

## **News** release

November 28, 2008

### Celebrate the Holiday Season at the Alberta Legislature

*Edmonton...* The Legislature grounds will once again be a wonderland of sights and sounds this holiday season. Starting on December 4 with the Christmas Light-up, visitors to the Legislature will enjoy free BrightNights displays, ice sculptures and choral performances.

"As we await the snow, I can think of no better way to get into the spirit of the season than a visit to the Alberta Legislature to take in the lights, choirs and other festive activities," said Ken Kowalski, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

#### Free Holiday Events at the Alberta Legislature

#### Christmas Light-up, December 4

Enjoy the University of Alberta Mixed Chorus in the rotunda at 4 p.m. and watch Premier Ed Stelmach switch on the outdoor lights at 4:45 p.m. Cookies and hot chocolate will be served.

#### Voices in the Rotunda, December 1 to December 23

Starting December 1 on scheduled days during noon hours and evenings from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., celebrate the season by listening to local school and community choirs, in the Legislature Rotunda. For choir schedules check our website at www.assembly.ab.ca. Hot chocolate will be served in the evenings.

#### Winter Wonderland

Starting on December 4 with the Light-up, the Legislature Grounds will be a wonderland of sights and sounds. The Alberta Legislature is proud to again partner with the Edmonton Chamber of Commerce and feature free BrightNights displays. Ice sculptures created by members of the Sculptors' Association of Alberta will also be on display. And don't forget your skates! Weather permitting, skating is available on the grounds daily.

#### Events in the Pedway, December 1 to December 23

The craft table will keep little hands busy making Christmas cards and other holiday creations within the decked halls of the pedway. This year the pedway will feature Christmas trees decorated with homemade ornaments by Edmonton and area schools and a Winter Fun display.

The Interpretive Centre, pedway and gift shop will be open evenings from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

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To call toll free within Alberta dial 310-0000.

# **Back**grounder

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This is the 26th year that the Legislature Grounds have been decorated.

#### **Christmas Tree**

- The Christmas tree on the Legislature Grounds is a white spruce from the Edson area. It is approximately 16 metres tall and stands at the north end of the Legislature grounds, serving as the centerpiece for the annual festive lighting display.
- There are 5,000 multi-colored bulbs on the main tree. Overall, 120,000 bulbs decorate 300 trees.
- All bulbs are LED lights, which last longer and use a fraction of the energy used by conventional incandescent lights. This is the third year that LED lights have been used in decorating the Legislature Grounds.

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