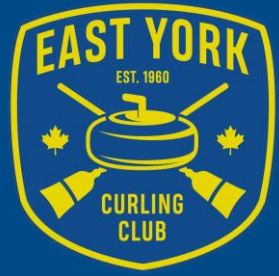


EYCC Town Hall

Monday, March 10, 2025 | 7:00 pm



Land acknowledgement

We acknowledge the land we are meeting on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabe, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

A lot has
happened
since we
last met.

Tuesday, January 28

The Board meets with the Director of Community Recreation and Manager of Community Recreation – Toronto & East York.

City staff were attentive, asked many questions, and seemed genuinely committed to finding solutions.

Committed to providing weekly updates while the City works on solutions to expedite the repairs.

Friday, January 31

The first weekly update is received:

- Sand removal completed on Friday, January 31
- Installation of new sand to begin early the following week

The City cancels all permits until February 18.

Monday, February 10

Update received from the City indicating that 'great progress' has been made.

The Board responds, asking for an estimate of the completion date.

Thursday, February 13

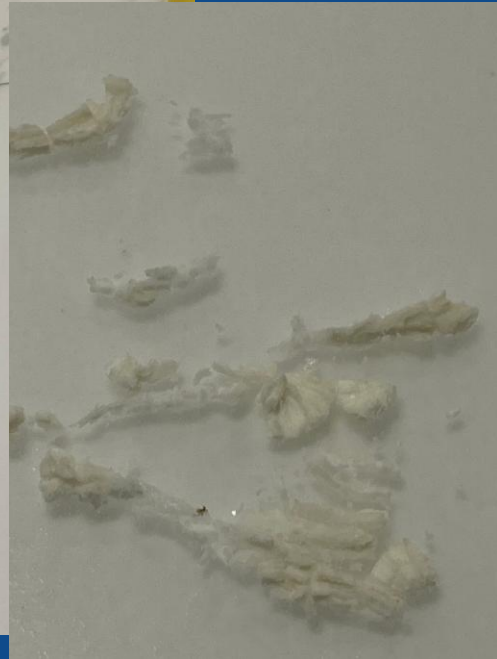
The City responds to the request for a timeline, stating February 26 as the target date for curling to resume.

Members are notified of this date.

Wednesday, February 19

An update is sent to members indicating:

- no change to the estimated timeline
- the possibility of labour action that would result in closure of the building



Saturday, February 22

Progress in the ice shed does not appear to be in line with the City's completion date of February 26.

The Board asks the City for confirmation.

Monday, February 24

9:27 am - City confirms the ice will be available to play, as planned, on the 26th.

1:49 pm - City notifies the club there are issues with the ice installation and promises a full report the following day.

6:30 pm - The Board meets and decides to once again ask independent ice techs for their opinions on the progress, and on imperfections visible in the ice while waiting for the City to elaborate on the issues.

Tuesday, February 25

The Board sends an update to members to communicate the additional delay and expectation of more information to come.

No follow-up received from the City.



Wednesday, February 26

1:43 pm – Update received indicating ‘good progress’ and promising more information by the end of the day.

During this time, many large cracks and imperfections were forming over the ice sheet.

Liquid could be seen seeping from some of the cracks.

3:58 pm – Update received from the City indicating the ice is not perfect, but will be ready by March 1.



Thursday, February 27

The Board responds, acknowledging that imperfections are visible from the lounge.

Notifies the City that the granite rocks will not be put back on the ice until testing of the surface by independent ice techs, and members takes place.

Follow up email sent to the city asking for specific conditions for the test:

- No maintenance for 48 hours, to ensure there are no moisture leaks
- Air temperature set to 4°C which is typical of game conditions

Board update sent to members, explaining the city's notice, the club's concerns, and the intention to test the ice before returning.

Sunday, March 2

Twenty Board members, outside ice techs, league reps, and members spend an hour on the ice using lite rocks.

No head ice tech or City supervisors are in attendance.

- Moisture visible on multiple locations
- Large, deep cracks across all sheets
- Pebble breaking down almost immediately
- Ice surface is very fragile and easily damaged by routine actions
- Ice surface feels wet and melts easily
- Sand on carpets easily tracked onto the ice
- Surface feels inconsistent and changes quickly



Monday, March 3

The Board meets and decides to ask for one final round of repairs based on observations and recommendations from outside ice technicians.

Tuesday, March 4

The Board asks the City for changes by the following day, and requests that the head ice technician and supervisors be in attendance for another test of the ice.

- Eliminate moisture from cracks – affects safety for people and rocks
- Improve the pebble quality – causes inconsistency and poor playing conditions
- Clean debris from the side boards – damages rocks, and shoes
- Reduce contamination in the ice – makes the ice surface soft and greasy

The Board schedules a special meeting for Wednesday evening to make a final decision.

Wednesday, March 5

The City does not acknowledge the Board's request; however, the head ice tech, facility supervisors, and a recreation supervisor attend.

No significant maintenance appears to have been done.

Approximately 30 people tested the ice for an hour.

Conditions are generally thought to be better than the previous test, but not consistent with typical EYCC conditions.

The Board hosts a sections meeting immediately following the test to gather feedback from league reps

City staff attend the meeting and answer questions from members:

- Acknowledge being unsure of the cause of the problem or aware of any solutions
- Acknowledge the City's limited experience with curling ice and the challenges of having only one curling club under City management

Ice quality and the Club's granite rocks

Throughout the process of reinstalling the ice there were visible signs that the ice was not freezing optimally.

This was confirmed by outside ice techs.

Many issues are consistent with contamination present in the ice.

Contaminants can be minerals dissolved in the water (such as calcium, sodium and silicates) or solid particles suspended in the water.

Many curling clubs reduce the risk of contamination with the following practices:

- Using deionized water for flooding and pebbling
- Monitoring samples of the snow scraped during regular maintenance
- The City does not currently follow these practices nor does it have the equipment available to do so

'Playground sand' was used for the new installation.

Canada Curling Stone, the manufacturer of our rocks, has provided guidance to the club throughout the closure.

The company has provided a letter stating the concerns about contamination that can erode the granite over time.

Lab testing is underway to find out the extent of the contamination.

Our rocks will remain off the ice until we have assurance from the City that the ice contains no harmful contamination.

The Board will be working over the summer to ensure that changes are made.

Reinstalling ice in the fall, without significant changes, is not an option.

Financial impact and member compensation

The financial impact on the club is significant, as bar operations (particularly from bonspiels and banquets) subsidize curling activities, on top of compensation due to members.

The club has had to lay off or significantly reduce the hours of part-time staff.

The club pre-paid permit fees for the month of January. We have yet to recover these funds.

The office and Board are actively working on cost-saving measures for the near future and exploring options for compensation from the City or other sources.

Credits will be issued to members for the 2025-2026 curling season in advance of registration opening. Credit amounts will be confirmed by email from the office by May 1st.

What happens from now until the end of the season?

Juniors and Little Rocks continue to curl at Tam Heather as they have throughout the closure.

- The Board has agreed to subsidize these programs until the end of March
- As a result, no credits will be given for Little Rocks or Junior fees

Members are finding ice time at other clubs.

- The Club is not in a financial position to be able to apply credits to fees paid at other clubs

We encourage all leagues to hold end-of-season banquets to provide closure to the season.

Exploring fundraising options to help with recovery.

The lounge, kitchen and bar may be available. More information to come.

The office will be emailing availability to clear out lockers.

Working with the City

The Board has expressed a commitment to working with the City.

































The City has indicated that they may provide some options for ad hoc curling.






If viable options are presented, the office will communicate to members.

Monday, March 17 - Meeting with the acting Director of Community Recreation and Manager of Community Recreation - Toronto & East York to discuss the situation, including:

- Ensuring steps are taken to have playable ice in October
- Timeline for Concrete floor
- Curling expertise within the City
- Potential compensation
- Future lease agreement

Communication timeline

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
Jan 26	27  	28	29	30	31  	Feb 1
2	3 	4 	5	6	7	8
9	10   	11 	12 	13 	14	15
16	17	18 	19  	20	21	22
23	24   	25 	26  	27 	28 	Mar 1
2 	3  	4 	5   	6 	7	8
9	10 	11	12	13	14	15

-  Member update
-  City update received
-  Board meeting
-  Ice test
-  Town hall

Thank you