

National Snow Sculpture Competition

February 6 to 10, 2007
Prizes worth \$10,500!



Welcome to Canada's greatest snow-sculpting competition!

Come and celebrate winter in Canada's Capital Region during Winterlude, the greatest winter festival in North America. The 29th edition of Winterlude will take place from February 2 to 18, 2007. Each year, this family-oriented event attracts more than 600,000 visitors to Canada's Capital Region, as people gather to celebrate the Canadian winter.

The National Snow Sculpture Competition, presented by the National Capital Commission (NCC) in partnership with the City of Gatineau, takes place in Gatineau's Jacques-Cartier Park, in Snowflake Kingdom — the biggest snow playground on the continent.

The National Snow Sculpture Competition organizers are pleased to invite your team to apply to participate in this event. Thirteen experienced sculpture teams (one from each province and territory) will be selected to participate in the 2007 competition.

The participants will be competing for awards and prizes with a total value of \$10,500. The organizers will cover round-trip transportation (means of transportation will be determined according to the sculptors' place of departure), hotel accommodations and meal expenses, as specified, for each of the 13 teams chosen for the competition.

All completed, signed application and waiver forms must be received by Monday, November 20, 2006. The application form, waiver and competition guidelines are attached. However, if you need more information, please contact us by phone at 613-239-5106, by fax at 613-239-5333, or by email at the following address: jmoncion@ncc-ccn.ca.

We hope that you will join us and celebrate winter in Canada's Capital Region!

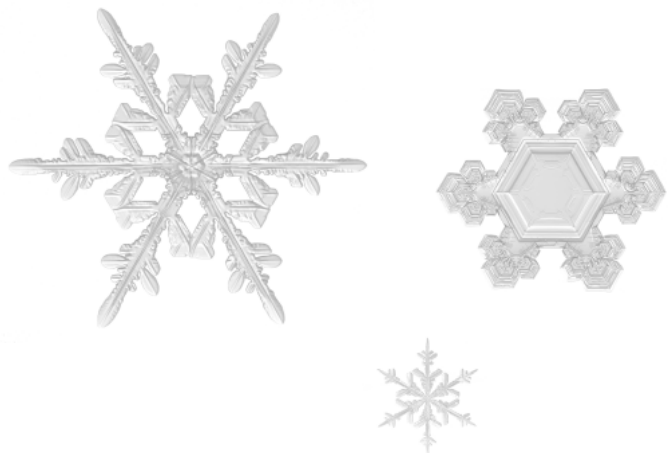




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GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Where and when does the competition take place?

During Winterlude — the region’s annual winter snow festival — the National Snow Sculpture Competition will take place from February 6 to 10, 2007, in Jacques-Cartier Park, Gatineau, on the Quebec side of Canada’s Capital Region.

2. What is the theme?

“Dance all day, then shovel away!”

The year 2007 marks an important anniversary for Canada’s Capital Region. It was in 1857 that Ottawa was chosen as the capital of the united Province of Canada. Snowflake Kingdom in Jacques-Cartier Park will create a historical atmosphere for the occasion, as it tells the story of the Ottawa Valley region. We hope that, through this theme, the National Snow Sculpture Competition will provide an opportunity for people to learn more about the winters of bygone days in your region of Canada.



Based on the theme (“Dance all day, then shovel away!”), we invite you to create a winter scene from days of yore that reveals the creative ways that our grandparents were able to enjoy themselves and have fun despite having to work hard to overcome the hardships of winter. For example, your sculpture could represent a custom, a leisure activity, or the ingenuity our ancestors demonstrated in adapting to the harsh Canadian winters.

In the interest of ensuring that sculptures help reinforce the NCC’s mandate to organize public activities and events in the National Capital Region that will enrich the cultural and social fabric of Canada, the organizers reserve the right to request modifications to proposed sculptures.

Proposed sculptures that are deemed to contain visuals or themes that are degrading, dehumanizing or that otherwise diminish the dignity of any participant will not be eligible. This may include, but may not be limited to, material that is sexually exploitive, excessively violent, or that denigrates any individual or any group identifiable by race, religion, gender or sexual orientation.



3. What is the cost to enter, who can apply and what are the selection criteria?

There is no entry fee for applicants, and the competition is open only to Canadian residents. A selection committee will choose **only one team from each province and each territory to attend the competition** (total of 13 teams).

Teams will be selected based on the following criteria:

- The originality and appeal of the subject presented, with respect to this year’s theme
- The artistic quality and physical appearance of the proposed sculpture
- The team members’ relevant sculpting experience, particularly in snow.

Each team must submit:

- The completed application form and waiver provided herewith
- An accurate drawing of the proposed sculpture, as well as a description of the chosen concept
- Photos of previous snow sculptures created with the direct participation of the team members
- A summary describing the team members’ experience
- Portfolios (certificates, photos, newspaper articles, etc.) showing previous artistic creations.

Sculptors must build an original snow sculpture that they have never presented at any other snow-sculpting event. They may be granted permission to carve a sculpture similar to one presented at a previous event if it has been reasonably modified and if it has met the organizing committee’s approval.

The organizing committee reserves the right to request modifications to the sketches of proposed sculptures to prevent similarity and ensure a good variety among the sculptures.

We require competitors to participate in briefings, media events and ceremonies.



4. How many sculptors are permitted per team?

Each team may have up to three members, and the same sculptors must work on the project from start to finish. Based on previous years' experience, and considering the size of each block of snow, it is highly recommended that each team have three members. All team members must be at least 18 years of age as of January 1, 2007.

Each team member must be a native or a resident of the province or territory that he or she chooses to represent. At least two of the team members must reside in the province or territory represented.

In addition, the organizing committee reserves the right to make an exception with respect to the place of origin and residence of the sculptors if no proposal, or no acceptable proposal, is received from a given province or territory.

Although it is not necessary for all team members to have prior snow-sculpting experience, the team captain must be an experienced sculptor and must have previously participated in a snow-sculpting event.

Excluding the three team members, no one is allowed in the carving area unless they have been designated by the organizers to assist carvers.



5. What size are the snow blocks?

Each block of snow is 3.7 m wide x 4.9 m high x 3.7 m deep (12 ft. wide x 16 ft. high x 12 ft. deep). Since visitors to the site will have access to both the front and the back of the sculptures, all four sides of the block of snow must be carved. Each sculpture may be expanded by 60 cm (2 ft.) in height and by 30 cm (1 ft.) on each side.



6. How much time will teams have to work on their sculptures?

Each team will be allowed to work on its sculpture between 8 am and 9 pm each day, except on February 6 and 10, when the hours will be adjusted to allow for the checking of safety equipment and the awarding of prizes. During the information session on the evening of February 5, 2007, each team will be given a detailed schedule indicating meal times and times allotted for working on the sculptures. Please note that each team will be given approximately 40 hours to work on its sculpture.

In order to adapt to weather conditions and unforeseen events, the organizing committee may see fit to modify the schedule and the number of hours allotted for the competition.



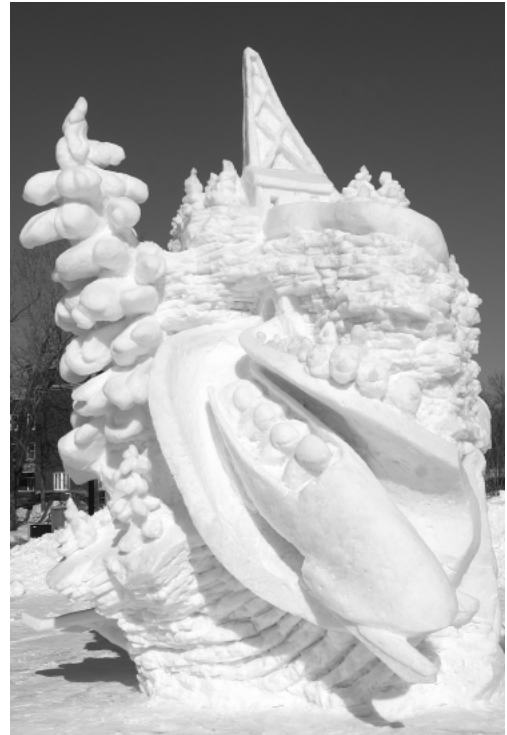
7. What expenses will be covered by the organizers?

The organizers will cover round-trip transportation expenses (except for transportation between a competitor's home and the bus/train station or airport), accommodations and meals for each team that participates in the competition. The organizing committee will not cover expenses related to overweight and/or excess baggage.

Transportation to and from the region will be arranged upon teams' acceptance in the competition. Local transportation will be arranged at a future date.

Accommodations will be provided at a nearby hotel from February 5 to 10, 2007, inclusive. Sculptors will be assigned a room to share with one or two team members or other sculptors of the same sex. Any personal expenses will not be covered and must be paid by the participants; a credit card imprint will be required upon arrival at the hotel.

Three meals will be served for participants each day of the competition. Any meals outside of the competition schedule will not be provided or paid for by the organizers.



8. What equipment and services will be provided?

Sculptors must provide most of their own tools and equipment. There will be a heated rest area and washrooms nearby, as well as a secure location in which to store any equipment. Competition organizers are not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen tools or equipment.

The organizers will provide the following to each team:

- Access to one 120V 15-amp outlet for chainsaws
- Lighting
- One scaffolding platform
- One 3.7-m (12-ft.) stepladder
- One shovel per team and a few large scoop shovels to be shared with the other teams.

Sculptors must provide:

- Their own chainsaws and extension cords (we recommend cords of at least 15.2 m, or 50 ft.)
- Harnesses to meet the needs of their team. The organizing committee will have a limited number of harnesses available.
- Any other manual tools they wish to use: axes, machetes, shovels, ice chisels, as well as any homemade scraping tools. All equipment provided by the participants should be stored in a solid container that can be easily transported.

The only power-operated tool permitted is the chainsaw. Any other power-operated tools (including electrical, mechanical, hydraulic or fuel-operated tools) will be prohibited. Only one chainsaw per team may be used at a time during the competition.



Snow and water are the only construction materials allowed. Props or other foreign objects are not allowed as part of the final sculpture. Colouring agents may be used only to make initial markings on the sculpture, and must not be visible on the finished piece.

9. Safety first

Participants must take all the health and safety measures required to ensure their own safety as well as the safety of others. The NCC requires that personal protective equipment be used in order to avoid injuries due to the use of electrical and manual equipment (i.e. chainsaws). This includes safety boots and hard hat, special chainsaw pants with ballistic nylon inserts, hearing protection, protective eyewear, harnesses, and other relevant health and safety equipment.

All teams are responsible for maintaining a safe work environment throughout the competition. Any participants performing actions deemed hazardous to their safety or to the safety of others will be asked to correct this deficiency, or risk disqualification from the competition.

10. What is the prize structure?

There are three categories of prizes:

1- National Snow Sculpture Competition Award

- First Prize: A \$1,500-value prize per team member
- Second Prize: A \$1,000-value prize per team member
- Third Prize: A \$500-value prize per team member

2- People's Choice Award

- Prize: A \$500-value prize per team member

3- Artists' Choice Award

- Prize: A commemorative gift

Prizes must be accepted as awarded.



11. How will the judging be done?

A professional jury will determine the first-, second- and third-prize winners of the National Snow Sculpture Competition.

The jury evaluation will be based on a total score of 100 points, using the following criteria.

Technical Merit (40 points)

- **Precision:** How accurately and precisely are the elements of the sculpture carved? Are the pieces well fitted together? Are there any fine details, shadows, angles? How thoroughly is waste snow removed from the block?
- **Proportion:** How do the different parts or areas relate to each other in terms of relative size? Are the various elements of the sculpture well proportioned?

- **Degree of difficulty:** As a completed piece, does the sculpture represent a challenging project for an experienced professional snow sculptor? Are there any extreme vertical areas, arches, undercuts, movements? Considerations will include the fragility and physical balance conveyed, and the structural limitations of the snow.
- **Finish:** The level of uniformity and consistency in the final treatment of the sculpture, from all angles, will be considered for this component.
- **Use of snow:** Has the snow been challenged to its maximum limits, i.e., is there maximum use of positive and negative forms? Is there a fine balance between positive and negative space (positive being the snow, and negative being areas where the snow is removed).

Artistic Impression (40 points)

- **Creativity:** Has the theme been conveyed in an original and interesting manner? Does the sculpture bring a new or creative viewpoint to a known idea or concept?
- **Composition:** Are the various elements of the sculpture visually balanced? Do they “flow” or “blend” well into one another? The sculpture will be viewed from all angles when determining the scores for this component.
- **Expression of meaning:** Is the sculpture self-explanatory and explicit? Is the theme well communicated and made clear to the viewer?
- **Expression of emotion:** Does the sculpture evoke a strong emotional response in the viewer?
- **Overall impression:** What is the initial and overall impression the viewer gets when seeing the piece? When one disregards all other criteria, does the sculpture, as a whole, stand well on its own?

Coherence of the Project (20 points)

- **Intention vs. perception:** Does the finished sculpture convey the team’s literal and metaphorical intentions (as outlined in their rationale)?
- **Compliance:** Does the finished piece comply with the final drawing submitted? Awarding of the People’s Choice Award will be based on the total number of votes submitted by visitors to the site.

The competition participants will have the opportunity to vote for the winner of the Artists’ Choice Award.

For more information:

Jocelyne Moncion
 Program Coordinator
 National Capital Commission
 Tel.: 613-239-5106
 Fax: 613-239-5333
 Email: jmoncion@ncc-ccn.ca
 Website: www.canadacapital.gc.ca/winterlude/snowsculptures



APPLICATION TO COMPETE

Applications (along with the signed waiver) must be received by Monday, November 20, 2006. Participants will receive confirmation by mail, fax or email.

I would like to enter a team in National Snow Sculpture Competition, which will take place from February 6 to 10, 2007, and to represent the province or territory of _____

Team Captain

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ Prov./Terr.: _____ Postal code: _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

Language(s) spoken: _____

Preferred language of correspondence: _____

Allergies / Special diet: _____

Team Member #2

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ Prov./Terr.: _____ Postal code: _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

Language(s) spoken: _____

Preferred language of correspondence: _____

Allergies / Special diet: _____

Team Member #3

Name: _____

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ Prov./Terr.: _____ Postal code: _____

Home phone: _____ Work phone: _____

Fax: _____ Email: _____

Language(s) spoken: _____

Preferred language of correspondence: _____

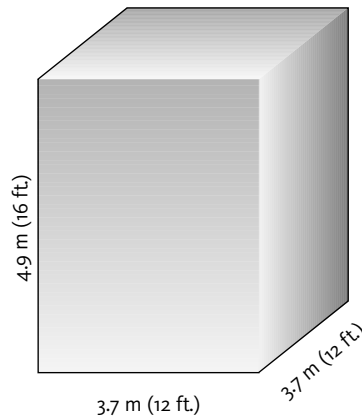
Allergies / Special diet: _____



Please submit an accurate drawing of your proposed sculpture, shown from the following angles (each angle must be drawn on a separate letter-sized sheet of paper (8½ in. x 11 in.).

Note: highly technical scaled drawings are not required for the selection committee.

- Front view of the sculpture
- Back view of the sculpture
- Three-quarter angle (corner) view of the sculpture
- You must present a final drawing of your sculpture upon your arrival at the event — one of the jury's evaluation criteria will be compliance of the finished sculpture with the drawing submitted.



Keep in mind that the blocks of snow are 3,7 m X 4,9 m X 3,7 m (12 ft. wide X 16 ft. high X 12 ft. deep), and that the blocks will be constructed vertically, not horizontally.

Please send your completed application form, drawings and portfolio to the following address:

National Capital Commission
202-40 Elgin Street
Ottawa ON K1P 1C7
Attn.: Jocelyne Moncion
Program Coordinator, Events and Celebrations

You may also fax the forms to 613-239-5333 or send them by email to jmoncion@ncc-ccn.ca

Your application must be received by **Monday, November 20, 2006**, in order to be considered for this year's competition.

Please be sure that each team member reads and signs the waiver on the following page. Thank you for your application!

Note: Please note that this document is subject to change without prior notice. However, all teams selected will be informed accordingly.

RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER AND INDEMNITY

I understand and recognize that my participation in the National Snow Sculpture Competition (hereinafter called “the activity”) involves certain risks. I hereby undertake to act in a responsible and safe manner at all times while participating in the activity.

I am aware that, in order to avoid injury due to the use of manual or electrical equipment, the National Capital Commission (the NCC) and the City of Gatineau (the City) recommend that I wear a helmet, protective eyewear, safety boots, hearing protection and special chainsaw pants with ballistic nylon inserts while using a chainsaw, as well as a harness when I am working at heights of 3 metres (9.8 feet) or more.

I certify that I have no physical incapacities or medical conditions that could compromise my safe participation in the activity, and that I possess the skills necessary to participate in this activity in a safe manner.

I agree not to impair my faculties (through, for example, fatigue, alcohol, drugs or medication) during this activity.

Release of Liability

I hereby release and forever discharge the NCC and the City, its employees, its officers, its directors, its agents, its volunteers, its members and any other person for whom the NCC and the City are responsible (hereinafter collectively called the “Organizers”) from any and all liability for any injury (including death) and/or any property damage that I could sustain arising out of or in relation to my participation in the activity.

Waiver

I hereby waive any right I might have to make any demand or claim and to commence any action or lawsuit against the NCC and the City for any injury (including death) and/or any property damage that I could sustain arising out of or in relation to my participation in the activity. I further waive any right I might have to make any demand or claim and to commence any action or lawsuit against any other person or corporation who might, in turn, make a demand, a claim or commence an action or a lawsuit against the Organizers.

Permission Regarding Photographs, etc.

I hereby grant to the Organizers and those authorized on their behalf, the right and unrestricted and perpetual permission, in respect of pictures or film footage that they, through their photographers and/or contractors and/or other participants in the activity, have taken of me, or in which I may be included with others, during my participation in the activity, and/or of the sculpture I have created, and in respect of comments I have made or written on my participation in the activity, to use, to publish or broadcast and/or to authorize a third party to use, publish or broadcast the same in whole or in part in any and all media and for any purpose whatsoever, to alter said picture and footage and to use my name in connection therewith if the Organizers so choose. Furthermore, I grant to the Organizers and those authorized on their behalf, the right and permission to use all or part of the personal information that I provide, for the purpose of publishing a biography of myself and/or a description of my work. The Organizers have my consent to use, publish and broadcast all or part of such information in all media formats (Web, etc.), for promotional purposes and communication to the public.

I hereby release and discharge the Organizers from any and all claims and demands arising out of or in connection with the use of the photographs, personal information, film footage or comments, including without limitation, any and all claims for libel or invasion of privacy.

Consent

I declare that I have read and understood this document in its entirety and consent to the foregoing. This document shall be binding upon me and my heirs, legal representatives and assigns.

Signature of first member or individual _____

Signature of second member _____

Signature of the third member _____

Date _____

(dd/mm/yy)