! Commit to ride at [winterbiketoworkday.org](http://winterbiketoworkday.org). @WinterBike2Work #wbtwd #winterbiketoworkday

# Canadian Birkebeiner Ski Festival – 30th Anniversary!

**Feb 8 – 10, 2019**

*Ukrainian Village, Elk Island National Park, Cooking Lake-Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area, Gold Bar Park, [canadianbirkie.com](http://canadianbirkie.com), Facebook @cdnbirkie, Twitter @canadianbirkie*

Ski like Vikings! Enjoy a fun cross-country ski festival for all ages and abilities. Sign up family and friends for 2, 4, 13, 31 or 55 km races today. #birkie #xcski



# Silver Skate Festival

**Feb 8 – 18, 2019 / Weekdays 4 – 8pm /  
Fridays & weekends noon – 10pm**

*William Hawrelak Park, [silverskatefestival.org](http://silverskatefestival.org)*

Each year, the festival transforms Hawrelak Park into a winter wonderland with fun for the entire family. #silverskatefest

# Lunar New Year

**Saturday, Feb 9, 2019 / 11am – 3pm**

*Chinatown, 97 Street between 105 & 107 Avenues,  
[chinatownandarea.ca](http://chinatownandarea.ca)*

The Lunar New Year celebration includes lion and dragon dances, firecrackers, and other multicultural entertainment.

# Northgate Skate Races at Silver Skate

**Feb 9 – 10, 2019 / 9am – noon**

*William Hawrelak Park, [silverskatefestival.org](http://silverskatefestival.org)*

The Silver Skate Festival invites you to skate the 1km, 5km, 10km and/or 1-hour Skate Races on the 5-hectare lake at Hawrelak Park. #silverskatefest



# Mammoet Winter Triathlon at Silver Skate

**Monday, Feb 10, 2019 / 9:30am – 1pm**

**William Hawrelak Park, [silverskatefestival.org](http://silverskatefestival.org)**

The Silver Skate Festival is home to the Edmonton Winter Triathlon (EWT), which challenges all levels of athletes to run, skate and ski to victory! [#silverskatefest](#)

# International Festival of Winter Cinema

**Feb 15 – 17, 2019 / 6 – 9pm**

**William Hawrelak Park, [ifwc.ca](http://ifwc.ca)**

Watch films on a giant snow screen! Celebrate winter, alpine, local, indigenous, and polar cinema. Find it in the park during the Silver Skate Festival. [#ifwc](#) [#hawrelak](#) [#winterfilm](#)

# 2019 Capital Classic 3-on-3 Charity Pond Hockey Tournament

**Sat, Feb 16, 2019 / 9am – 5pm**

**Lake Summerside, [cpcedmonton.com](http://cpcedmonton.com)**

Will your pond hockey team be the 2019 Capital Classic Champions? Join us for hot food, ON-ICE Beer Tent & Gardens, live music and family activities.

# Snowshoe Races at Silver Skate

**Saturday, Feb 16, 2019 / 10am – noon**

**William Hawrelak Park, [silverskatefestival.org](http://silverskatefestival.org)**



The walk/run will occur in the park and on the trails. There are distances for all levels: 5km and the family-friendly 1km walk/run. [#silverskatefest](#)

# Family Day Weekend at Snow Valley

**Feb 16 – 18, 2019**

*Snow Valley Ski Club, [snowvalley.ca](http://snowvalley.ca)*

Family Fun Race course set up so kids can race Mom or Dad  
...or both! Plus more!

## Hypothermic Half Marathon 2

**Sunday, Feb 17, 2019**

*Highlands Golf Club, [hypothermichalf.com](http://hypothermichalf.com)*

Participants will receive a Commemorative Hypothermic Half package from the Running Room, a unique finisher's medal, and complimentary brunch!

## Dead Cold Run at Silverskate

**Sunday, Feb 17, 2019**

*William Hawrelak Park, [silverskatefestival.org](http://silverskatefestival.org)*

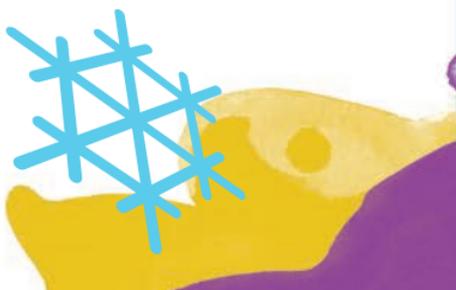
5 km #DeadColdRun in #Hawrelak @silverskate offers both a beautiful winter run and solid training for the zombie apocalypse. #yegfun

## Fat Bike Race & Festival at Silverskate

**Sunday, Feb 17, 2019**

*William Hawrelak Park, [silverskatefestival.org](http://silverskatefestival.org)*

Haven't tried a fat bike yet? Now's your chance!  
Races, demos, and all-round fat bike fun.



# Family Day at the Alberta Legislature

Monday, Feb 18, 2019

**Alberta Legislature, [assembly.ab.ca](http://assembly.ab.ca)**

Outdoor adventure and indoor excitement featuring world-class local performers. Make us your Family Day tradition! #ableg

# Family Day at Elk Island National Park

Monday, Feb 18, 2019

**Elk Island National Park, [parkscanada.gc.ca/elkisland](http://parkscanada.gc.ca/elkisland)**

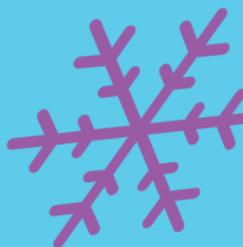
Bring the whole family for a day of fun activities in the great outdoors!

# Family Day at Elmwood Community League

Monday, Feb 18, 2019 / 11am – 3pm

**Elmwood Community Hall, [elmwoodcommunity.ca](http://elmwoodcommunity.ca)**

Our Family Day event will include horse-drawn sleigh rides, a bonfire and hot dog roast, s'mores, snow painting and snowman building.



# Family Day Fun at the Zoo!

**Monday, Feb 18, 2019 / noon – 4pm**

**Edmonton Valley Zoo, [valleyzoo.ca](http://valleyzoo.ca)**

Bundle up your family and Get Closer with "arctic" activities and games, and learn why the zoo is an Arctic Ambassador for Polar Bears International. #yegzoo

# Coldest Night of the Year

**Saturday, Feb 23, 2019**

**Check website for local teams and routes, [cnoy.org](http://cnoy.org)**

Fun, family-friendly walk to raise money for the hungry, homeless and hurting in 80+ communities. Funds raised in Edmonton go to local organizations. #cnoy19

# Winterfest 2019

**Sunday, Feb 24, 2019 / 2 – 5pm**

**Strathcona Centre Community Hall, [strathconacommunity.ca](http://strathconacommunity.ca)**



Join a sleigh ride or put your skates on and enjoy some warm food and hot chocolate at the SCCL Annual Winterfest. #winterfest2019

# Carnaval des Sucres

**Early March 2019 – watch website for date**

**Fort Edmonton Park, [fortedmontonpark.ca](http://fortedmontonpark.ca)**

A celebration of French Canadian Culture in Alberta that encourages people to learn, sing, dance and enjoy the outdoors. Check website for details. #fortedmontonpark



# Instagram Terrain Park Contest

**Mar 1 – 10, 2019**

*Snow Valley Ski Club, [snowvalley.ca](http://snowvalley.ca)*

Record yourself or a friend on Instagram doing your best trick in our terrain park and you could win. Prizes range from equipment to mountain lift tickets and more!



## Fatbikes for MS

**Saturday, Mar 3, 2019 / 8am – 6pm**

*Cloverdale Community Hall, [fatbikes4ms.com](http://fatbikes4ms.com)*

A new favourite, this Fat Fondo is celebrating its 4th year! Explore the River Valley like never before and raise funds for the MS Society. [#FB4MS](#) [#EndMS](#) [#SGFRONTFORKS](#) [#ridetherevolution](#)

## Terasse à sucre / Sugar Shack Patio

**Mar 14 – Apr 13, 2019 / 6 – 10pm**

*Café Bicyclette, [cafebicyclette.ca](http://cafebicyclette.ca)*

Café Bicyclette continues the late winter fun with its Sugar Shack experience on the patio! A five-course, maple-infused gastronomic experience awaits you. [#cafebicyclette](#)



# GLOW Festival 2019

**Mar 21 – 23, 2019 / Mar 21 – 23, 2019 / Sat: parade**

**Quarters Downtown and Boyle Street community, [quartersarts.com](http://quartersarts.com)**

Our 4th annual illuminated night parade will weave through our neighbourhood, featuring enormous animated lantern floats made by the community.

## Full Moon Birkie

**Friday, Mar 22, 2019 / 6 – 10pm**

**Cooking Lake-Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area,  
Waskahegan Staging Area, [canadianbirkie.com](http://canadianbirkie.com)**

Enjoy a post-Birkie cross-country ski under the light of the full moon! [#fullmoonbirkie](https://twitter.com/fullmoonbirkie)





## One-Day Holiday Camps at Snow Valley

**Mar 25 – 29, 2019** (weather permitting)

**Snow Valley Ski Club, [snowvalley.ca](http://snowvalley.ca)**

See website for exact times and schedule for Juniors and/or Mites. Plus we'll have theme days and activities for all ages throughout the week!

## Final Day of the Season at Snow Valley

**Friday, Mar 29, 2019** (weather permitting)

**Snow Valley Ski Club, [snowvalley.ca](http://snowvalley.ca)**

Join us for the last day of skiing for the 2018/19 ski season!

# Other Things to Watch For

## Ice Castles

*William Hawrelak Park, [icecastles.com](http://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.

## MEC Snowsports Clinics

*Mountain Equipment Co-op, both locations, [events.mec.ca](http://events.mec.ca)*

Check the website for clinics on everything from avalanche safety to Nordic and Alpine ski waxing to winter cycling.

## John Janzen Nature Centre

*[edmonton.ca/johnjanzen](http://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 for exciting winter adventures!



# WINTER IS COMING... TO WESTERN CANADA



WINTER CITIES

**SHAKE-UP** 2019

SASKATOON | CANADA

*January 23–26, 2019*

[wintercitiesconference.com](http://wintercitiesconference.com)

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



*February 6–8, 2019*

[wintercycling.org](http://wintercycling.org)



Be Active

# Cross-Country Skiing

[edmonton.ca/crosscountry](http://edmonton.ca/crosscountry)

Edmonton's expansive river valley and parks system is a perfect cross-country skiing destination!

## Groomed Cross-Country Ski Trails

Groomed trails are located throughout the city, but are found primarily in the beautiful river valley parks. 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.

**Capilano Park**

**Kinsmen Park**

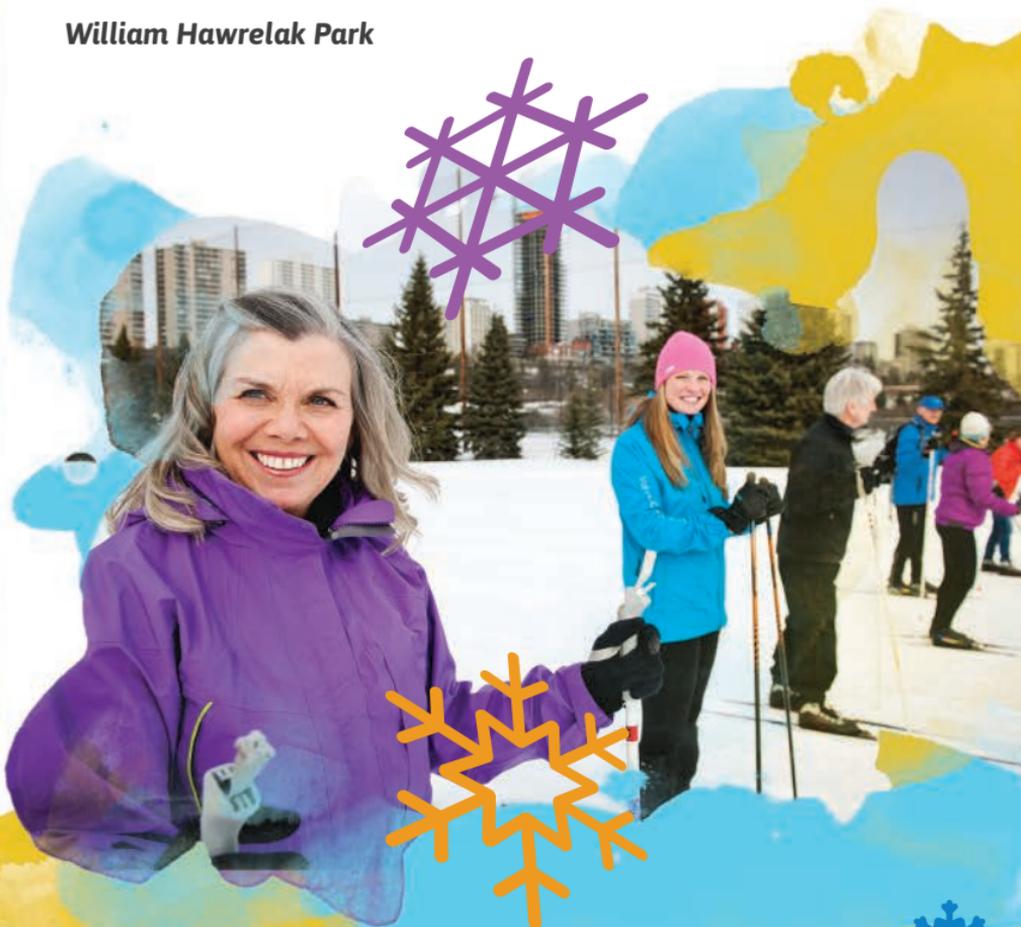
**Gold Bar Park**

**Riverside Golf Course**

**Gold Stick Park**

**Victoria Golf Course**

**William Hawrelak Park**



# Park Amenities & Trail Lighting

Please carry a cell phone, especially if you are skiing alone or at night. See the River Valley Network Map at [edmonton.ca/winterchalets](http://edmonton.ca/winterchalets) 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 [goo.gl/gRQNEY](http://goo.gl/gRQNEY). More details are available at [facebook.com/Ski2LRT](http://facebook.com/Ski2LRT).





# Downhill Skiing, Snowboarding & Tubing

The City of Edmonton leases land in the river valley to private downhill ski operators. Conveniently located in the southwest 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

**Snow Valley Ski Club** (119 Street, off Whitemud Freeway)  
[snowvalley.ca](http://snowvalley.ca)

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

**Sunridge Ski Area** (17 Street, south of the Yellowhead Trail)  
[sunridgeskiarea.com](http://sunridgeskiarea.com)

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

# Skating

[edmonton.ca/skating](http://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.

## City Outdoor Ice Surfaces

### Iceways



Two IceWays! More creative lights, more romantic skating through the trees. Check the City website for hours. Note that the Victoria IceWay will not be accessible from the Victoria Oval during ice maintenance and the Edmonton Speed Skating Association's reserved skate times.

**Rundle Park**

**Victoria Park**





## 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 for use in Hawrelak Park.

Shinny rinks will be available this winter at Hawrelak and Rundle Parks for those wishing to play informal hockey.

**Castle Downs Park**

**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

[efcl.org](http://efcl.org)

Did you know that community league volunteers maintain over 100 community skating rinks across the city? Many of the leagues have skate rental programs, too. Why not see how you can get involved?

To find a rink near you, go to the EFCL website, click on **Find a Facility/League**, and under **Facility Amenities**, select **Rink**. You will need a community league membership to use most rinks.

## First on the Ice Rink Contest!

**Nov 1 – 30, 2018**

**Edmonton Community Leagues Outdoor Rinks, [efcl.org](http://efcl.org)**

An annual EFCL contest showcasing the community leagues that are the first to open their outdoor rinks in Edmonton. #yegCLs



# Kenilworth Community League Family Ice Trail

**Kenilworth Community Hall, [kenilworthcommunity.com](http://kenilworthcommunity.com),  
Facebook @kenilworthcommunityleague**

Skate on our family-friendly ice path! We light it at night with festive LED lights. Donations to support the trail are always welcome.

# Strathearn Community League – New Rink!

**Strathearn Community Hall, [strathearncl.org](http://strathearncl.org)**

Come and check out the new hall with new skate change and rink! Rink will be open November to March. Times and dates are weather dependent.

# Stormwater Lakes & Ponds

City Drainage Bylaw 18093 prohibits any activity that may result in direct contact with water in stormwater lakes, including skating. 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.



# Snowshoeing

[edmonton.ca/snowshoeing](http://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.

Snowshoes perform best in areas that are more open and off the beaten track, but most city park trails are packed down. Look for open, snowy areas for the best conditions.

**Please remember:** If you happen to come across cross-country ski trails in your travels, 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 Golf Course**

**Victoria Park**

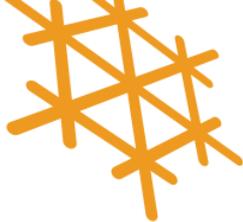
**Whitemud Park**

**William Hawrelak Park**



# Tobogganing

[edmonton.ca/toboggan](http://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.

## 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.

**Castle Downs Park**

**Emily Murphy Park**

**Gallagher Park**

**Government House Park**

**Queen Elizabeth Park –  
Dantzer's Hill**

**Rundle Park – ACT Hill and  
Walton's Mountain**

**Whitemud Park North**



# Winter Cycling

Maybe you've thought about riding a bike in winter? Go for it this year! There are lots of winter cycling enthusiasts near and far to help you with tips. Be part of the culture shift and extend your cycling habits. Let us know how you're pedaling in the snow. *@wintercityyeg #yegbike*

And remember, the forecast says: Cleared conditions for riding your bike on the new protected bike routes this winter!





# City of Edmonton's Bike Education Street Team

[edmonton.ca/wintercycling](http://edmonton.ca/wintercycling)

## **Bike Lane Ride Alongs**

Not sure how to use the new bike lanes? Request a Ride Along led by members of the City of Edmonton's Bike Education Street Team. These tours are interactive and will include demos of the various features along the new bike routes. Ride Alongs are typically around 1 – 1.5 hours long and can accommodate 1 – 30 people.

## **Winter Cycling Workshops**

**Saturday, Nov 3 / Mountain Equipment Co-op Downtown**

(11904 - 104 Avenue NW)

**10:30am – noon**

**Saturday, Nov 10 / Queen Alexandra Community League**

(10425 University Avenue NW)

**10:30am – noon**

Keep Rolling While It's Snowing! Join the City's Bike Education Street Team for these free workshops and learn how to prepare for winter cycling with confidence and comfort. Workshops will cover various topics including how to dress, riding techniques, and winter cycling route planning.

# Advice on Winter Biking: Just Do It!

[wintercityedmonton.ca/advice-on-winter-biking-just-do-it](http://wintercityedmonton.ca/advice-on-winter-biking-just-do-it)

For inspiration and practical advice, check out our April 24, 2016 blog about local winter cyclists Molly, Karen, and Glenn.

## Bike Edmonton

(Formerly Edmonton Bicycle Commuters Society)

[edmontonbikes.ca](http://edmontonbikes.ca), [@edmontonbicycle](https://twitter.com/edmontonbicycle),  
[facebook.com/BikeEdmonton](https://www.facebook.com/BikeEdmonton)



This group runs BikeWorks North and South, where you can learn how to repair your own bike and use their workshop and tools. They also offer lots of bike-related events across the city, including rides, courses, films, sales, and other events on our calendar. Watch the website for winter cycling courses!

## Paths for People

[pathsforpeople.org](http://pathsforpeople.org), [@pathsforppl](https://twitter.com/pathsforppl),  
[facebook.com/pathsforpeople](https://www.facebook.com/pathsforpeople)

A YEG-based non-profit dedicated to better infrastructure for people on bikes and on foot. Walk. Bike. Live.



# YEG Coffee Outside

[@coffee\\_outside](#)

Ride your bike in the morning? Be part of the coolest coffee club and connect with others over lively conversation. This group meets Friday mornings, usually at Ezio Faraone Park on the north side of the High Level Bridge. Check the Twitter account for details. And BYO coffee, tea, or hot chocolate.

# Winter Cycling Federation

[wintercycling.org](#)

Winter Cycling Federation's vision is 'winter cycling for everyone', and their mission is to create opportunities for inspiration, research and collaboration. They help cities and countries around the world learn what it takes to develop, implement and maintain bicycle-focused transportation systems year-round.



# City of Edmonton Programs and Resources

## Neighbourhood Recreation Experiences



### Drop-in Learn to Skate Programs

[edmonton.ca/learntoskate](http://edmonton.ca/learntoskate)

**January – February 2019, various community league rinks**

Meet new friends and learn basic skating skills through fun games and activities! This is a free drop-in program targeted for children aged 6 – 12 and their families, however all are welcome to attend. Trained leaders will be on hand to adapt the program to the ages and skill levels of the participants.

**Note:** Skates and helmets are not provided but both are required to participate. Programs will be cancelled at -25°C with wind chill, or if the ice is closed by the facility.

### Winter Green Shacks

[edmonton.ca/greenshacks](http://edmonton.ca/greenshacks)

**Check the Seasonal Calendar on the website for dates and locations.**

Free drop-in winter recreation program for children! The Winter Green Shacks activities are designed for children aged 6 – 12, but all children accompanied by an adult are welcome to attend. Games, crafts, sports, outdoor cooking, and more! Come dressed for the weather!



# Park Activities & Facilities

[edmonton.ca/winterchalets](http://edmonton.ca/winterchalets)



From Terwillegar Park to Hermitage Park, you'll discover a wide range of family activities and facilities in and out of the river valley that you can really warm up to!

**Borden Park** Snowshoeing, washroom building

**Buena Vista/Laurier Park** Walking trails, portable toilet

**Callingwood Park** Pavilion (washrooms)

**Capilano Park** Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, winter picnicking (BBQ pits), washroom building

**Castle Downs Park** Skating, tobogganing, pavilion (washrooms)

**Coronation Park** Snowshoeing, winter picnicking (BBQ pits), washroom building

**Dawson Park** Washroom building

**Emily Murphy Park** Snowshoeing, tobogganing, winter picnicking (BBQ pits & bookable site), washroom building

**Gallagher Park** Tobogganing, portable toilet

**Gold Bar Park** Cross-country skiing, lit night skiing, snowshoeing, winter picnicking (BBQ pits), washroom building

**Gold Stick Park** Cross-country skiing, lit night skiing

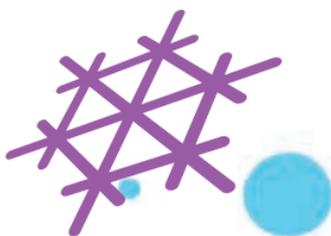
**Government House Park** Tobogganing, portable toilet

**Hermitage Park** Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, winter picnicking (BBQ pits), portable toilet, washroom building

**Hermitage Off-Leash Park** Portable toilet

**Jackie Parker Park** Skating, snowshoeing, winter picnicking (BBQ pits), washroom building

**Kinsmen Park** Cross-country skiing, lit night skiing



**Louise McKinney Riverfront Park** Washroom building, Urban Green Café, winter patio, River Valley Adventure Co. (winter segways & fat bike rentals)

**Mill Woods Park**  
Snowshoeing

**Queen Elizabeth Park**  
Tobogganing (Dantzer's Hill), portable toilet

**Riverside Golf Course** Cross-country skiing, portable toilet

**Rundle Park** Cross-country skiing, skating (IceWay), snowshoeing, tobogganing (ACT Hill & Walton's Mountain), winter picnicking (BBQ pits & bookable site), Family Centre (washrooms & Red Table Concession)

**Rundle Park Tennis Courts**  
Washroom building

**Sir Wilfrid Laurier Park**  
Winter picnicking (BBQ pits)

**Terwillegar Park**  
Snowshoeing, portable toilet

**Victoria Golf Course** Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, portable toilet, Red Table Bistro, winter patio

**Victoria Park** Cross-country skiing, skating (Oval & IceWay), snowshoeing, winter picnicking (BBQ pits & bookable site), Pavilion (washrooms & skate change)

**Whitemud Park**  
Snowshoeing, tobogganing, winter picnicking (BBQ pits), Alfred Savage Centre (washrooms)

**William Hawrelak Park**  
Cross-country skiing, skating, skate rentals, snowshoeing, winter picnicking (BBQ pits & bookable site), portable toilets, pavilion (washrooms, skate change & Red Table Café)



# Attractions & Recreation Centres

**Note:** All facilities have indoor washrooms.

## **ACT Recreation Centre**

Red Table Concession

## **Edmonton Valley Zoo**

Winter walking, Wild Earth  
Zoo Café, winter patio

## **John Janzen Nature Centre**

Snowshoeing, outdoor  
programs

## **Kinsmen Sports Centre**

Cross-country skiing

## **Muttart Conservatory**

Culina Café, winter patio

## **The Meadows Community Recreation Centre**

Skating

# River Valley Trail Maps

[edmonton.ca/rivervalleymaps](http://edmonton.ca/rivervalleymaps)

New! Central, west and east river valley winter maps are now available. They show trails, paths, cross-country ski routes, bike lanes, toboggan areas, skating rinks, warm-up locations, washrooms, cafés and more. Find hard copies at City Hall, your local library or recreation centre, or check the website for digital copies.

# River Valley Programs

[edmonton.ca/rivervalleyprograms](http://edmonton.ca/rivervalleyprograms) or call 311  
[@rivervalleyprograms](https://twitter.com/rivervalleyprograms) [#rivervalleyprograms](https://www.facebook.com/rivervalleyprograms)

Discover the river valley in winter with the City of Edmonton's River Valley Programs! For more information or to register for programs or day camps, please visit the website or call 311.



# Day Camps

December 2018 – March 2019

**Various River Valley Parks**

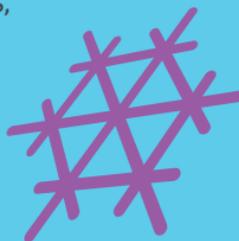
Get the kids outside this winter! Campers will get the chance to explore the river valley on skis, snowshoes, toboggans and so much more!

# Registered Programs

December 2018 – March 2019

**Various River Valley Parks**

Get outside this winter! Explore the river valley on cross-country skis, snowshoes, kicksleds and more! All instruction and equipment are provided.





## 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. We've listed some equipment rental businesses at [wintercityedmonton.ca](http://wintercityedmonton.ca). Let us know if we've missed any!

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***

## Winter Fun Close to Edmonton



### Cooking Lake-Blackfoot Provincial Recreation Area

***60 km east of Edmonton,  
[albertaparks.ca/cooking-lake-blackfoot](http://albertaparks.ca/cooking-lake-blackfoot)***

Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing

# Elk Island National Park

48 km east of Edmonton, [parksCanada.gc.ca/elkisland](http://parksCanada.gc.ca/elkisland)

## Skate!

Bring your skates and glide around the island on Astotin Lake. Skating loop opens in January (weather dependent).

## Explore!

Cross-country ski and snowshoe on our many trails. Snowshoes can be rented from the Astotin Lake Theatre, 9:30am – 4:30pm, 7 days a week.

## Stargaze!

As part of the Beaver Hills Dark Sky Preserve and the newly designated Beaver Hills Biosphere Reserve, Elk Island National Park is an exquisite spot to view the wonders of the night sky. Feel the warmth of a campfire as you gaze up into a night sky filled with twinkling stars!

## Camp!

Winter camping creates unforgettable memories for those who conquer cool winter conditions. First-come first-served sites are available at the Astotin Lake Campground Oct 19, 2018 – Apr 22, 2019 (fees apply).

## Events

Saturday, Dec 22, 2018

Free Admission Day

Saturday, Dec 22 & 29, 2018

Snowshoe and Stargaze

Wednesday, Dec 26, 2018

Friends of Elk Island  
Society Annual Bird Count

Saturdays in Jan & Feb 2019

Snowshoe and Stargaze

Monday, Feb 18, 2019

Family Day



# Miquelon Lake Provincial Park

70 km southeast of Edmonton,  
[albertaparks.ca/parks/central/miquelon-lake-pp/](http://albertaparks.ca/parks/central/miquelon-lake-pp/)

Cross-country skiing, skating, snowshoeing, skijoring

# Rabbit Hill Snow Resort

40 km southwest of Edmonton, [rabbithill.com](http://rabbithill.com)

Skiing, snowboarding, equipment rentals

# Strathcona Wilderness Centre

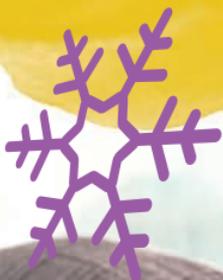
16 km east of Edmonton,  
[strathcona.ca/wildernesscentre](http://strathcona.ca/wildernesscentre)

Cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, equipment rentals



A photograph of two people sitting at a table, likely in a cafe or restaurant. The person on the right is a Black man with a beard, wearing a blue and black striped scarf, smiling broadly and gesturing with his hand. The person on the left is wearing a grey plaid flat cap and a purple scarf, looking towards the man. On the table are two white mugs of coffee, one with steam rising from it, and a plate with pastries. A large yellow watercolor splash is at the top, and three snowflake icons (blue, purple, and orange) are overlaid on the image.

Be Social



# 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. Check with your local league to find out how they're celebrating winter. And if you can't find a winter fest, maybe it's time to start one!

For more information about community league events, go to [efcl.org](http://efcl.org), click on **Events & Projects**, and then on **Winter Events**.



# Cool Communities

## Edmonton Nature Club

[edmontonnatureclub.org](http://edmontonnatureclub.org)

The ENC is an educational group which offers a wide variety of opportunities for members and the community to come explore, learn about, and enjoy nature in the Edmonton area and around Alberta. Join us for birding, botany and bugs!

**Note:** Most ENC programs are delivered for adults, however some local nature walks are suitable for families with younger children.

## Edmonton Outdoor Club

[edmontonoutdoorclub.com](http://edmontonoutdoorclub.com)

The Edmonton Outdoor Club brings people together in a fun, friendly and inviting atmosphere. It's free to join, and adults of all abilities are encouraged to take part. The club offers regular outdoor activities year-round, as well as social and special events.

## Long John Index Service of Canada

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



# November Project

[november-project.com](http://november-project.com), [Twitter @Nov\\_ProjectCAN](https://twitter.com/Nov_ProjectCAN),  
[facebook.com/NovemberProjectCanada](https://facebook.com/NovemberProjectCanada)

**All workouts start at 6 am sharp!**

**Mondays:** Check Twitter account for location.

**Wednesdays:** Stair running at Commonwealth Stadium.

**Fridays:** Hill running at Walterdale Hill (start at the bottom of Walterdale Hill and run up to 109th Street).

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



## SkiLocal

[facebook.com/groups/257625614635280](https://facebook.com/groups/257625614635280)

This group of cross-country ski enthusiasts hits the trails in and around their neighbourhoods. They work with community leagues and the City to make local groomed trails a possibility. Check them out on Facebook, and watch for their next tracksetters' BrewSki night!



## Winter Green Shacks

[edmonton.ca/greenshacks](http://edmonton.ca/greenshacks)

**Check the Seasonal Calendar on the website for locations.**

Free drop-in winter recreation program for children! The Winter Green Shacks activities are designed for children aged 6 – 12, but all children accompanied by an adult are welcome to attend. Games, crafts, sports, outdoor cooking, and more! Come dressed for the weather!

## YEG Coffee Outside

**Twitter @coffee\_outside, most Fridays 7 – 9am**

**Locations vary, but usually Ezio Farone Park; check Twitter account for details.**

Ride your bike in the morning? Be part of the coolest coffee club and connect with others over lively conversation. BYO coffee, tea or hot chocolate – or impress the others and brew it there on a camp stove!



# Winter Party Locations

[edmonton.ca/facilityrentals](http://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.

**Alfred H. Savage Centre**

**Muttart Conservatory**

**Rundle Family Centre**

**Victoria Golf Course  
Social Room**

**Yorath House**





## Winter Patios

[@WinterCityYEG](#), [#wintercityyeg](#), [#yegpatio](#)

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

**Café Bicyclette**

**Culina Café at the Muttart**

**Red Table Bistro at Victoria  
Golf Course**

**Little Brick**

**The Billiard Club**

**Urban Green Café in Louise  
McKinney Park**

**Wild Earth Zoo Café**

## 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 and Instagram!



# Winter Picnicking

[edmonton.ca/picnic](http://edmonton.ca/picnic)

Many winter days are bright and sunny. And dare we say warm? Well, yes, especially if you're dressed for the weather. Bundle up and head out to a park 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!

## Things You Might Need

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

## Parks with BBQ Pits

**Capilano Park**

**Hermitage Park**

**Victoria Park**

**Coronation Park**

**Jackie Parker Park**

**Whitemud Park**

**Emily Murphy Park**

**Rundle Park**

**William**

**Gold Bar Park**

**Sir Wilfrid  
Laurier Park**

**Hawrelak Park**

## Parks with Bookable Winter Picnic Sites

**Emily Murphy Park**

**William Hawrelak  
Park**

**Rundle Park**

**Victoria Park**



# Be Creative



# Dressing for Winter

Living in a winter city gives fashion a purely amazing flourish.



Unlike folks who live in less diverse climates, Edmontonians enjoy the opportunity to change things up seasonally, in beautiful, bright and delightfully comfortable ways.

From snugly, ultra-soft cashmere scarves and toques to pillowed Tremblant-style down jackets and perennially popular parkas, winter can be the most fashionable time of the year.

There's no excuse for drab and colourless: Everything from snow boots to ski mitts is available in an incredible array of colours, patterns and prints. Kids' winter wear is the cutest of any season, with animal or monster-themed earflap hats and onesie snowsuits kids'll look forward to wearing months in advance.

Ready to warm up to winter? Nothing does more to make a winter outing pleasurable than the right clothing to keep you comfortable and confident. And it needn't be expensive; even stores that sell otherwise mundane work attire in other seasons regale their shelves with eye-catching styles and layer upon layer of soft, snuggly fashions that will bring a smile to the face of the most hardened winter curmudgeon. Second-hand and thrift stores are great places to score amazing deals on winter attire.

Show off your winter flair, give frostbite the finger, and gear up to enjoy winter like never before!



## Lighting Your Home

Lights on your home aren't just for the holidays! Take down Santa and the reindeer at the end of December, but leave your lights on until March. You'll help to make your community more vibrant and welcoming.

## Keep Your Light to Yourself

Edmonton has a Light-Efficient Community Policy that strives to, among other things, minimize light pollution. When installing lights around your home, make sure you 'keep your light to yourself'. Angle your lights down, and pay particular attention to keeping them away from your neighbours' windows. Other than that, be creative!

## Laser Light Projectors

Laser light projectors are the hottest new trend in house decorating. They look cool and are easy to put up. But watch where you point them! Keep them pointed away from your neighbours' windows and away from the skies – they can blind pilots flying overhead.

# Winterscapes

[edmonton.ca/winterscapes](http://edmonton.ca/winterscapes)



A winterscape is a way of decorating your wintry landscape using snow, ice, natural objects and lights. Winterscapes help beautify our Edmonton neighbourhoods, and building one will get you outside, exercising and enjoying winter. Build one with family, friends and neighbours. Connect with your community. Begin a new Family Day tradition!

Check the City website for photos of winterscapes that other Edmontonians have created, as well as for information about the **Front Yards in Bloom: Winterscapes Contest**.

## A Few Ideas

Winterscapes don't require much equipment or many materials. Use what's in your yard, add a few whimsical elements, and let your imagination run wild. Here are some ideas and suggestions to help inspire your own winterscape:

- Use nature's art supplies such as pine cones, branches and berries.
- Get creative with snow and ice to build creatures and forts.
- Use wildlife-friendly features like bird feeders.
- Spray paint on the snow, or add colour to the water before you freeze blocks of ice.
- Leave your winter lights up until March.

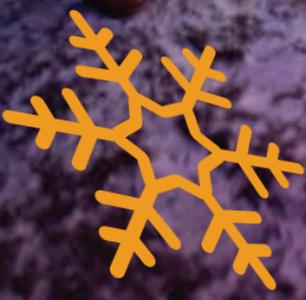
### **Did you know that plants add visual interest, too?**

Next summer, consider adding trees and shrubs, herbaceous plants, grasses, and vines.





# Winter Calendar

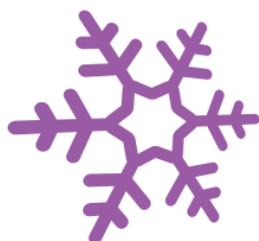


# October

OCT 27 – 28      Edmonton Ski & Snowboard Show  
& Winter Sport Equipment Sale

# November

NOV – Date TBA      Holiday Window Decorating Contest  
NOV 1 – 30      First on the Ice Rink Contest!  
NOV 3      Winter Cycling Workshop  
NOV 3 – 4      Snow Valley Ski SWAP & Sale  
NOV 10      All is Bright on 124  
NOV 10      Winter Cycling Workshop  
NOV 16 – 17      The Carrot Christmas Arts Bazaar  
NOV 24      Santa's Parade of Lights  
NOV 24      The Great Sweater Run



# December

- DEC – Date TBA Holiday in the Park
- DEC – Date TBA Holiday Window Decorating Contest
- DEC – Date TBA Krampusnacht Edmonton
- DEC 1 Santa Shuffle Fun Run & Elf Walk
- DEC 1 Great French Canadian Winter Patio Party – Opening Night
- DEC 1 Red Ribbon Ride
- DEC 1 – 2 Winterfest at Snow Valley
- DEC 1 – 2 Zoominescence: A Festival of Light
- DEC 4 – 5 Seniors' Candy Cane Tea
- DEC 7 Marché de Noël du Quartier Francophone / French Quarter Christmas Market
- DEC 7 – 9 Zoominescence: A Festival of Light
- DEC 7 – 9 Luminaria
- DEC 7 – 23 Celebrate the Season at the Alberta Legislature
- DEC 7 – JAN 1 YEG Candy Cane Lane – 50th Anniversary!
- DEC 14 Marché de Noël du Quartier Francophone / French Quarter Christmas Market
- DEC 14 Jingle Jammin' Christmas Carolling
- DEC 14 – 15 Yule Ave: A Merry Christmas
- DEC 14 – 16 Zoominescence: A Festival of Light
- DEC 16 Holiday Celebration at Snow Valley
- DEC 16 Edmonton Christmas Bird Count
- DEC 21 Marché de Noël du Quartier Francophone / French Quarter Christmas Market
- DEC 21 – 23 Zoominescence: A Festival of Light
- DEC 22 Elk Island National Park Free Admission Day
- DEC 22 Snowshoe & Stargaze
- DEC 22 – JAN 4 One-Day Holiday Camps at Snow Valley
- DEC 24 Santa on the Slopes
- DEC 26 Friends of Elk Island Society Annual Bird Count
- DEC 26 – 30 Zoominescence: A Festival of Light
- DEC 29 Snowshoe & Stargaze
- DEC 31 New Year's Eve Downtown





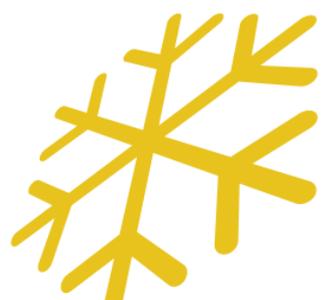
## January

JAN - Date TBA	Bonnie Doon Skate Party
JAN 1	YEG Candy Cane Lane - 50th Anniversary!
JAN 1	34th Annual Resolution Run
JAN 1	Hayrides & Hot Chocolate
JAN 1	New Year's Day In the Park
JAN 1 - 4	One-Day Holiday Camps at Snow Valley
JAN 1 - FEB 28	Front Yards in Bloom: Winterscapes!
JAN 5	McLeod Community League Newcomer Skate
JAN 5	Snowshoe & Stargaze
JAN 6	Pump Up The Jam
JAN 12	Snowshoe & Stargaze
JAN 12 - 13	Deep Freeze: A Byzantine Winter Festival
JAN 19	Snowshoe & Stargaze
JAN 20	FIS World Snow Day
JAN 20	Winterfest in Castle Downs
JAN 20	Birkie Hot Chocolate Sundays
JAN 24 - FEB 3	Boardwalk Ice on Whyte
JAN 26	South West Ski Fest & Chili Cook Off
JAN 26	Snowshoe & Stargaze
JAN 26 - 27	Del Golinowski 3-on-3 Hockey Tournament
JAN 27	Birkie Hot Chocolate Sundays
JAN 31 - FEB 2	Flying Canoë Volant



# February

- FEB – Date TBA GLOW Lantern Workshops
- FEB 1 – 2 Flying Canoë Volant
- FEB 1 – 3 Boardwalk Ice on Whyte
- FEB 1 – 15 YEG Hot Chocolate Fest
- FEB 1 – 28 Front Yards in Bloom: Winterscapes!
- FEB 2 Snowshoe & Stargaze
- FEB 3 Hypothermic Half Marathon 1
- FEB 3 Birkie Hot Chocolate Sundays
- FEB 5 Toque Tuesday
- FEB 6 Winter Walk Day
- FEB 8 Winter Bike to Work Day
- FEB 8 – 10 Canadian Birkebeiner Ski Festival – 30th Anniversary!
- FEB 8 – 18 Silver Skate Festival
- FEB 9 Lunar New Year
- FEB 9 Snowshoe & Stargaze
- FEB 9 – 10 Northgate Skate Races at Silver Skate
- FEB 10 Mammoet Winter Triathlon at Silver Skate
- FEB 15 – 17 International Festival of Winter Cinema
- FEB 16 2019 Capital Classic 3-on-3 Charity Pond Hockey Tournament
- FEB 16 Snowshoe Races at Silver Skate
- FEB 16 Snowshoe & Stargaze
- FEB 16 – 18 Family Day Weekend at Snow Valley
- FEB 17 Hypothermic Half Marathon 2
- FEB 17 Dead Cold Run at Silverskate
- FEB 17 Fat Bike Race & Festival at Silverskate
- FEB 18 Family Day at the Alberta Legislature
- FEB 18 Family Day at Elk Island National Park
- FEB 18 Family Day at Elmwood Community League
- FEB 18 Family Day Fun at the Zoo!
- FEB 23 Snowshoe & Stargaze
- FEB 23 Coldest Night of the Year
- FEB 24 Winterfest 2019





## March

- MAR - Date TBA Carnaval des Sucres
- MAR 1 - 10 Instagram Terrain Park Contest
- MAR 3 Fatbikes for MS
- MAR 14 - APR 13 Terrasse à sucre / Sugar Shack Patio
- MAR 21 - 23 GLOW Festival 2019
- MAR 22 Full Moon Birkie
- MAR 25 - 29 One-Day Holiday Camps at Snow Valley
- MAR 29 Final Day of the Season at Snow Valley





# wintercity Edmonton

[exploreedmonton.com](http://exploreedmonton.com)

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

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

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