



# THE UPDATE

DECEMBER EDITION

**WITH THE HOLIDAYS APPROACHING FAST, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF WANT TO WISH YOU ALL HAPPY HOLIDAYS.**

**PLEASE REMEMBER THE CENTRE WILL BE CLOSED FROM FRIDAY DEC 22-SUNDAY JAN 7 REOPENING MONDAY JANUARY 8, 2024 AT 830AM.**

**STILL HAVEN'T SIGNUP ONLINE? REGISTER NOW TO ACCESS YOUR WEEKLY SCHEDULES, SEE ANY SPARE LISTS AND FOR ALL UP TO DATE INFORMATION.**

**FIRST TIME SIGNING IN? SIMPLY HIT FORGET PASSWORD AND ENTER THE EMAIL YOU REGISTERED WITH AND FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS..ANY ISSUES JUST STOP IN AT THE OFFICE AND LAYNE WILL HELP YOU OUT!**

## 2023-2024

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President \* Brian Wilson
- Vice President \* Rina Sibbeston
- Finance Chair \* Ray Mildenberger
- Vice Finance Chair \* Jordan Steinke
- Tech & Capital Director \* Chad McCarthy
- Events Director \* Mike Bain
- Sponsorship Director \* David Spracklin
- Membership Director \* Stacy Lamoureux
- Planning Director \* Ray Sylvester

### STAFF & MANAGEMENT

- Executive Director \* Colin Griffith
- Head Ice Technican \* Roger Misckolzi
- Executive Chef \* Sailessh Surryawanshi
- Operations Manager \* Layne Luckwell

### GRANDE PRAIRIE CURLING CENTRE

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

President's Message  
P. 2

---

Centre Events  
P. 3

---

Junior Corner  
P. 4 & 5

---

# BOARD WEIGHT

## FROM THE PRESIDENT



I walked into the Curling Centre at about 10 am on a Tuesday morning a couple of weeks ago and what I saw was good for a double take; all eight sheets were full, five with seniors drop in and three with a school class. And I thought WOW, this is the epitome of curling, teaching young people a sport and skill that will last a lifetime. That moment paid for my term as president, all the good stuff to follow is going to be free! And we can't forget all of the competitive and social leagues and events that fill the gap between the juniors and seniors.

So, the Centre is decorated to the nines and ready for all the that the holiday season has to offer. Here's a glimpse at what has happened and what is happening for the rest of this year?

Let's talk about membership, 379 curlers, we're up 8% over last year, the highest total since 2011! Trending in the right direction with lots of room to grow. Congrats to all of the league coordinators and Layne for maximizing the on-ice and membership experience, it's only going to get better.

And to add more excitement, the junior program under Keri Bruce is exploding. Three years ago, 53, 1-hour classes clicked the turnstiles with over 1000 student. Last year, 236 classes instructed over 4700 students. WAIT, it gets even better! This year Keri has to date booked 260 classes and is optimistic that she and Rachel will instruct close to 6000 students, with the busy last months yet to fill. Talk about enthusiasm and passion, I dropped in to confirm the numbers with Keri last week and left and half hour later with my head spinning; report cards, rewards, new programs, development leagues, school contacts' her enthusiasm and passion are endless....and to top it off, the Comp had a high school bonspiel last week, the first high school anyone around here can remember in a long time.

Let's move behind the glass; under Layne's guidance, we're having a banner couple of months. The lounge staff, Tracy, Natasha and Kim, who we are all proud to say are in their 3rd season with us, and the kitchen lead by Executive Chef Sailessh along with James and Krishna are hosting over 60 on and off ice events during November and December. To put that in perspective, that is up from 10 parties two years ago and 20 last year to 41 Christmas parties, bonspiels, corporate events, league Christmas parties, catering, multiple events at the same time and more. These months are crucial for the success of the Centre. As members, we can all be more than proud of the extraordinary efforts made by management and staff to git 'er dun. If you get a chance to say thanks, nobody would hate it, and if not...well, I've learned to get out of the way.

I could talk about some Board stuff but it's neither as exciting nor as important as the real stuff going on right now. Speaking of the real world, we have to acknowledge the work of one of our coaches at the Centre. Robert Sibbeston was honored with an 'Outstanding Citizen Award' at the Grande Prairie Regional Organization of Volunteer Organization awards breakfast last week. The citation read... 'In a community where the spirit of sport thrives, Rob stands out as a beacon of guidance and dedication. It is immense respect that we recognize his contributions, which resonate far beyond the walls of the Grande Prairie Curling Centre. His relentless efforts in coaching, mentoring and promoting curling have enriched the lives of participants across all ages and skills.

Robert's initiative to further his expertise through the Aboriginal Apprentice Coach Program and his subsequent coaching role at the Canada Winter Games highlight his commitment to the growth and development of curling. His success in leading the Myker junior team to silver at the U15 Provincial Championships is testament to his exceptional leadership. Congratulations from all of us as well, Rob, exceptional leadership should always be recognized.

A shout out to our conjoined neighbors at GP Live Theatre, congratulations on two smash hits to start the season with another on the way. This corner of downtown is a pretty dynamic neighborhood!!

That's enough Board Weight for this year, I wish everyone a happy, peaceful and healthy Christmas Season and look forward to see what 2024 brings.

*Brian Wilson*

# 2023-2024 SPECIAL EVENTS

## OCTOBER

WEEK OF OCT 2    ADULT LEAGUE STARTS  
OCTOBER 28    GPCC ONE DAY HALLOSPIEL

## NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 17-19    ALBERTA WINTER GAMES QUALIFIER

## DECEMBER

DECEMBER 1-3    ARCTIC WINTER GAMES QUALIFIER  
DECEMBER 15-17    U18 ALBERTA QUALIFIER  
DECEMBER 15-17    MENS ALBERTA QUALIFIERS  
DECEMBER 23- JANUARY 7 -CLOSED FOR THE HOLIDAYS

## JANUARY

JANUARY 12-14    GRANDE PRAIRIE CASH SPIEL  
JANUARY 19-21    U15 ALBERTA QUALIFIER  
JANUARY 26-28    MASTER MENS ALBERTA QUALIFIER

## FEBRUARY

FEBRUARY 2-4    SENIOR MENS QUALIFIER  
FEBRUARY 15-18    ALBERTA WINTER GAMES

## MARCH

MARCH 1-3    GPCC CLOSING BONSPIEL  
MARCH 3    ALL AGES TRY IT DAY  
MARCH 19-24    ALBERTA MIXED PROVINCIALS  
MARCH 25-29    FINAL WEEK OF LEAGUES



GRANDE PRAIRIE  
CURLING CENTRE

## WEEKLY LEAGUES & PROGRAMS

### MONDAYS

1:30-3:30-STICK CURLING LEAGUE    7:00-9:30-SUPERLEAGUE  
4:00-6:00-RENTCO YOUTH LEAGUE    7:30-10-MIXED DOUBLES LEAGUE  
5:30-6:30-SPECIAL OLYMPICS

### TUESDAYS

9:30AM-11:30AM-SENIORS DROP IN  
6:30PM-9PM-EARLY DRAW MIXED  
9PM-11:30PM-LATE DRAW MIXED

### WEDNESDAYS

12:30pm-2:30pm-LADIES LEAGUE  
4:30pm-6:00pm-GPPA JR ELITE  
7:00pm-9:30pm- MENS LEAGUE

### THURSDAYS

9:30AM-11:30AM-SENIORS DROP IN  
4:30PM-6PM-ATCO JUNIOR PROGRAM  
7PM-9:30PM-THURSDAY MENS LEAGUE

### CENTRE WEEKLY HOURS

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

SUNDAY

### PRACTICE ICE

\*BY PRE-BOOKINGS\*

10AM-3PM  
730PM-9PM

12PM-4PM  
9PM-10PM

10AM-3PM  
9PM-10PM

12PM-3PM  
9PM-10PM

10AM-5PM

CALL FOR  
BOOKING

2PM-5PM  
EVERY WEEK

### RESTAURANT & BAR

11AM-2PM  
5PM-11PM

11AM-2PM  
5PM-11PM

11AM-11PM

11AM-2PM  
5PM-11PM  
11AM-2PM  
SOME EVENINGS

OPEN FOR  
EVENTS

OPEN FOR  
EVENTS

### OFFICE & PRO SHOP

11AM-8PM

11AM-8PM

11AM-8PM

11AM-8PM

11AM-5PM

OPEN FOR  
EVENTS

2PM-5PM  
EVERY WEEK



# GRANDE PRAIRIE CURLING CENTRE

JR December 2023

## Halloween Howler



We had an excellent turnout for the Mark's Hauling Halloween Howler JR Funspiel, over 50 kids ages 8-16 with only 14 experienced curlers means we saw plenty of new faces experiencing curling for the first time!



Judging from their smiles and excitement levels that day, I think they all had tons of fun, lots to eat and terrific prizes.



## Located at the GPCC

U 18 December 15-17 (Deadline CLOSED)

U 15 January 19-21 (Deadline December 20th)

Hit Draw Tap Competition - DTBD

AB Winter Games Feb 16 - 19, 2024

**Located outside of Grande Prairie**

Sexsmith Jr Open December 8-10 (Both competitive and entry level division)

U15 Rock Fest



FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA

# Congrats!

# TO BOTH OUR GIRLS AND BOYS LOCAL TEAMS ON SECURING THEIR SPOT AT ALBERTA WINTER GAMES



The Arctic Winter Games Qualifiers this weekend Dec 1-3rd at the Grande Prairie Curling Centre.

Team Myker will be battling it out against Team V Doepker on the boys side and Team K Doepker will be versing Team Young on the girls side for their chance to represent Team Alberta North at the Arctic Winter Games in Mat Su Alaska Mar 9-16, 2024.

U18 Qualifiers also taking place in GPCC on Dec 15-17th.

Team Hiebert (longtime Sexsmithonian along with local Varyk Doepker playing 2nd) versing Team Kamieniecki from Manning on the boys' side. GP's Team K Doepker versing Sexsmith's Young

Deadline to register for U15 Qualifiers is Dec 20th, hopefully we will have lots of local teams competing in this event.

## VOLUNTEER COACHES



Thursday Jr Atco Program  
Daniel de Medeiros



Thursday Jr Atco Program  
Connie Engele Anderson



Wednesday GPPA Advanced Program  
Amanda Grant