

# ST. ELIAS ECHO



The Newspaper of Haines Junction for 48 Years .50c

December 2025

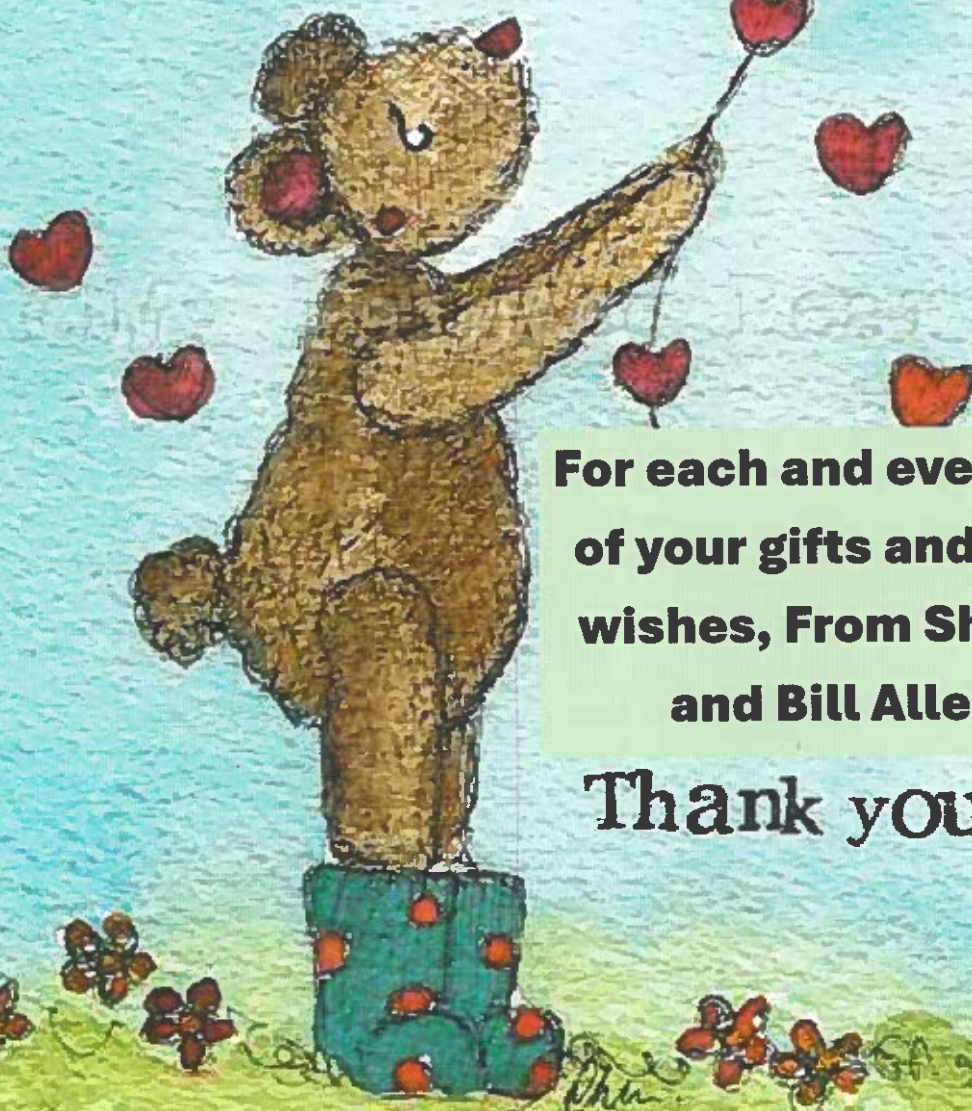


Happy and Safe Season to All





Bless your big  
and generous  
heart!



For each and everyone  
of your gifts and well  
wishes, From Shawn  
and Bill Allen

Thank you!





**St. Elias Community School**

**December 2025**

**Dec. 11—Community Christmas Luncheon 11:30-1:00 in the gym. Potluck dessert exchange! Bring a dessert to trade. Everyone is welcome.**

**Dec. 18—Christmas Concert @ 6:30pm in the gym.**

**Dec. 22 to Jan. 2—Christmas Break  
Classes start on Monday Jan. 5th**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM  
ALL OF US TO ALL OF YOU!**





Thank you to all of the agencies and businesses helping to distribute  
"St. Elias Echo."

Bank, Fas Gas, Haines Junction Public Library, Top Spot, St. Elias  
Community School, Haines Junction Village Office

And thanks, everyone, for your 50 cents.



Everyone is welcome to our annual

# **Community Carol Service**

**7 pm Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>**

**THE LOG CHURCH**

**Come and sing along to your favourite Christmas carols with  
live music and get in the spirit with traditional readings.**

**Please bring Christmas baking to share!**



**Want to be a musician or be in the choir?**

**Contact Marliese Whelan 634-2915 for details about practices.**

**Want the music to practice? Contact Mark Ritchie 335-2943.**



11/30/25, 4:49 PM

White and Red Modern Christmas Border A4 Document (14).jpg



## Christmas Market

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14th 1:00 - 4:00**

**St. Elias Convention Center**

The Grinch is visiting  
Haines Junction!



Prizes for matching jammies or  
outfits for family/friend/group  
pictures with the Grinch!

Cookie Decorating!

Christmas Caroling!

Gift Basket Draw!!

Concession!!

"4:00, wallow in self-pity; 4:30, stare into the abyss; 5:00, solve world hunger, tell no one; 5:30, jazzercise; 6:30, dinner with me—I can't cancel that again; 7:00, wrestle with my self-loathing... I'm booked. Of course, if I bump the loathing to 9, I could still be done in time to lay in bed, stare at the ceiling and slip slowly into madness."

----- The Grinch



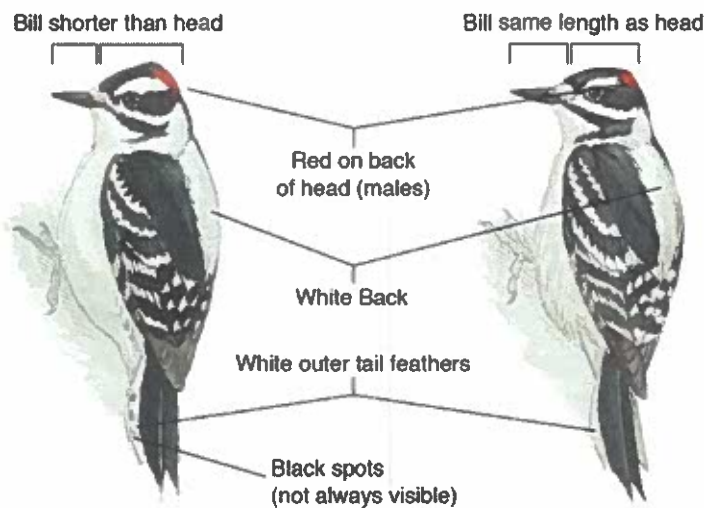




# CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS



Haines Junction count is **Saturday Dec 20.**  
Compiler for this year is **Sophie Coallier**  
[sophieco@live.ca](mailto:sophieco@live.ca)  
418-318-4060



Downy Woodpecker

Hairy Woodpecker



Julie Bauer will remain compiler for **Kluane Lake** count which is on **Saturday Dec 27.**  
[bauerjulieann@outlook.com](mailto:bauerjulieann@outlook.com)  
867-336-0688

ALL ROUTES ARE PLANNED BEFORE COUNT DAY.  
PLEASE CONTACT THE APPROPRIATE COMPILER.



# Annual Skate With Santa

December 24, 2025

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Bill Brewster Arena - Haines Junction



Everyone Welcome!

FREE: Hot Dogs - Hot Chocolate - Prizes -  
Treats & Family Fun!

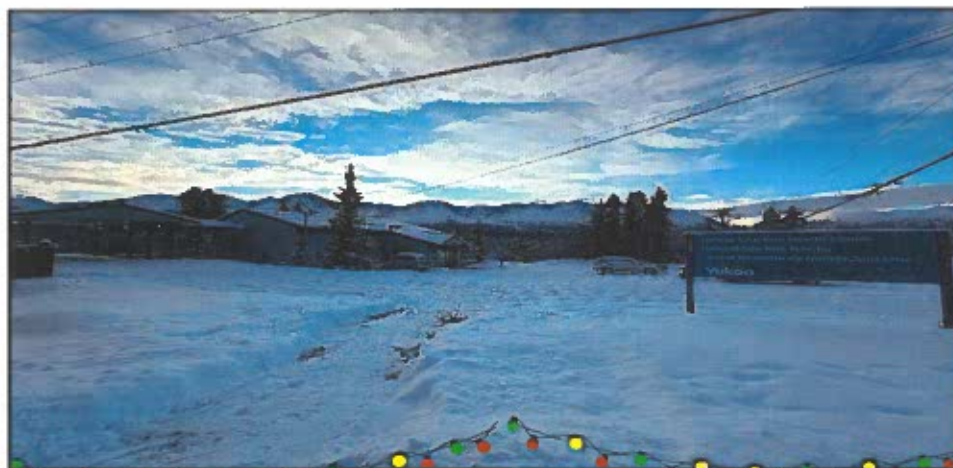
1-2 pm Skating & prize giveaways

2-3 pm Skate with Santa on the ice

Bring your camera

Thanks to sponsors: HJMH, St. Elias Lions  
Club & CAFN





## Happy Holidays from HJHC!

The staff of Haines Junction Health Centre want to wish everyone in the community a happy, healthy, and safe holiday! A nurse is available for medical emergencies 24/7. To speak to a nurse or get medical advice after hours, call 811. For mental health emergencies, call 988.

## December is Safe Driving Month

For safe winter driving the best way to maintain control of your vehicle is to watch your speed. Slow down, give yourself extra travel time and drive to the conditions. Ensure you have an emergency kit in your car and always wear your seatbelt, it could save your life!

You can check road and weather conditions at [Yukon511.ca](https://yukon511.ca). Learn more at <https://yukon.ca/en/outfox-winter#tips-for-a-safe-trip>.

## COVID-19, RSV AND FLU VACCINES

The Haines Junction Health Centre will have COVID-19, RSV, and flu vaccine clinics by appointment, for all ages that are eligible. Call the health centre to find out about your eligibility and to make an appointment. Flu shots will also be available by walk in or appointment. Come down and get protected today! Always remember that there are no better infection prevention measures than hand washing and staying home when you are experiencing symptoms of viral illness! 🌲

## Dakwàkàda Nda Dän Kù Haines Junction Health Centre

**NEWS**  
December 2025

### HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday to Friday: 8:30 am to 5 pm

FOR **EMERGENCIES** AFTER HOURS  
Please call 867-634-4444 or 911

### APPOINTMENTS

Appointments are available daily.  
Please call 867-634-4444

### NURSE APPOINTMENTS

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday:  
9 am to 11:30 am

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and  
Friday: 1 pm to 4:30 pm

\* Holiday closures: December 26, 27



and January 2.



### LAB HOURS

Tuesday: 1 pm to 4:30 pm

Wednesday: 9 am to 11:30 am

### ADMINISTRATION TIME

Thursday: 1 pm to 3 pm

\* **Open for emergencies 24/7**

### DOCTOR SERVICES

Call 867-634-3838 to inquire  
about medical travel or to book an  
appointment with Dr. Froud.



## When Frosty the Snowman Plays Hockey

### A Children's Story

In December of 2022, Frosty the Snowman is no longer a myth to the children of Glacier Junction way up in the North. He is real, and he is mighty. Just read on!

When Frosty left town all those years ago...going “thumpety, thump, thump over the hills of snow,” the children thought he was gone for good. Of course, all the parents understood that Frosty had just melted away out of the children's sight.

At least, that is what those silly parents believed. Afterall, those parents had heard him say, “So let's run, and we'll have some fun before I melt away.” Of course, Frosty was just teasing. You see, Frosty merely and merrily thumped his way across the world to where there was snow in another country. That saved his life.

But now Frosty is back in Glacier Junction, and he is at the Arena practicing his fancy and powerful skating techniques. Oh. You didn't know Frosty could skate? Well, did you not see him skating last year with some of the children on Pine Pond? Too bad you missed that. Well, maybe next time you will see him there and be able to skate with him.

In the meantime, let's hurry back to the arena where Frosty is right now. A hockey game has been planned for tonight. All ages OF KIDS are invited to play. And that's good because no one really knows how old Frosty really is, and he has signed up to be on a team. He doesn't seem to care whose team he is on as long as he is on the winning team. And he knows he will be. And he knows at least it will be just a tie.

Hmmm, that IS a little bit strange. How does Frosty know that he will be on the winning team? Or that there will be a tie?

Well, after all, I guess he IS magic.

At seven o'clock, the parents and grandparents and baby brothers and sisters and neighbours and bachelors and pretty girls all gather in the viewing area upstairs in the Mezzanine (ooh, that's a big word.) Everyone is excited to see Frosty play hockey, especially when most of them didn't even know he could skate.

The coaches aren't quite sure which team to put Frosty on, so they just tell him to stand by at the edge.

*(Continued on next page.)*



*(Continued from previous page.)*

The game begins, Blues and against Greens. The whistle blows. They're off!

What? There goes Frosty skimming down the ice guiding the puck...right into the net of the Blues. Their goalie missed it!

The crowd upstairs explodes in cheers and laughter...except for the fans of the Blue team, of course.

"Well, I guess he's on the Green team," one coach says to the other.

No sooner does he say that, than Frosty is zipping down the ice steering the puck in the opposite direction, and he slams that puck right into the Green Team's net. Maybe that goalie wasn't careful either.

Or maybe Frosty was just too quick...or was he really magic? Hmm. Maybe.

The game goes on like this the whole evening. Some of the players do manage to get control of that puck, but if they miss a goal, or get into a tight spot, Frosty comes along and straightens out the problem.

He is making sure that the score stays even all through the game.

And so the game ends with a tie, everyone laughing and cheering. The kids all skate toward the dressing room thinking that Frosty is following, and the families all clump, clump down the stairs to congratulate Frosty.

BUT FROSTY IS LEAVING. LOOK AT HIM GO. THUMPETY THUMP-THUMP, THUMPETY-THUMPETY THUMP-THUMP OVER THE HILLS OF SNOW.

Frosty had to hurry on his way, but he's waving goodbye, singing, "Don't you cry, I'll be back to play next year."

-- Elayne Hurlburt --

**WINTER  
FUN!**





Outlook

Fwd: Trail Update & Membership Renewal: Let the 2025/2026 Ski Season Begin!

From St.Elias Ski Club <steliasskiclub@gmail.com>

Date Mon 12/1/2025 5:04 PM

To Shawn.Allen <Shawn.Allen@yukon.ca>

You don't often get email from steliasskiclub@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Hi Shawn,

Would you be able to put this info in the Echo?

Thanks,

Kat

Dear Members,

Happy December 1st and welcome to the 2025/2026 ski season!

We're excited to announce that our amazing grooming team was out last night! They successfully groomed the Bearberry Connector and the Forestry Trails (Green and Blue Loops).

- Current Snow Conditions: While the trails are groomed and ready for your first strides, we are still waiting for a bit more snow for the track setters to be deployed. Keep your snow dances going!

You can easily see the newly groomed sections on the attached map—look for the trails highlighted in gray.

As we kick off a new season, it's the perfect time to renew your membership with the St Elias Cross Country Ski Club. Your membership fees are crucial—they provide the funds needed to maintain our equipment and keep our beautiful trails groomed throughout the winter.

- Suggested Donation:
  - Individual: \$30
  - Family: \$60
- How to Renew:
  - E-transfer your donation to: [steliasskiclub@gmail.com](mailto:steliasskiclub@gmail.com)
  - Mail a cheque to:

St Elias Cross Country Ski Club, PO Box 5425, Haines Junction  
Yukon Y0B1L0

We look forward to seeing you on the snow!

Your Ski Club





## **WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH THE LAND TREATMENT FACILITY AT THE MACKINTOSH GRAVEL PIT??**

This is a question the Nygren Group would love to have an answer to, but to date we have not had a response from any of the parties involved – Castle Rock Enterprises, Dakwakada Enterprises, Champagne-Aishihik First Nations, or the previous Liberal Government. Perhaps the newly elected Yukon Party Minister of Environment will be able to inform the public on the status of this Land Treatment Facility application.

The Nygren Group still maintains that the active Mackintosh gravel pit is not the appropriate place to treat contaminated lands that will be dug up from all of western Yukon. We still maintain that travel costs are not the deterrent that Castle Rock states is the reason they need to build their facility in the Mackintosh gravel pit – as the distance travelled only pertains to their treatment of the old “Parks Farm” site, 5 km from the gravel pit, and does not consider the reality of distances travelling to the rest of “western Yukon” to dig up the contaminated lands and haul it back to our neighbourhood. The Nygren Group offered a suitable site to consider erecting the land treatment facility at Km 1603, just 13 km away from the clean, active Mackintosh gravel pit. Surely 13 km won’t cut too deeply into the travel budget pocket of this major Corporation.

The Nygren Group has not received the results of the Hydrogeological Assessment that is to take place before YTG approval can be given to begin the contaminated land treatment in the Mackintosh gravel pit by Castle Rock Enterprises. We are aware that the Energy Mines and Resources Assessment of the Mackintosh gravel pit site indicated that this site was not appropriate for the size of the land treatment facility proposed by Castle Rock.

As of this writing, December 2025, the Nygren Group will continue to seek updated information on this proposed Project, and we will continue to offer any help we can to have the land treatment facility relocated to an appropriate site that will not impact negatively on the health and safety of nearby residential areas, nor the integrity of pristine water sources and the world heritage site of Parks Canada in the Alsek Valley.

Stay tuned.....

The Nygren Group

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**THE VERY BEST OF THE SEASON TO EVERYONE!**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1 Every Monday</b> Pickleball 5-7 Senior's Society 11 am @ Atrium Carpet bowling, floor curling, indoor walking JAM open stage 6-10 pm @ Convention Centre	<b>2 Every Tuesday</b> Romp & Run 10-11:30 am @ Mezzanine  Senior's Chair yoga 10:00 am @ Grand Hall	<b>3 Every Wednesday</b> -Senior s community breakfast 11-2 & 2-4 craft and coffee afternoon  -Adult basketball 7- 8:30 @ school gym	<b>4 Every Thursday</b> Romp & Run 10-11:30 am @ Mezzanine Adult Volleyball @ School gym. Time TBA Thrift Store 2-6 pm @ Log Church	<b>5 Every Friday</b> Storytime 10-11 am @ library for ages 4 & under  Pickleball 5-7 pm	<b>6</b>
<b>7 Every Sunday</b> Yoga 6-7:15 pm @ Atrium - see ad	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Christmas Luncheon @ School 11:30  Park Boad/YESAB open house @ Atrium	<b>12</b> -Seniors education days Flexible dates/times - see ads to come  CAFN open house 12/2 Main Admin Bldg.	<b>13</b> Science Saturday 10 am-noon @ Library
<b>14</b> Christmas Market 1pm @ Convention Centre  Carol Service 7 pm @ Log Church	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18 Every Thursday</b> Senior's Chair yoga 10:00 am @ Grand Hall Christmas Concert 6:30 @ School	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Haines Junction Bird Count
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> School Christmas Break starts	<b>23</b>	<b>24 CHRISTMAS EVE DAY</b>  Skate with Santa 1-4 @ Arena	<b>25 CHRISTMAS DAY</b>	<b>26 BOXING DAY</b>	Kluane Lake Bird Count
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31 NEW YEAR'S EVE</b>			

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ECHO-Monday January 19th noon sharp!**

All submissions should be sent to [shawn.allen@yukon.ca](mailto:shawn.allen@yukon.ca)

Any errors or omissions, please call Sharyn @ 335-5771

or email [riedls@northwestel.net](mailto:riedls@northwestel.net)



# Tourism Recreation & Economic Development

## Mill

December 2025



**Village of Haines Junction**  
Box 5339  
Haines Junction, Yukon  
Y0B 1L0

Phone: (867) 634-7100

Fax: (867) 634-2008

Email: [admin@hainesjunction.ca](mailto:admin@hainesjunction.ca)

Website: [www.hainesjunctionyukon.com](http://www.hainesjunctionyukon.com)

## Council Meetings

The next regular Council meeting will be:

*December 10, 2025*

*January 14, 2025,*

*January 28, 2025*

Regularly scheduled meetings for the Village of Haines Junction Council are held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of every month at 7:00 pm.

Meetings are held in Council Chambers at the Haines Junction Convention Centre.

The public is invited to join in person in the Council Chambers, or online or by teleconference via Zoom.

Agenda packages, along with instructions for how to connect via Zoom, are posted on the Village of Haines Junction website

<<[hainesjunction.ca](http://hainesjunction.ca)>> on the Friday afternoon of the week prior to each meeting.

You can also contact the Village at [corporate@hainesjunction.ca](mailto:corporate@hainesjunction.ca) to be added to the Village email distribution list to receive Council Agenda Packages, Council Meeting Minutes, and other Public Notices, by email.

Thank you for your understanding.

*Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a wonderful holiday and a Happy New Year.*

## Open House

Sponsored by

The Little Green Apple

**Friday, December 12, 2025**

**4:00pm – 6:00pm**

**St. Elias Convention Centre**

## Village Office Holiday Hours

December 24, 2025: 8:30 a.m. -12:00pm

**December 25, 2025, to January 1, 2025:**

**CLOSED**

January 2, 2025: Regular Hours Resume



# Landfill & Recycling Centre Holiday Hours

December 25 to 26, 2025:

**Closed**

December 27 and 28, 2025:

Regular Hours.

January 1, 2026:

**Closed**

January 2, 2026: Regular Hours Resume

Stay tuned for the hours for the 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>

The Regular Winter Hours for the Haines Junction Waste Management Facility are available online or at the Village Office.



## Business Licences

2025 Business Licenses will expire on  
December 31, 2025.

Get your 2026 License prior to  
January 31, 2026  
to avoid a 10% monthly penalty!



## Dog Tags

Get a fashionable new 2026 tag for your dog  
at the Village Office!



All dogs within the  
municipality are required  
to be licensed and fines  
apply for non-  
compliance.

Tags also help us to  
return your dog  
back to its loving home!

Licence fees are \$5.00 for 2026 spayed or  
neutered dogs, \$25.00 for non-spayed or  
non-neutered, and \$25.00 for Life-time  
Neutered dogs.

## Winter Solstice

**Sunday December 21, 2025, 8:03am**





# Community Group Funding Opportunity

DONATED  
REFUNDABLES FUND

APPLICATION  
DEADLINE:

JANUARY 15, 2026

The Haines Junction Recycle Centre accepts donated refundable items throughout the year. The refund money collected is held in a Donated Refundables Fund to be awarded on an annual basis to eligible community groups, as per the Donation of Refundable Items Policy #31-20.

Eligibility Guidelines and the Donated Refundables Fund Application Form are available from the Village Office or online:

Eligibility Guidelines:

[hainesjunction.ca/p/village-policies](https://hainesjunction.ca/p/village-policies)

Application Form:

[hainesjunction.ca/p/funding-opportunities](https://hainesjunction.ca/p/funding-opportunities)

Please contact the Village Office at 634-7100 or [admin@hainesjunction.ca](mailto:admin@hainesjunction.ca) for more information.



# Christmas Paper Clean Up

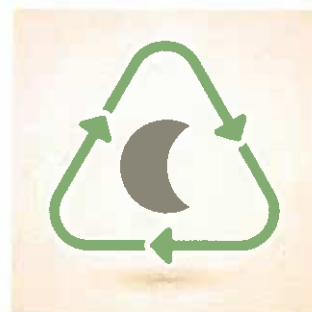
Paper-based wrapping paper (not foil) can be recycled with paper.

Remember that *only* paper  
& boxboard  
goes into the paper bin!

Curling ribbon and bows can be  
recycled with soft plastic

Ensure to empty all the pieces from  
your gifts before recycling the boxes!

Not sure where  
it goes? Ask our  
friendly recycle  
centre  
attendants!





# The Rob McPhie Holiday Lights Contest

Is happening again this  
year Details to follow!

Keep up to date with all the  
latest Village news on our  
website and Facebook page!

# Arena December 2025 Schedule

December 2025 Arena Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Public Skate 2:30-6:30 Rec Hockey 7:30-9:00	2 Public Skate 1:00-3:00 HJMH Practices 3:45-7:15	3 Public Skate 11:00-5:00	4 HJMH Practices 3:45-7:15 Rec Hockey 7:30-9:00	5 Public Skate 1:00-6:30	6 Public Skate 11:00-5:00
7 Curling 12:00-2:00 Public Skate 2:30-5:30 Women's Hockey 5:30-6:30	8 Public Skate 2:30-6:30 Rec Hockey 7:30-9:00	9 Public Skate 1:00-3:00 HJMH Practices 3:45-7:15	10 Public Skate 11:00-5:00	11 HJMH Practices 3:45-7:15 Rec Hockey 7:30-9:00	12 Public Skate 1:00-6:30	13 Public Skate 11:00-5:00
14 Curling 12:00-2:00 Public Skate 2:30-5:30 Women's Hockey 5:30-6:30	15 Public Skate 2:30-6:30 Rec Hockey 7:30-9:00	16 Public Skate 1:00-3:00 HJMH Practices 3:45-7:15	17 Public Skate 11:00-5:00	18 HJMH Practices 3:45-7:15 Rec Hockey 7:30-9:00	19 Public Skate 1:00-6:30	20 Public Skate 11:00-5:00
21 Curling 12:00-2:00 Public Skate 2:30-5:30 Women's Hockey 5:30-6:30	22 Public Skate 11:00-5:00	23 Public Skate 11:00-5:00	24 Skate With Santa 1:00-4:00	25 Christmas Day (closed) 	26 Homecoming Tournament	27 Public Skate 11:00-5:00
28 Curling 12:00-2:00 Public Skate 2:30-5:30 Women's Hockey 5:30-6:30	29 Public Skate 11:00-5:00	30 Public Skate 11:00-5:00	31 New Years Eve (Closed)			

The regular arena schedule is available online, at the arena or the Village Office.

