

**Rutherford Snowbank Rink**  
***Frequently Asked Questions***

This temporary snowbank rink is a pilot project for HPCL. We appreciate your patience with the weather delays and over the next few days as we get things set up, make adjustments, and address any issues that may arise

It will take some time at the start to find the right placement of the lighting and to determine the best lighting schedule. There will be a slight delay in getting lighting in place while the perimeter of the rink is cleaned up and the uneven ground is maneuvered.

**Q. What is a snowbank rink?**

A. This is a temporary rink, built using the snow to create a berm as the border or rink edges.

**Q. Why a snowbank rink?**

A. Feedback received from our 2018 Needs Assessment Survey indicated majority of respondents want a rink in their community.

**Q. Why a snowbank rink in Rutherford?**

A. The City of Edmonton used to build snowbank rinks in neighbourhoods. They worked with leagues to promote the amenity and were responsible for the entire installation process – start to finish. Leagues are now responsible for rink projects. Since this is a League project, we built the snowbank rink on the land designated by the City for league amenities. This land is adjacent to the Rutherford playground.

**Q. Why weren't boards used in construction of the rink?**

A. This project is on City parkland. The League applied for and received a permit to build a temporary snowbank rink. The City does not allow the use of boards as that changes the project from being a temporary snowbank rink to a structure on parkland, which carries different requirements and a longer review process.

**Q. How was the size and exact location of the rink on the land selected?**

A. A contractor was retained in summer 2018 and after their site visit, determined the suitable size and location of the rink based on the grade.

**Q. Why is there a light tower at the rink?**

A. In past years, users of the City's snowbank rinks cited lack of lighting as a deterrent to getting the most use out of the rink during the skating season. In the interest of safety, a four-LED light tower has been installed at the rink and will operate during limited hours in the early evening. This tower is diesel operated and was chosen because it is fully automated, allowing lights to turn on/off on a timer. Once in place, the light tower will be fenced off to mitigate vandalism/theft and for general safety of people in the vicinity.

**Q. How long will the rink be available?**

A. The rink will be open to the public as long as conditions are suitable for safe skating. The operating hours are subject to change and users should check the league's website <https://www.heritagepointcl.ca> regularly to stay up to date.

**Q. Will there be set hours for public skating, hockey or other activities?**

A. Since this is our first year of running a snowbank rink, we have not yet determined a set schedule. Since the surface is 60 feet by 100 feet, it is important that users be respectful of each other and share the ice. During the skating season, if there is a strong need for it, we may create a schedule in order to accommodate various groups and their interests. Please provide your *constructive* feedback to [facilities@heritagepointcl.ca](mailto:facilities@heritagepointcl.ca).

**Q. How can I get involved in projects like this?**

A. Contact [volunteer@heritagepointcl.ca](mailto:volunteer@heritagepointcl.ca) to get involved with your community.

Thank you to ice rink builder, H2Bros, the HPCL Board members for undertaking this project, and the West Rutherford Homeowners Association for their generous sponsorship to help us offset the operating costs of the rink.