



CANADIAN COUNCIL
OF THE BLIND



LE CONSEIL CANADIEN
DES AVEUGLES

Canadian Vision Impaired

Curling Championship
2026



EDMONTON - ALBERTA
FEBRUARY 2 - 6



Message from His Worship Mayor Andrew Knack



On behalf of City Council and the people of Edmonton, welcome to the Canadian Vision Impaired Curling Championship (CVICC)!

For the first time in its nearly 20-year history, this national curling tournament takes place in Western Canada. Edmonton is honoured to be your host city. Curling events are happening at our very own Granite Curling Club, which has been the home of the Edmonton Blind Curling Club for decades. This is a city of passionate sports fans, and we're looking forward to cheering on these incredible athletes.

The CVICC is important because it provides a competitive and supportive environment, where vision-impaired curlers can develop their skills, build confidence and connect with others. This is proof that we can continue to break down barriers across all sports and activities.

I thank the Canadian Council of the Blind for organizing this event and promoting inclusivity, physical activity and sportsmanship among those with vision loss.

Best of luck to all the athletes!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Andrew Knack'.

Andrew Knack

MAYOR, CITY OF EDMONTON



GREETINGS FROM THE EDMONTON BLIND CURLING CLUB WELCOME TO EDMONTON, ALBERTA

On behalf of the Edmonton Blind Curling Club, I would like to extend a warm welcome to the athletes, volunteers, sponsors and guests. This is the first time in the event's long history that it has been held in Western Canada. We are honored to have been chosen to host this milestone event. I would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Canadian Council of the Blind for their continued sponsorship of this great event. If not for the hard work and dedication of so many during our years in Ottawa, this day would not be possible. My deepest thanks to the members of the Edmonton Blind Curling Club, our sponsors and partners for their hard work and dedication.

Please enjoy your week. Welcome to the West. Good curling, fellowship and friendship.

Natalie Morin
President EBCC



MESSAGE FROM GRANITE CURLING CLUB

On behalf of the Granite Curling Club, our members, employees, management, and board of directors, we would like to extend a warm welcome to everyone attending the **2026 Canadian Vision Impaired Curling Championship**.

To the athletes and coaches, **Congratulations** on your achievements to reach the national championship and good curling as you aspire to earn the title of Canadian Champion. Competing in this national event is a true testament to your perseverance and dedication to your sport.

We would like to extend our utmost gratitude to the **Canadian Council of the Blind** for choosing Edmonton for this year's event, and to Natalie Morin and her host committee from the **Edmonton Blind Curling Club**, who the Granite has proudly hosted for over 40 years.

With our highest regards and greatest respect, Good Luck and Good Curling!

Joe Ruptash and Rick Fulmer
Co-Managers Granite Curling Club



Welcome to the 2026 Canadian Vision Impaired Curling Championship

On behalf of the Canadian Council of the Blind, I am pleased to welcome all participants to the 2026 Canadian Vision Impaired Curling Championship.

Thank you to our hosts from Edmonton, Alberta, and a special shout out to our Organizing Team and the many volunteers who have worked tirelessly to prepare for this annual event.

I wish all participants from across Canada great camaraderie and good curling!



Jim Tokos, National President



**Council of Canadians
with Disabilities**
A VOICE OF OUR OWN

**Conseil des Canadiens
avec déficiences**
CETTE VOIX QUI EST LA NOTRE

Jan 5, 2026

Hello and congratulations to all the curlers competing in the Canadian Vision Impaired Curling Championship, 2026 in Edmonton. As the National Chair of the Council of Canadians with Disabilities, (CCD), know we are all looking forward to following the competition to determine the next Team Canada!

As athlete role models, we celebrate you and the uncountable hours and years of hard work you have devoted to excellence in the field of curling.

You are supported by all of us at CCD and we wish you all much success at the competition!



Heather Walkus
National Chair
Council of Canadians with Disabilities

Head Office/Siège social: P.O. Box 26063 Winnipeg MB R3G 3R3 Tel/Tél: 204-947-0303
E-mail/Courriel: ccd@ccdonline.ca

Please forward all correspondence to the Head Office./Prière d'envoyer les correspondances au siège social.

Web www.ccdonline.ca **Facebook** www.facebook.com/ccdonline
Twitter www.twitter.com/ccdonline **Youtube** www.youtube.com/user/ccdonline



Teams

TEAM CANADA (TC) – Prince George, BC

Skip – Tim Hurley
Third – Russell Gervais
Second – Annette Parnell
Lead – Terry Pipkey
Sweeper – Victor Santos
Coach/Guide – Leona Gervais

BRITISH COLUMBIA (BC) – Vancouver, BC

Skip – Fraser Hiltz
Third – Henry Vis
Second – Dave Vis
Lead – Monica Nelson
Sweeper – Tom Kennedy
Coach/Guide – Pat Willing

ALBERTA (AB) – Edmonton, AB

Skip – Natalie Morin
Third – Roger Morin
Second – Steve Vandereems
Lead – Lori Hysert
Sweeper – Carrie Anton
Coach/Guide – Mandy Collins

SASKATCHEWAN (SK) – Regina, SK

Skip – Amber-Joy Boyd
Third – Jordan Weeden
Second – Navey-Ré Tondevold
Lead – Coty Raketti
Sweeper – Thore Tondevold
Coach/Guide – Cara Olafson



Teams

MANITOBA (MB) – Winnipeg, MB

Skip – Hunter McLaughlin
Third – Norm Lyons
Second – Dale Slingsby
Lead – Miriam Hesselbart
Sweeper – Matt Hesselbart
Coach/Guide – Brian Fredrickson

ONTARIO (ON) – Toronto, ON

Skip – Ann Lafontaine
Third – Rick Oriold
Second – Bill Liggins
Lead – Tammy Adams
Sweeper – Venkat Iyer
Coach/Guide – John Routh

NOVA SCOTIA (NS) – Sydney, NS

Skip – Louise Gillis
Third – Jim Simmons
Second – Mike Vrooman
Lead – Mary Campbell
Sweeper – Amanda MacAulay
Coach/Guide – Sidney Francis

NEW BRUNSWICK (NB) – Moncton, NB

Skip – Alexander LeBlanc
Third – Denis LeBlanc
Second – Sylvie Roy
Lead – Natalie Fougere
Sweeper – Tami Albert
Coach/Guide – Tony Benoit

DRAW

All games played are 8 end games, with a tie during round robin decided by a mini extra end (i.e., each player throws one rock only), and during playoffs by a full extra end played to determine the winner.

All games will have a practice before the game where teams will be permitted to throw 1 rock up and 1 rock back.

(Teams listed first will practice first.)

	Feb.2	Feb.2	Feb.3	Feb.3	Feb.4	Feb.4	Feb.5
	9:00 am	1:30 pm	9:00 am	1:00 pm	9:00 am	1:00 pm	9:00 am
	Draw 1	Draw 2	Draw 3	Draw 4	Draw 5	Draw 6	Draw 7
Ice B	NB	SK	AB	TC	BC	NS	MB
	vs	vs	vs	vs	vs	vs	vs
	ON	TC	BC	NS	NB	AB	SK
Ice C	SK	NB	ON	AB	NS	MB	TC
	vs	vs	vs	vs	vs	vs	vs
	NS	MB	TC	NB	ON	BC	AB
Ice E	BC	AB	MB	SK	TC	ON	NS
	vs	vs	vs	vs	vs	vs	vs
	TC	ON	NS	BC	MB	SK	NB
Ice F	AB	BC	NB	MB	SK	TC	ON
	vs	vs	vs	vs	vs	vs	vs
	MB	NS	SK	ON	AB	NB	BC

BC = British Columbia
TC = Team Canada
NS = Nova Scotia
NB = New Brunswick

AB = Alberta
MB = Manitoba
ON = Ontario
SK = Saskatchewan

Friday, Feb.6/26

8:30 am Practices begin before Morning Draw

9:00 am Morning Draw

Ice B – _____ vs _____
Team ranked 2 vs **Team ranked 3**
(Winner to GOLD medal game, loser to BRONZE)

Ice C – _____ vs _____
Team ranked 6 vs **Team ranked 7**
(Consolation Final)

Ice E – _____ vs _____
Team ranked 4 vs **Team ranked 5**
(Winner of this game plays for BRONZE)

12:30 pm Practices begin before afternoon Draw

1:00 pm Afternoon Draw

Ice C – _____ vs _____
Team ranked 1 vs **Winner of 2-3 game**
(GOLD MEDAL GAME)
(Winner gets GOLD, loser gets SILVER)

Ice E – _____ vs _____
Loser of 2 - 3 game vs **Winner of 4 – 5 game**
(BRONZE MEDAL GAME)



Schedule of Events

Locations, locations, locations...

Curling Club:

Granite Curling Club
8620 107 St NW, Edmonton, AB T6E 4L3
Phone: (780) 439-0695

Hotel:

Sandman Signature Hotel, South Edmonton
10111 Ellerslie Rd SW, Edmonton, AB T6X 0J3
Phone: (780) 430-7263

West Edmonton Mall:

(Drop off and pickup at **Fantasyland Hotel**, Entrance)
17700 87 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB T5T 4V4
Phone: +1-800-737-3783

Taxis:

Yellow Cab (yellow cars): (780) 462-3456
Barrel Taxi (light green cars, white roof): (780) 489-7777

Sunday, Feb.1/26

Teams arrive in Edmonton – we will have vehicles to pick up at the airport, transporting participants and Guests to the Sandman Hotel, South Edmonton.

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 5:30 pm | Transportation from the hotel to Granite |
| 6:00 pm | 30 minutes of Practice ice available (optional) |
| 6:40 pm | A brief coach/guide and skip meeting hosted by the head umpire. |
| 7:00 pm | Meet & Greet social, Pizza served, bar open. |
| 9:00 pm | Transportation back to the hotel |

Monday, Feb.2/26 – Friday, Feb.6/26

7:45 am
SHARP

Transportation from Hotel to Granite

Monday, Feb.2/26

8:30 am Yellow stone teams, 15 minutes of practice ice
8:45 am Red stone teams, 15 minutes of practice ice
9:00 am Coin toss for hammer, followed by Draw 1
11:45 am Lunch served at rink
12:45 pm Opening ceremony, all teams on ice, Ceremonial rock delivered by special guest
1:00 pm Yellow stone teams, 15 minutes of practice ice
1:15 pm Red stone teams, 15 minutes of practice ice
1:30 am Coin toss for hammer, followed by Draw 2
5:00 pm Transportation back to hotel

Tuesday, Feb.3/26

8:30 am Yellow stone teams, 15 minutes of practice ice
8:45 am Red stone teams, 15 minutes of practice ice
9:00 am Coin toss for hammer, followed by Draw 3
11:30 am Lunch served at the rink
12:30 pm Yellow stone teams, 15 minutes of practice ice
12:45 pm Red stone teams, 15 minutes of practice ice
1:00 pm Coin toss for hammer, followed by Draw 4
4:30 pm Transportation back to the hotel

Wednesday, Feb.4/26

8:30 am	Yellow stone teams, 15 minutes of practice ice
8:45 am	Red stone teams, 15 minutes of practice ice
9:00 am	Coin toss for hammer, followed by Draw 5
11:30 am	Lunch served at the rink
12:30 am	Yellow stone teams, 15 minutes practice ice
12:45 pm	Red stone teams, 15 minutes of practice ice
1:00 pm	Coin toss for hammer, followed by Draw 6
4:00 pm	Future of CVICC meeting at the Granite (one or two members from each rink only, please.)
5:00 pm	Dinner provided at the Granite
6:00 pm	Transportation back to hotel for those not wanting to participate in Trivia Night
6:30 pm	Trivia Night at the Granite
8:00 pm	Transportation back to hotel

Thursday, Feb.5/26

8:30 am	Yellow stone teams, 15 minutes of practice ice
8:45 am	Red stone teams, 15 minutes of practice ice
9:00 am	Coin toss for hammer, followed by Draw 7
11:30 am	Lunch served at rink
1:00 pm	Transportation back to Hotel
2:30 pm	Transportation to West Edmonton Mall (WEM)
7:00 pm	Transportation from WEM back to the hotel
	(An earlier time back might be possible, subject to the wishes of participants.)

Friday, Feb.6/26

- 8:30 am** Session 1, Practice Ice, 15 minutes
- 8:45 am** Session 2, Practice Ice, 15 minutes
(The rink with the higher ranking chooses what session they want, hammer and rock colour.)
- 9:00 am** First round of Playoffs
- 11:30 am** Lunch served
- 12:30 pm** Session 1, Practice Ice, 15 Minutes
- 12:45 pm** Session 2, Practice Ice, 15 Minutes
(The Rink with the higher ranking chooses what session they want, hammer and rock colour.)
- 1:00 pm** Gold and Bronze medal games
- 5:00 pm** Transportation to the hotel
- 6:00 pm – 11:00 pm** CVICC 2026 Windup banquet Grand Rooms 1 & 2, at the Sandman
- 6:00 pm** Cocktail hour, no-host bar
- 7:00 pm** Dinner served, followed by trophy presentations, awards ceremony and guest speaker
- 10:00 pm** Last call

Saturday, Feb.7/26

Transportation to the airport from the hotel is provided by the host committee. Times TBA in accordance with the team's departure.

Safe Travel, everyone! See you in 2028!



Thank You To The Following...

Joe Ruptash & Rick Fulmer (Co-Managers) and the Staff
(Granite Curling Club)

Garth Klassen
(Official Scorer for the Event, including Curling IO)

Rob Creswick
(Transportation Coordinator and Driver)

Liam Creswick and Andrew Creswick
(Trivia Hosts)

Khalehla Litschel
(Land Acknowledgment and Opening Ceremony)

Roger Morin
(Ceremonial First Rock)

Natalie Morin, President
(Local Planning Committee and President of the Edmonton Blind Curling Club)

Lori Hysert
(Local Planning Committee and Alternate Format Production)

Louise Gillis
(CCB Event Planning Committee)

Heather Hannett & Karen Grewcutt
(CCB Alberta Division)

Wanda Megyes & Rosa Klassen
(Raffle Donation and Support)

Tim Burton
(Social Media Streaming of the Gold Medal Game)

Beverly Optimist Club
(Donation, Thank You!)

Carrie Anton

(Event Sponsorship, Volunteer Support)

Erick Nettel

Nettel Media

(Videographer for CCD Production)

Heather Walkus, National Chair

Council of Canadians with Disabilities

(Funding for “Blind Curling Video Production”)

Olivia Nicholas and Sarah Mohamed

CCB National

(Admin Support, Event Program Production, Social Media)

CCB BC-Yukon Division

(Swag and Prizes)

Sydney NS Curling Club

(Curling IO Facilitators)

EVENT SPARES:

Edmonton Blind Curling Club

Richard Lefebvre

Gerry Chevalier

Bruce MacDonald

And all the other volunteers who played a part in making this event possible, both on and off the ice. We could not have done it without you.

THANKS!

And A Special Thanks Goes Out To....**Yvon Lefort**

(Umpire and Draw Master)

Yvon, who joins us with full umpire credentials, volunteered his time and skills in a similar capacity at the CVICC in 2025 in his hometown of Sydney, NS. Long story short, he did such an outstanding job that we invited him back, and he graciously accepted!. Yvon has given up a week of his time and travelled practically across the country in support of this event. We are truly honoured and fortunate to have someone of his skill level and expertise involved in the CVICC. On behalf of all the curlers, “**Thank You, Yvon,**” for your extremely generous contribution and continued support of vision-impaired curling.



GOOD LUCK....

From everyone involved in the Vision Impaired curling community across Canada, we wish Team Rachel Homan (Women's), Team Brad Jacobs (Men's), and the mixed double pair of Brett Galland & Jocelyn Peterman much success at the Milano Cortina 2026 Winter Olympics. **Go Canada Go!**



Thank you for Your Generous Support!

The Canadian Council of the Blind (CCB) extends our sincere appreciation to all our sponsors for their invaluable contributions and ongoing support.

Your continued involvement is essential to the growth and success of the Council. As corporate stakeholders and individual partners, your confidence and year-round support are deeply valued.

Together, we are making strides in vision health and advocacy, and that work would not be possible without you. Thank you for standing with us!

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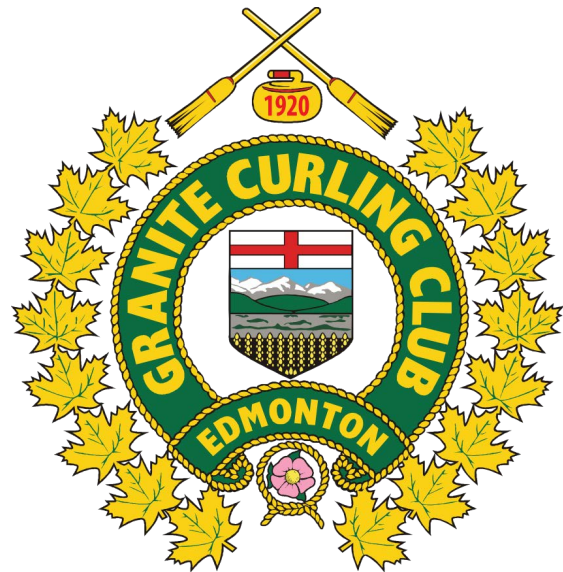


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Curling Championship

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