



RECREATION AND CULTURE
SERVICES
MEMORANDUM

Page: 1
File: m02
Pending #:

TO: MAYOR A. NUTTALL AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

FROM: K. ELLIS, MANAGER, RECREATION PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

NOTED: K. DATEMA, DIRECTOR, RECREATION, CULTURE AND SPECIAL EVENTS
W. COOKE, ACTING GENERAL MANAGER OF COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES
M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RE: WINTERFEST / HELLO WINTER

DATE: JANUARY 22, 2025

The purpose of this Memorandum is to provide Mayor Nuttall and members of Council with an update regarding Winterfest 2025.

Celebrate the Winter Season at this year's Winterfest, happening the weekend of February 1st and 2nd, 2025. Due to construction in Heritage Park, this beloved annual event has temporarily been relocated to Centennial Park and Will Dwyer Park, while our partner programming continues in a variety venues throughout the community.

Winterfest is a community tradition and has been recognized by Festivals and Events Ontario as one of Ontario's Top 100 Festivals for 2 years in a row! This event attracts attendees from accross the province, including Barrie residents who have made it a winter tradition.

Enjoy the activities happening along the waterfront and in unique locations throughout the City, including spectacular ice sculptures, highlighting this year's theme of Dinosaurs along with live lumberjack shows, family music and stage entertainment, winter wildlife education exhibit and demonstrations by a local animal rescue *Speaking of Wildlife*, campfire and mashmallow roasting, skating, pancake breakfast and much more winter fun.

New this year: Five Points Theatre will feature a Dinosaur Spectacular, where attendees can interact, investigate, learn and engage with all things Dinosaur. The Barrie Police Service will now be hosting their annual fundraiser Polar Dip during the Winterfest event, in support of a local charity, with further details to come.

[Hello Winter](#) celebrates the City's winter spirit all month long! Participate in outdoor arts, culture and community events continuing throughout the month of February; featuring activities at partnered locations throughout the community such as the *February Blues Festival*, [Family Day Winter Adventure](#) and so much more.

This event has been made possible by the partnerships with other local organizations including the BIA, Tourism Barrie, and our generous sponsors.

Further details of activities for the Winterfest weekend, will be made available at [barrie.ca/Winterfest](#) and for a full list of activities happening throughout the month of February visit [barrie.ca/HelloWinter](#)