



NEWS DOWNTOWN | DECEMBER 19, 2024

[ABOUT US](#) - [DOWNTOWN BLOG](#) - [FACADE GRANT](#) - [GRAFFITI REMOVAL](#)

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## DOWNTOWN HAPPENINGS

### GST REMOVAL FROM HOLIDAY ITEMS + MORE

Bill C-78, the *Tax Break for All Canadians Act* received Royal Assent, making essentially all food and many holiday essentials tax-free for two months.

**Businesses will be required to remove the GST/HST on holiday essentials, like groceries, restaurant meals, drinks, snacks, children's clothing, and gifts, from December 14, 2024, until February 15, 2025.**

The following items are to be tax-free:

- Prepared foods, including vegetable trays, pre-made meals and salads, and sandwiches;
- Restaurant meals, whether dine-in, takeout, or delivery;
- Snacks, including chips, candy, and granola bars;
- Beer, wine, and cider;
- Pre-mixed alcoholic beverages below 7 per cent ABV;
- Children's clothing and footwear, car seats, and diapers;
- Children's toys, such as board games, dolls, and video game consoles;
- Books, print newspapers, and puzzles for all ages; and,
- Christmas trees and similar decorative trees.



MORE INFO

Broken link? Sorry about that - copy this into your browser: <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2024/12/legislation-to-put-more-money-in-your-pocket-receives-royal-assent.html>

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## FIRE COMMUNITY SUPPORT

The **FCS team** is here to help. Should you see someone in distress or negative street activity and feel uncomfortable or unsafe, Call **306.382.6935**, and the FCS team will be there to help you out.

The FCS program is to connect and build relationships with residents and visitors, including those experiencing challenging situations such as homelessness, mental health issues, addictions, etc. The FCS team works 7 days a week and operates primarily between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 12:15 a.m. the following day.

FCS PROGRAM

Broken link? Sorry about that - copy this into your browser: <https://www.saskatoon.ca/services-residents/fire-emergency/fire-community-support>



## NEW DOWNTOWN LIGHTING DISPLAY

We are thrilled to have installed a **9-foot tall lighted star for everyone to enjoy at the Cameco Meewasin Skating Rink**. We love adding to our beautiful Downtown through public art and lighting and continue to look towards bringing more aspects that can draw the public into the core and our business communities' businesses.

EXPERIENCE DOWNTOWN

Broken link? Sorry about that - copy this into your browser: <https://dtnyxe.ca/experience-downtown/>



## MEEWASIN RINK IS OPEN FOR THE SEASON

The **Cameco Meewasin skating Rink** is once again open, the rink is available to the public from Noon until 8pm Wednesday through Sundays.

Mayor Cynthia Block will be on hand (today) Thursday, Dec 19th, at 6:30 p.m., to officially kick off the skating season with a ceremonial tree lighting. Free hot beverages and door prizes will be provided, **weather permitting**.

MORE INFO

Broken link? Sorry about that - copy this into your browser: <https://meewasin.com/skatingrink/>



## DOWNTOWN SHELTER UPDATE

Saskatoon city council has agreed to spend more on the provincial government's Downtown shelter, **the city will cover a \$360,000 funding gap for the Mustard Seed Downtown shelter**; the province had originally estimated a \$250,000 cost. Council members expressed frustration with the provincial government for not addressing the problems with its own project.

The Downtown shelter location now has a goal of opening by March of 2025

STARPHOENIX REPORTS

Broken link? Sorry about that - copy this into your browser: <https://thestarphenix.com/news/local-news/saskatoon-city-council-agrees-to-spend-more-on-provincial-governments-downtown-shelter>



## THE OLD STARPHOENIX BUILDING HAS SOLD

Duchuck Holdings Ltd., a Saskatoon-based developer, has purchased the old StarPhoenix building, located at 204 Fifth Avenue North.

Duchuck Holdings Ltd. has purchased several properties and buildings in the Downtown District over the years. Some recent examples are the building and property at 311 23rd St. E, the 11-storey Princeton Tower at 123 Second Ave. S, and the 11-storey, PCS Tower at 122 First Ave. S.

### STARPHOENIX REPORTS

Broken link? Sorry about that - copy this into your browser: <https://thestarphoenix.com/news/local-news/almost-60-years-after-grand-opening-starphoenix-building-sold-to-duchuck-holdings>



## CALLS, OPPORTUNITIES + UPDATES

### POWER UP PROGRAMS

PowerUP offers **small business training and support for new and existing self-employed women** including one-on-one coaching, business skill development, business plan writing, and networking opportunities.

YWCA offers four programs for entrepreneurs: PowerUp Explore, PowerUp Ready, PowerUp Network and Business Advisor on Call.

### PROGRAMS + MORE

Broken link? Sorry about that - copy this into your browser: <https://www.ywcaskatoon.com/employment-learning/powerup/>



## EVENTS

### BANFF FILM FESTIVAL AT TCU PLACE

From exploring remote landscapes to adrenaline-fueled action sports, films selected for the 2024/2025 World Tour are sure to captivate and amaze you. The Banff Film Festival will be at **TCU Place** Jan 13th.

### EVENT INFO

Broken link? Sorry about that - copy this into your browser: <https://dtnvxe.ca/event/banff-centre-mountain-film-festival-world-tour/>

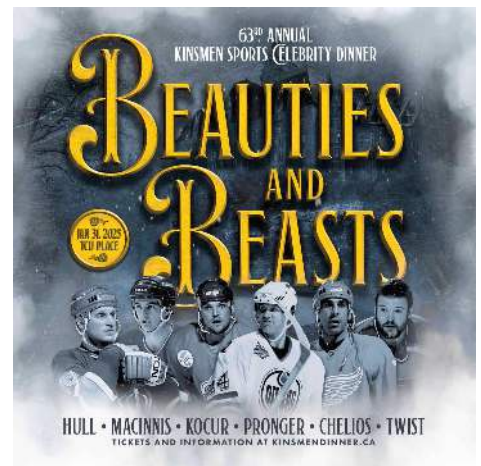


## BEAUTIES AND BEASTS

Don't miss your chance to join us for the 63rd Annual Kinsmen Sports Celebrity Dinner on January 31, 2025, at **TCU Place!** This year, they are bringing together a lineup of Beauties and Beasts, featuring NHL legends for a night you won't forget.

EVENT INFO

Broken link? Sorry about that - copy this into your browser: <https://dtnyxe.ca/event/kinsmen-celebrity-dinner/>



**DTN  
YXE**  
DOWNTOWN  
SASKATOON

**HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS**

**From all of us  
at DTNYXE**

**AND THERE'S MORE...**

**MORE DOWNTOWN EVENTS**

Broken link? Sorry about that - email: <https://dtnyxe.ca/events/>

**Have information for consideration in future editions of NEWS DOWNTOWN?**

SUBMIT CONTENT

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