

Rink on Wascana

Frequently Asked Questions

Infrastructure and design:

Will the infrastructure be permanent?

It will be re-used for future winters. The warming facility will be re-purposed for programs during other seasons.

How was the infrastructure designed to increase experience and accessibility?

The PCC has procured accessible infrastructure, including ramps, fixed and mobile lighting, rubber matting, warming and washroom facilities.

What makes this rink unique?

The Rink on Wascana is the same size as a regulation-size NHL rink. Professional boards, lights and rubberized skate tie-up areas have been installed. It has spectacular views of Wascana Centre and the Saskatchewan Legislative Building. The rink has been designed to focus on reducing barriers to accessibility.

How will Covid-19 protocols be followed?

Safety measures and maintenance will be a vital part of operations, including the observation of all current Public Health Orders. Masking will be required inside the washroom and warming facility. As the rink is outdoors, visitors are asked to practice personal safety while enjoying the experience.

Programs:

What hours and days will the rink be open?

The Rink on Wascana will be open seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. However, the warming facility is only open Monday to Friday from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

What programs and events will be presented and where can people get information?

Programming on the ice will include a variety of lessons, showcases and open skating times. Information is available online at the Wascana Centre website.

Will the Rink on Wascana be involved with the Frost Festival?

Yes, it will act as a major hub for the 2022 Regina Frost Winter Festival.

Legacy:

What is the long-term legacy of the rink?

The Rink on Wascana will continue to contribute to the Winter Cities strategy, a partnership with the City of Regina. It will re-define how people feel and engage in activity during the winter.

How will the rink contribute to the future of Wascana Centre?

The Rink on Wascana will shape the way the public views Wascana Centre. It will be a must visit destination as skating on the rink will be thing to do in winter. It will enhance Wascana Centre in the winter months, providing visitors with more opportunities to enjoy the park.

Safety:

Is the ice safe to skate on, and how was that determined?

The area that houses the Rink on Wascana has been tested for safety and ice quality for the last three years.

What factors were used to determine if the ice was safe to use over the three-years?

Proper ice thickness for vehicles, rink boards, skaters, and different group sizes. Evaluating the health and wellness of the ecosystem of the lake, including the health of the fish and birds and aquatic plant life.

What groups have been involved in the safety process including search and rescue and risk management?

The PCC has worked with structural engineers to ensure the proper depth of the ice and ice thickness levels. The PCC has also worked with The Regina Fire Department to ensure all search and rescue practices and protocols are followed. PCC staff have gone through search and rescue training and has action plans ready to go if required.

Why was skating prohibited in previous years?

Skating on Wascana Lake was not safe due to the aerators in the lake. The aerators keep the water flowing and therefore they create pools of open water. Aerators have been used to ensure the health and wellness of the lake ecosystem which includes fish, birds, and aquatic plant species. The aerator located near the Rink on Wascana has been turned off, to ensure that the ice is solid, and the water is frozen.

Is the rest of Wascana Lake safe to access and skate on?

No, the rest of Wascana Lake is not safe to access.

Will the Rink on Wascana impact the health and wellness of the lake eco-system?

No, the eco-system has been measured and monitored over the last three years of testing. No impacts to the environment where observed.