

NEWS RELEASE

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The Holiday Spirit is strong with Parks and Recreation

Holiday-themed swimming, skating, winter camps and New Year's Eve celebration

Summary

This holiday season, Nanaimo Parks and Recreation has families covered with a variety of fun activities to stay active.

Beban Pool is offering discount dips on Monday and Wednesday evenings with the running mat out for added fun. Say hi to Santa in his swim trunks and try and to dunk him in the pool, at Nanaimo Aquatic Centre on December 22.

The arenas have added extra skating sessions, including two "Skates with Santa" December 18 in Frank Crane Arena and a free session December 21 in the Nanaimo Ice Centre. In addition, the holidays would not be the same without the annual Winter Wonderland from December 26-30 in Frank Crane Arena. This year's theme will see the arena transformed into a variation of "Candyland". This is a chance for the community to get together and skate at the various session for only \$1 (some are even free thanks to many generous community sponsors).

The biggest and best family New Year's Eve party, Finale, takes place again this year! The theme is "80s Dance Party" with a live DJ, disco dancing and prizes for best 80s outfit. In addition, there will be princesses, swimming, skating, face painting, crafts, food vendors, Trever Clever, bouncy castles and more! For the younger ones, there will be an early countdown at 8 pm. For those who can stay up later, a second countdown will take place at 10 pm as the evening wraps up.

While kids are on winter break, Beban Park will be offering a variety of camps such as Frosty Frolic, Hockey Camp, RecSkate, Holiday Tennis, Mountain Kids Ski Camp and more from December 24 - January 4. Flip the Fall & Winter Activity guide open to page 29 for more details.

Visit the City website for more information on upcoming events and public schedules. Registration for holiday camps is available online at recreation.nanaimo.ca or by calling 250-756-5200.

Strategic Link: The holiday family fun events support an Active Lifestyle and the Recreation, Culture, Sports and Tourism priority.

Key Points

- Skate with Santa December 18, 6:30-8:00 pm at Frank Crane Arena, regular admission will apply. A free Skate with Santa will be held December 21 at the Nanaimo Ice Centre, courtesy of Coast Capital Savings.
- Dunk with Santa December 22 at the Nanaimo Aquatic Centre from 3:00 - 5:00 pm, regular admission will apply.
- Finale, a family 80's Dance Party will be held from 5:00 - 10:00 pm at December 31st at Beban Social Centre, tickets are on sale at Beban Park.
- Beban Pool Discount Dips are Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 pm with the running mat out from 7:00 - 8:30 pm.

Quotes

"This is one of our most favourite times of the year. Frank Crane Arena transforms into this magical place and we say hello to returning friends and family making these fun skates an annual tradition."

Gary Paterson
Recreation Coordinator - Arenas
City of Nanaimo

"The kids get a kick out of seeing Santa in his swimsuit at the pool, so many smiles. "

Michial Seginowich
Recreation Coordinator - Aquatics
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