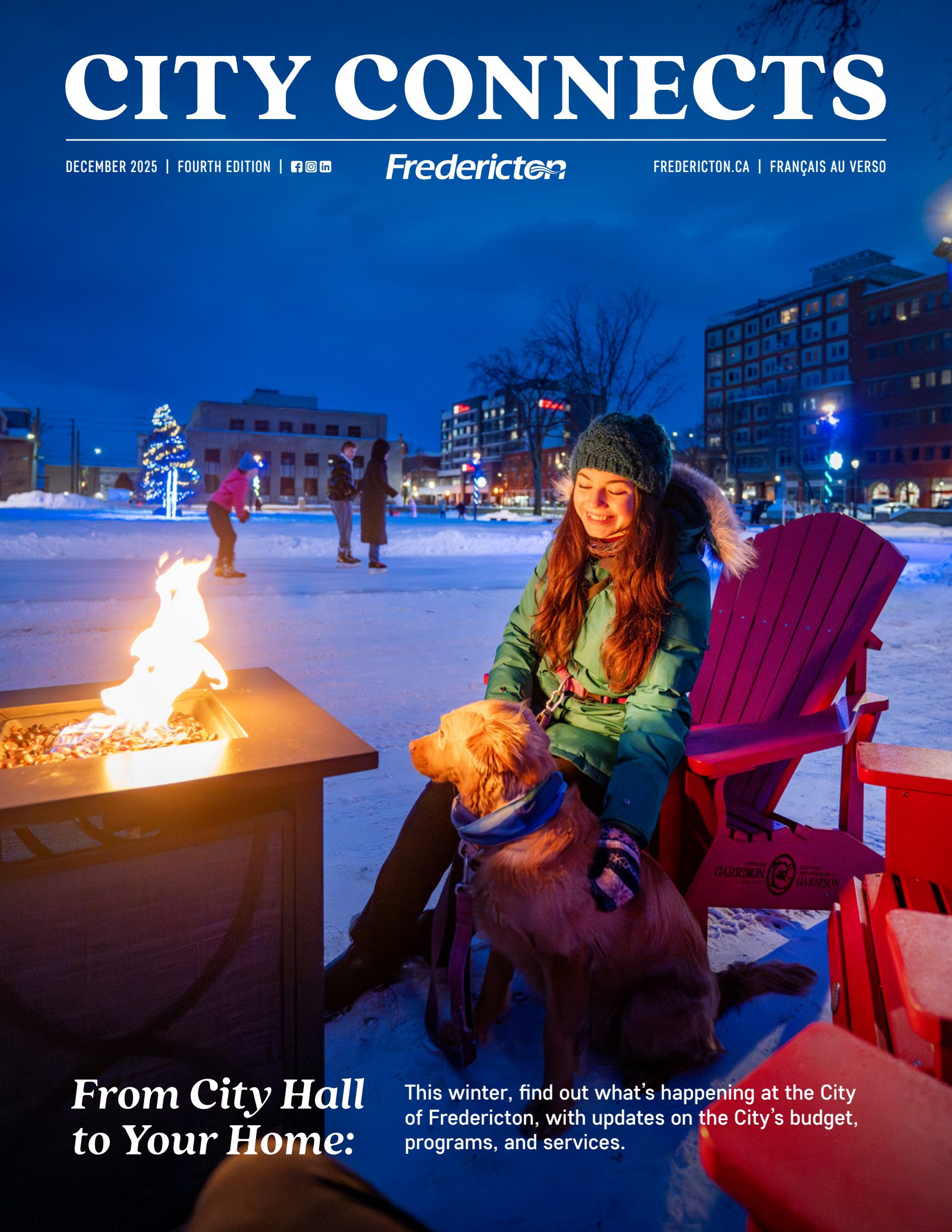


# CITY CONNECTS

DECEMBER 2025 | FOURTH EDITION | [f](#) [i](#) [t](#)

*Fredericton*

FREDERICTON.CA | FRANÇAIS AU VERSO



***From City Hall  
to Your Home:***

This winter, find out what's happening at the City of Fredericton, with updates on the City's budget, programs, and services.



## Land Acknowledgement

*We acknowledge that the City of Fredericton is situated on traditional Wolastoqey territory. The territory of the Wolastoqiyik People are recognized in the Peace and Friendship Treaties to establish an ongoing relationship of peace, friendship and mutual respect between equal nations. The river that runs through our City is known as the Wolastoq, along which live the Wolastoqiyik, “the People of the beautiful and bountiful river”.*

## MAYOR'S Message

Since the last issue of City Connects, Fredericton City Council continues working to create a safe, affordable, vibrant city for our residents.

The past several months at City Hall have been dedicated to building a balanced, responsible and resident-focused budget for the upcoming year. In November, City Council approved the 2026 budget that features a strong focus on public safety and affordability while continuing to deliver the essential services people rely on, along with amenities and programs that enhance our residents' lives.

As winter settles in, free skate loans are returning to the Officers' Square Skating Rink. With skates, helmets and skate aids available, all skill levels are welcome. It's a wonderful opportunity to get out on the ice and spend time with family and friends. There's also lots of low-cost programs and activities taking place across the city that I hope you're able to take part in and enjoy.

Wishing you all a joyful holiday season! Until next time, take good care and see you in the new year.

*Kate Rogers*  
Mayor of Fredericton

## Local Historic Places Register

Established in 2003, the Fredericton Local Historic Places Register is a Council-approved list of properties recognized for their significant heritage value to the municipality. This year, the Heritage Resources Digital Library was launched on the City of Fredericton website to preserve and share Fredericton's heritage through an online archive. Focused on materials and information unique to the city, the Digital Library provides the public with a growing resource of information that is not available through other archives.

To see the full list of properties, visit:

[www.fredericton.ca/local-historic-places-register](http://www.fredericton.ca/local-historic-places-register)



# 2025 HIGHLIGHTS:

## What We Achieved for You

### Growing a greener Fredericton

- ✓ Doubled the number of trees planted, adding over 1,000 new trees to the city's 67% tree canopy through an additional fall planting season.
- ✓ Introduced Fredericton's first fruit forest in Wilmot Park, blending community food access with green space.
- ✓ To help residents reduce household waste, the City sold 42 discounted backyard and indoor compost bins and hosted ten workshops to guide users in getting started with composting.



### More ways to get outside

- ✓ The City upgrades at Killarney Lake Park, including the Killarney Lake Natural Play Park, enhanced mountain bike trails, a signature competition disc golf course, accessible beach matting, and a pilot off-leash dog trail.
- ✓ Expanded the River Access Initiative, installing six new kayak launches at Angelview Park, Mitch Clark Park, Penniac, and Cityview Avenue, and introduced a secure kayak storage program for residents, expanding access to the city's blue trails.
- ✓ Released a new paper and digital trail map to make exploring Fredericton's paved and groomed trails easier than ever.

### Building community through activities

- ✓ The skate loan program in Officers' Square made it easy for residents of all ages to enjoy skating this winter, loaning out over 3,000 skates and 450 helmets, averaging more than 330 skate loans per week!
- ✓ Awarded \$860,000 in community grants to support local organizations and events.
- ✓ Hosted 15 open houses and public information sessions through Engage Fredericton, bringing residents into the conversation.
- ✓ Worked with local partners to host over 200 special events throughout the year.





## Investing in transit to move Fredericton forward

- ✓ Celebrated Fredericton Transit's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with major service improvements, including three new hybrid buses and six more on the way, expanded midday routes, and the launch of on-demand transit to make getting around Fredericton faster than ever.



## Building for the future

- ✓ With By-Law W-4 implemented this year, recycling became easier for residents in multi-unit buildings, with new requirements taking effect this past spring.
- ✓ Completed major construction and infrastructure improvements, from trail bridges to key roads across the city.



## Community & safety

- ✓ Collaborated with multiple levels of government and community partners to create the Community Safety Task Force, with 47 recommendations now in progress, building a safer, healthier, and more inclusive community for all. Track our progress here: [www.fredericton.ca/community-safety](http://www.fredericton.ca/community-safety)
- ✓ Continued new initiatives, including the Community Enforcement Unit (CEU) and the Community Safety Support Unit (CSSU), to enhance public safety, engagement and law enforcement.







# What we've **DONE**

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## **2026 Budget Completed**

The City of Fredericton has approved the 2026 General Fund Operating Budget of \$184.8 million and the 2026 Municipal Capital Budget of \$36.7 million.

The budget maintains the current inside property tax rate, despite the Government of New Brunswick's one-year property assessment freeze. For households in areas with outside or annexed tax rates, a five-cent increase per \$100 of assessment has been approved.

The 2026 Budget continues to support existing programs and services while investing in public safety, expanded transit services, and recreational initiatives. A total of \$3.7 million in grants and contributions to community organizations has also been approved.

The City manages two separate budgets:

General Fund – funded mainly by municipal property taxes, this fund supports roads, fire and police services, parks, recreation, and other essential services.

Water & Sewer Fund – funded by water and sewer rates, this fund maintains infrastructure for clean drinking water and wastewater management.

Developed through open Council meetings between September and November, the 2026 Budget reflects Fredericton's commitment to transparency, fiscal responsibility, and community priorities.

For more information, visit:  
[\*\*www.fredericton.ca/budget\*\*](http://www.fredericton.ca/budget)



# Get ready for WINTER

## When are your streets and sidewalks cleared during a storm?

When a storm hits, City crews are ready to roll. They look after 1176 km of roads and 258 km of sidewalks, which is no small task when the snow piles up. To keep Fredericton moving, the City follows a strategic priority system.

- During a storm, Priority 1 and 2 streets, main roads and busier routes, are scraped continuously. Depending on the size of the storm, Priority 3 streets may also be cleared to make sure residents can still get around.
- Once the snow stops falling, the real cleanup begins. The goal is to have all streets plowed within 24 hours and all sidewalks cleared within 48 hours, keeping the city safe for drivers, walkers, and cyclists.
- The City also maintains extensive paved and groomed trails, something you won't often find in other municipalities, providing safer active transportation routes even in winter.

Learn more about snow and trail maintenance at [www.fredericton.ca/snow-removal](http://www.fredericton.ca/snow-removal)

## Emergency preparedness

- Ensure your household can be self-sufficient for 72 hours with an emergency kit containing food, water, blankets, medications, and a flashlight.
- Organize your supplies so they are easy to find and carry, using a backpack, duffle bag, or suitcase with wheels.
  - For larger households, consider separating supplies into individual backpacks, so each person has a portable grab-and-go kit.
- Prepare a winter storm checklist with items like a fully charged phone, extra batteries, warm clothing, and snow-clearing tools.
- Ensure members of your household know the location of the kit, and how to use the items inside.

## Cold weather tips for pipes at home

As temperatures drop, water pipes in unheated spaces like basements, crawl spaces, attics, and garages are most at risk of freezing. When pipes freeze, they can burst and cause costly damage. Protect your home:

- Insulate pipes on exterior walls.
- Shut off & winterize outdoor taps.
- Seal basement drafts & keep it heated, if necessary.
- Turn off water if away on vacation.
- Also check your oil tank: look for rust, dampness, and check its age.

## Ready to cut down on your energy bills?

In partnership with the City, the Fredericton Public Library offers free Home Energy Kits packed with tips and tools to help you understand your home's energy use and save money!

## Sign up for community alerts!

Timely updates can make all the difference in your daily routine. Stay informed with Voyent Alert, the City's free, anonymous notification service. Receive timely updates on emergencies, recycling schedules, field closures, major bridge delays, and significant police operations. Choose to get alerts via mobile app, email, text, or all three.





# What we're WORKING ON

## Reducing household waste this winter

The holiday season is a time for celebration, but it also brings a significant increase in waste. Household waste can rise by up to 25% during this time of year. Here are some practical ways to reduce your environmental impact while still enjoying the festivities:

1. Gift smart: Choose experiences, handmade, second-hand, or locally sourced gifts. Wrap with reusable or creative materials like newspaper, fabric, or old maps.
2. Decorate green: Try natural décor such as pinecones and evergreens, or make your own ornaments. Use LED lights and set timers to reduce energy use.
3. Eat mindfully: Plan meals, use what you have, and share leftovers. Encourage guests to bring reusable containers, and support local farmers when possible.

Reducing household waste year-round has an even greater impact. Visit [www.fredericton.ca/waste-reduction](http://www.fredericton.ca/waste-reduction) for more tips.

## Who is Circular Materials Atlantic (CMA)?

Circular Materials is responsible for managing New Brunswick's new Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) recycling program. This system, which began transitioning in November 2023, shifts recycling responsibilities from municipalities to Circular Materials, a national, not-for-profit organization. Instead of the City overseeing recycling programs, Circular Materials now manages the collection and processing of materials. The goal is to create a more efficient, consistent, and environmentally responsible recycling system across the province.

## Holiday tree recycling program

Fredericton's annual holiday tree recycling program runs from December 26, 2025 to January 20, 2026. Natural trees collected at designated drop-off sites will be chipped and composted at the City's municipal facility. See here to find out which drop-off location is closest to you:



## Why isn't there curbside compost pickup?

A common question we get from residents! The Government of New Brunswick is developing a province-wide organics strategy to potentially be implemented by 2028. In the meantime, the most effective way to reduce food waste and emissions is to prevent waste at the source or compost scraps at home, either in your backyard or through indoor worm composting. The City offers backyard and worm composting bins at a reduced rate at the City Hall Service Centre and we have run 20+ workshops over the past few years to help residents get started.

To learn more, visit: [www.fredericton.ca/compost](http://www.fredericton.ca/compost)



## 2026: A sneak peek at what's ahead

Fredericton is growing, and we're planning for a city that works for you. From safer streets to vibrant public spaces, cultural events to community projects, everything we're doing in 2026 is designed to match your needs and make our city an even better place to live, work, and play. Here's a glimpse at what's on the horizon:

*\*Subject to change. Plans are in progress and may evolve with future Council decisions and budget considerations.*

### WINTER 2026

- ✓ Provincial Tax Assessment Freeze begins
- ✓ FROSTival takes place from January 22 to February 8, 2026

### SPRING 2026

- ✓ "Putto with Fish", affectionately known as "Freddy the Nude Dude", returns to the front of City Hall
- ✓ Completion of the Fredericton Boyce Farmers Market renovations
- ✓ Announcement of infrastructure upgrades across the city
- ✓ Municipal Election on May 11, 2026
- ✓ Garrison Night Market season kicks off in June

### SUMMER 2026

- ✓ Free events and concerts return to Officers' Square
- ✓ Garrison Play Park play area completed and open to the public
- ✓ Completion of the Guardian Memorial River Lighting Project, a tribute to first responders who have lost their lives in the line of duty

### FALL 2026

- ✓ Play Park in Killarney Lake Park completed
- ✓ Installation of additional trail lighting across the city

### ONGOING IN 2026

- ✓ Rollout of new hybrid diesel-electric buses
- ✓ Installation of new transit bus stop signage
- ✓ Construction of a new fire station
- ✓ Installation of more roundabouts and active transportation trails
- ✓ Updating both Climate Change Adaption Plan and a Climate Change Mitigation Plan
- ✓ Work begins on new Arts Plan for the City
- ✓ Bi-weekly Council Meetings
- ✓ Weekly Committee Meetings
- ✓ Public Engagement Opportunities





# What's COMING UP?

## How can you get involved with the City of Fredericton?

Municipal government impacts daily life in many ways, and there are numerous opportunities to stay informed and get involved. Here's a quick look at how Fredericton's local government works:

- The City is governed by a Mayor and 12 ward councillors, each representing their neighbourhoods. Local elections are typically held every four years. However, due to Local Government Reform, the current Council term was extended to five years. Councillors and the Mayor do not run under political party banners, giving residents a direct voice in local leadership.
- Council meetings, where formal decisions and approvals are made, are held on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:30pm. Meetings are open to the public and livestreamed online. Standing committees meet at noon on Thursdays for informal discussions and updates. Agendas and meeting packages are available in advance, so anyone can follow along or participate.
- Residents can also get involved through advisory committees, made up of local volunteers who report to standing committees.
- The City invites the public to provide input on specific projects through Engage Fredericton, an online engagement platform. If you have ideas or feedback, you can always reach out to your City Councillor or the Mayor.
- Beyond formal participation, there are many ways to get involved in your community through the City from volunteering for community clean-ups, flag-raising, tree plantings, or other informal volunteering activities that make a difference in our city every day.

Find what ward you live in:



With the holiday season in full swing, please take note of the City's Hours of Operation over the next few weeks. Learn more at [www.fredericton.ca/news](http://www.fredericton.ca/news)

## Have feedback about City Connects?

We'd like to hear from you! Email us at [communications@fredericton.ca](mailto:communications@fredericton.ca) or call 506-460-2020.



The fifth edition of City Connects will arrive in your mailbox in Winter 2026! You'll find the latest information on upcoming projects, programs and much more. Stay informed and connected! Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn for real-time updates, important news, and community highlights.



# LIFE | E WELL CRAFTED

## WINTER IN FREDERICTON

Experience Atlantic Canada's largest winter celebration from **January 22 to February 8, 2026**. With three fun-filled weekends of indoor and outdoor wintery experiences to explore, Fredericton is transformed into a winter wonderland like no other.

### Shivering Songs

Embrace the chill and warm your soul with Fredericton's premier midwinter music festival **Thursday, January 22 to Sunday, January 25**. Shivering Songs brings a celebration of songwriting and storytelling to Fredericton, hosting internationally renowned artists in historic and intimate spaces throughout Downtown.

Visit [www.shiveringsongs.com](http://www.shiveringsongs.com) for tickets.

### Dine Around Freddy

Just in time for FROSTival, Fredericton's winter culinary celebration is back! Dine Around Freddy offers extraordinary deals at some of Fredericton's finest restaurants, featuring unique and unforgettable Maritime flavours. For only \$42 per person, enjoy carefully crafted three-course dinners at 30+ participating restaurants! Check out the list of menus at [www.dinearoundfredericton.ca](http://www.dinearoundfredericton.ca) and make your reservations today!

### Officers' Square Skating Parties

Cozy up for a romantic evening on ice at a Friday Date Night Skate or share the fun with family and friends during whimsical themed skates on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. No skates? No problem! Fredericton Recreation offers skate loans while the rink is operational on **Thursday and Friday from 4:30-9pm** and **Saturday and Sunday from 9:30am-9:00pm**.

### Stay & Play Packages

Invite friends and family to experience winter fun in Fredericton and take advantage of our **Stay A Night & Dinner's On Us** special accommodation packages! Book a one-night stay at a participating hotel or B&B and receive a BONUS \$75 in Downtown Fredericton or Business Fredericton North Dollars to spend during the stay!

[www.stayanight.ca](http://www.stayanight.ca)



Experience the wonder of winter in the Fredericton Capital Region during Atlantic Canada's largest winter celebration, FROSTival, Thursday, January 22 to Sunday, February 8, 2026. Explore winter fun, culinary adventures, and dazzling performances taking place this season at [www.FROSTival.ca](http://www.FROSTival.ca)

