

# CITYnews



## Countdown begins for Penticton's Frost Fest Winter Carnival

The countdown is on for the return of Frost Fest Winter Carnival, the South Okanagan's largest outdoor winter festival, taking place in Penticton from Jan. 23-25, 2026.

This event promises an action-packed schedule with new features and returning favourites that will make this the biggest Frost Fest yet, including:

- Hot air balloons
- New: Food Lane on Main, featuring multiple food trucks
- Peach City Rail Jam competition
- Hockey tournament on the outdoor rink
- Frost Fest Gala - tickets on sale now
- Family Zone by HaHaHa Kidzfest

- Frosty Toes Winter Dip
- Matinee Movie Melt
- Thaw Out Afterparty

All the outdoor events will take place in downtown Penticton in and around Gyro Park, including the Family Zone by HaHaHa Kidzfest. The rail jam event will attract highly skilled skiers and snowboarders to show off their skills on the 17-foot-high, snow-covered structure.

Frost Fest will also have a DJ, food vendors and a beverage garden, wrapping up on the Sunday with a KISU Polar Bear Swim and pancake breakfast with the Penticton Fire Department.

Get the full schedule at [frostfest.ca](http://frostfest.ca).

## Sign up for emergency alerts

Residents are encouraged to sign up to the City's emergency alert system, Voyent Alert!

This notification system will send real-time alerts directly to your phone through the app, via email or a phone call.

It's free to use and will ensure

community members are informed during critical events such as wildfires, floods, and other urgent situations.

The City will only use this service for emergency and critical incident notifications.

To learn more and sign up, visit [penticton.ca/subscribe](http://penticton.ca/subscribe).

## Contact Us

Sign up for news updates direct to your inbox or mobile phone: [penticton.ca/updates](http://penticton.ca/updates)

City Hall: 250-490-2400 or 250-490-2345

Email: [ask@penticton.ca](mailto:ask@penticton.ca)

Report an Issue Online: [penticton.ca/report-an-issue](http://penticton.ca/report-an-issue)

Contact Information: [penticton.ca/contact](http://penticton.ca/contact)

## Snow-clearing crews ready for winter

Penticton's fleet of snow-clearing crews is geared up and ready to respond.

### Reminder to residents

The City's Good Neighbour Bylaw requires property owners or occupants to clear all sidewalks adjoining their properties of snow and ice before 11 a.m. following a weather event. This also includes the sidewalk at the transit stops if you have one in front of your property.

If you're capable, please consider lending your neighbour a hand.

Remember when shovelling to pile the snow on the left side of the driveway (facing the property), so plows won't drag the piles back into your driveway entrance.

Clear any catch basins near your home to prevent flooding and remove snow away from fire hydrants to make them visible to fire crews.

### About the City's snow-clearing process

Crews spray an anti-ice, salt/water solution on the roads ahead of a storm. When the snow arrives, clearing crews will focus on priority 1 and 2 roads including main roads, steep hills, emergency routes, bus routes, school zones, collector and industrial roads, followed by residential roads and select lanes. During and after a winter storm, a salt or salt/sand mix is used to maintain traction.

Crews aim to have roads identified as priority 1 to 3 cleared and safe within 48 hours of the end of a significant winter storm event.

For more information about the snow-clearing process, visit [penticton.ca/snow](http://penticton.ca/snow).



## Save energy, save money

As the weather cools, we turn up the heat. In fact, during winter, Penticton residents use more electricity than any other time of the year.

### Tips to save on your energy bills

- Put on a sweater and turn down the heat by 1-2 degrees or install a programmable thermostat.
- Seal cracks, windows and doors to prevent drafts.
- Hang clothes on an indoor drying rack.
- Unplug electrical devices at night or try a smart plug.
- Replace lightbulbs with LEDs.
- Reduce your water tank temperature.
- Upgrade old appliances with energy-efficient ones.

### Exclusive offer for Penticton

Want to save money on your energy bills?

The City has partnered with TELUS to provide Penticton residents with an energy savings program - at no cost to you.

Eligible residents can get a new smart thermostat and two energy-monitoring smart plugs for \$0 (valued up to \$279). Plus, you'll get the first 24 months of SmartEnergy subscription for \$0 (valued at \$244). The devices are yours to keep, penalty-free, even if you cancel your subscription.

Visit [telus.com/Penticton](http://telus.com/Penticton) to claim your smart home upgrade today. Limited to first 1,000 sign-ups, one per-household while supplies lasts. Offer subject to change without notice and ends March 31, 2026.

## Save Energy, Save Money

### Tips to save \$ on your electricity bills

- Hang clothes outside or on an indoor drying rack.
- Unplug devices at night, including kitchen appliances, video games and other electronics.
- Adjust the thermostat by one degree or install a programmable thermostat.
- Wash clothes in cold water and with full loads.
- Run the dishwasher when it's full and use the air-drying setting (skip the heated drying).
- Replace lightbulbs with LEDs.
- Ensure doors and windows are sealed to prevent drafts.
- Reduce your water tank temperature.
- Upgrade old appliances with energy-efficient ones.
- Use smart plugs to cut the electrical supply to items that are on standby.

Looking for money-saving tips? Learn more at [penticton.ca/power](http://penticton.ca/power)

## BC Assessment notice reminders

Property assessment notices from BC Assessment are in the mail the first week of January. Once you have it, review the information and if necessary, contact BC Assessment before the deadline of Jan. 31, 2026.

Here are some helpful tips to remember when reviewing your notice:

- An increase in your property assessment does not necessarily result in higher property taxes.
- Property assessments are only one part of what the City uses to calculate municipal property tax rates each year.
- The amount of revenue collected through property taxes is fixed and does not change because of assessed value changes.
- Property assessment values may go up or down but the city-wide total property taxes collected will always equal the amount budgeted for.
- Property owners who feel their assessment does not reflect market value as of July 1, 2025 or see incorrect information on their notice should contact BC Assessment as soon as possible to ensure they meet the Jan. 31, 2026 deadline.

Learn more at [bcassessment.ca](http://bcassessment.ca). The toll-free phone number for property-related inquiries is 1-866-825-8322.



## Changes to holiday garbage and recycling collections

Waste collection will not take place on Christmas Day or New Year's Day, which both fall on a Thursday. If your regular collection day is Thursday, your carts will be collected one day after on Friday, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

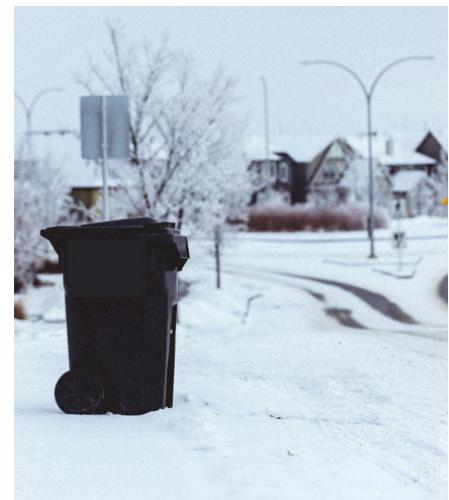
For residents who place their carts at the curb on Friday, your carts will be collected on Saturday, Dec. 27 and Jan. 3. Please have your carts at the curb by 7 a.m. on your collection day to ensure pickup.

Recycling will be collected for three consecutive weeks starting the week of Dec. 22.

### Items that can be recycled

Many paper and cardboard items can be added to your curbside collection, including wrapping paper, greeting cards, paper gift bags and toy packaging. Place these items loosely in your recycling cart, flattening boxes and taking care not to stack items together. Baking items like pie trays, chocolate boxes and cookie tins can also go into your recycling cart.

Not sure how to dispose of an item? Try the City's 'What Goes Where?' tool at [penticton.ca/recycling](http://penticton.ca/recycling).



## Contact Us

Sign up for news updates direct to your inbox or mobile phone: [penticton.ca/updates](http://penticton.ca/updates)

City Hall: 250-490-2400 or 250-490-2345

Email: [ask@penticton.ca](mailto:ask@penticton.ca)

Report an Issue Online: [penticton.ca/report-an-issue](http://penticton.ca/report-an-issue)

Contact Information: [penticton.ca/contact](http://penticton.ca/contact)

