



**RECREATION AND CULTURE
SERVICES
MEMORANDUM**

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TO: MAYOR, A. NUTTALL AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

FROM: S. LEE-YOUNG, MANAGER OF RECREATION AND CULTURE PROGRAMS

NOTED: D. BELL, DIRECTOR, RECREATION AND CULTURE SERVICES

D. MCALPINE, GENERAL MANAGER OF COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES

M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RE: WINTERFEST 2023 AND HELLO WINTER

DATE: JANUARY 25, 2023

The purpose of this Memorandum is to provide members of Council with an update regarding plans for Winterfest 2023.

Grab your mittens and celebrate winter. Barrie Winterfest will be held February 4th and 5th, 2023, with outdoor programming in Heritage Park and Meridian Place and partner programming at venues throughout the community. Winterfest is one of Barrie's signature events and one of the top winter festivals in Ontario. The event attracts visitors from all over the province, including many Barrie residents that have made it a winter community tradition.

Enjoy a variety of Winterfest programming. Activities throughout the weekend will include:

Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

- Ice sculptures;
- Lumberjack shows (Saturday only);
- Nature in Winter;
- Speaking of Wildlife;
- Horse-drawn wagon rides;
- Snow Valley's mini tube slide;
- Inflatables;
- Buskers;
- Family entertainment;
- Bonfire warming zone;
- Helicopter rides (\$);
- Vendor market – variety of food and artisans; and
- Much more.

Other Winterfest Locations/Activities

- Barrie Farmers' Market;
- Pancake Breakfast;
- Barrie Skating Club Showcase & Learn to Skate;
- Polar Bear Dip;
- Skating;
- Barrie Public Library; and
- MacLaren Art Centre.



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Additionally, [Hello Winter](#) continues all month long featuring activities at partnered locations throughout the community. Locations include:

- Downtown Barrie's Hot Cocoa Trail;
- Family Day Adventure at the Barrie Community Sports Complex;
- February Blues Festival;
- Barrie Film Festival Screen One film screening;
- Barrie Public Library family programming;
- MacLaren Art Centre programming;
- Barrie Farmers' Market; and
- Much more.

Further details of activities for the Winterfest weekend will be made available at barrie.ca/winterfest and for a full list of events happening throughout the month of February visit barrie.ca/HelloWinter.