

Ring in the New Year in the heart of Downtown

Usher in the arrival of 2016 at the New Year's Eve Downtown festival. The City of Edmonton is hosting this fun-filled, nonalcoholic family event in the heart of downtown.

Date: Thursday, December 31, 2015 **Time:** 7 p.m. – 12:15 a.m.

Location: City Hall, City Hall Plaza & Sir Winston Churchill

Sauare



The celebration kicks off inside City Hall at 7 p.m. with live entertainment, kids' crafts, magicians, balloon artists and face painters.

The fun will continue outdoors with music, hay rides, free skate rentals, ice skating, bannock-making

Main stage entertainment will begin at 9:15 p.m. in Sir Winston Churchill Square, leading up to a

Please note: High winds or severe weather may result in the cancellation of some outdoor activities. Call 311 for the most up-to-date event information.

During the celebrations, a number of parking bans and road closures will take place. To maximize traffic and pedestrian flow while maintaining pedestrian safety throughout the event, the following closures will be in effect until approximately 1 a.m. on January 1, 2016:

Closure of:

• 99 St., from 102 Ave. to 102A Ave.

Parking ban on:

99 St from 101A Ave to 103A Ave

10:30 p.m.

Closure of:

- 99 St., from north of the Stanley A Miner Library parkade entrance to 102 Ave.
- 100 St., from 101A Ave. to 102A Ave. (100 St. entrance to the Stanley A. Milner Library parkade and elevator will remain open)
- 102 Ave., from 99 St. to 100 St.

11:30 p.m.

Total closure of

- 99 St., from 101A Ave. to 102 Ave. (access to the Stanley A. MIner Library parkade entrance
- 100 St., from 101A Ave. to 102A Ave. (access to the Stanley A. Milner Library parkade entrance and elevator only)
- 102 Ave., from 97 St. to 101 St. (access to the Canada Place parkade entrance and elevator only)

Sidewalk Closures

To ensure public safety, the sidewalks within the fireworks fallout zone will be closed to pedestrians from 11:30 p.m. on December 31, 2015 until 1 a.m. on January 1, 2016.

Sidewalks closures will include:

- The east and west sides of 99 St., between 101A Ave. and 102 Ave.
- The east and west sides of 100 St., between 101A Ave. and 102 Ave.
- The north and south sides of 102 Ave., between 99 St. and 100 St.
- The north side of 101A Ave., between 99 St. and 100 St.

Pedestrian access during this time is available via:

- Tix on the Square entrance (elevator available)
- Edmonton City Centre (CBC entrance)

• City Hall (elevator available)

Pedestrians wishing to access the Stanley A MIner Library parkade during this time should use the underground pedway system accessible from P2 (parking level 2).

Parking will be available for \$1 after 5 p.m. at the City Hall, Stanley A MIner Library and City Centre Mall

Free New Year's Eve Public Transit Service

Start your New Year on a safe note by taking transit to and from your New Year's Eve celebrations. ETS free service starts at 6 p.m. on December 31, continuing until 3:30 a.m. on January 1.

DATS is free from 6 p.m. on December 31, continuing until 1:30 a.m. on January 1.

ETS Service information is available from the ETS Trip Planner.

Money collected in ETS fare boxes on New Year's Eve will be given to the **DONATE A RIDE** campaign.

Note: Route 560 to Spruce Grove, Route 198 to Fort Saskatchewan, Route 199 to Edmonton Garrison,

and Route 747 to the Edmonton International Airport are not part of the New Year's Eve free service.

For regional service information, please contact <u>St. Albert Transit</u> at 780-418-6060, <u>Strathcona County Transit</u> at 780-464-7433, or <u>Leduc Transit</u> at 780-980-7177.

For more information:

Telephone: In Edmonton: 311 Outside Edmonton: 780-442-5311

Media Contact:

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