
Parks, Forestry & Recreation
Jim Hart, General Manager

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November 21, 2012

Councillor Ana Bailao
Ward 18
City Hall, 100 Queen Street West
2nd Floor, Suite C42
Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2

Re: Artificial Ice Rink Openings

Dear Councillor Bailao:

I am writing in response to your email dated November 19, 2012.

Refrigeration compressors for artificial ice rinks that we are working to open on November 24th are operating. Hand flooding of these rinks begins tonight. Flooding will continue in the evenings. The weather is warm right now but the forecast shows a drop late Friday and into the weekend with temperatures favourable for making and maintaining ice. The current warm, sunny conditions are challenging but we are making every effort to have ice available as soon as possible. Weather permitting, the rinks that are scheduled to open this weekend will remain open until March 10, 2013. The remaining outdoor artificial ice rinks, weather permitting, are scheduled to open Dec. 1, 2012 and close Feb. 24, 2013.

Although CIMCO has informed Ms. Mason that ice can be made in 10 degrees Celsius, our past experience has proven otherwise. Weather, including sun, ground temperatures, physical plant, and type of refrigerant are all factors. The upcoming days of weather have predicted highs approaching 9 or 10 degrees until Saturday when it drops. It is 10 and sunny outside today.

Our experience from 2011 was that we did in fact have substantial problems with all of our rinks with the exception of Dufferin Grove. All of the early opening rinks were totally unskateable at the temperatures that were lower than present conditions. The following chart highlights experience from last year even though compressors were turned on a full week earlier with night time floods and temperatures that were slightly lower than present conditions.

OUTDOOR ARTIFICIAL ICE RINKS – 2011/2012 START DATES

Location	2011 Scheduled Opening Date	2011 Actual Opening Date
West Mall	November 19, 2011	November 28, 2011
Rennie	November 19, 2011	November 26, 2011
Sir Adam Beck/Col. Sam Smith	November 19, 2011	November 26, 2011
Sunnydale	November 19, 2011	Delayed due to construction
Nathan Phillips Square	November 19, 2011	November 25, 2011
Dufferin Grove	November 19, 2011	November, 19, 2011
Regent Park South	November 19, 2011	November 25, 2011
Kew Gardens	November 19, 2011	November 24, 2011
Mel Lastman Square	November 19, 2011	November 24, 2011
Broadlands	November 19, 2011	November 25, 2011
Glen Long	November 19, 2011	December 1, 2011
Hodgson	November 19, 2011	November 25, 2011
Irving Chapley	November 19, 2011	December 1, 2011
Albert Campbell	November 19, 2011	December 3, 2011

Staff have for the past two seasons made every effort to make ice, using the strategies that Ms. Mason has suggested, without success.

As I stated in my letter on November 14th, 2012, working with weather conditions and experience with our plants, staff will continue to make every effort to open rinks, including Dufferin Grove, this Saturday.

Sincerely,



Richard Ubbens
Director, Parks

c. James Dann, Parks Manager, Waterfront District