

Community Showcase

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HRM Recreation's Maple Sugar Tour

In early spring, Dartmouth's Community Recreation Office hosts the annual Maple Sugar Tour at Birch Cove Park. This event celebrates the long running tradition of collecting the sap from the sugar maple tree and demonstrates how it is made into the delicious maple syrup that we enjoy on many foods, including pancakes and ice cream.

The event runs for three days, this year starting on Sunday, March 28. The first day is an opportunity for families, neighbours and friends to get outside and enjoy the warming Spring weather while learning of the tradition that is the maple sugar bush. During the following two days HRM Recreation, in partnership with the Prince Andrew High School Leadership students, invite elementary school students to come and enjoy a day at Birch Cove. These Prince Andrew High School Students spend two days, teaching the elementary school students how the sap is collected and the art of boiling the sap into the sweet maple syrup. This is a fun event for all ages and the local schools look forward to participating each year.

For more information please contact the Findlay Community Centre at 490-4263.

The Citadel Community Centre is located in Halifax's South End and is attached to Citadel High School. Opened in October 2007, this HRM operated recreation centre is open seven days a week (8:30am-10:00pm), is wheelchair accessible, and primarily consists of an Activity Studio and the Bob Douglas Gym. The Bob Douglas Gym is approximately 8,400 square feet and is able to be broken down into two gyms which can house two volleyball courts, two regulation basketball courts, or twelve badminton courts.

Through a Joint Use Agreement made with Citadel High School in 2007, the centre is used exclusively by Citadel High School on weekdays during school hours. Evenings and weekends, the space is used by the Community Centre to run various programs and space is also open to rental groups. Through this agreement, the community centre has usage of the school's 10,400 square foot gym and several class rooms throughout the year and exclusively during March Break and throughout the summer months. Of great benefit to both youth and the community is that through this agreement, the gyms and activity studio are used everyday, all day.

With youth in the building everyday, the Citadel Community Centre is in a very unique and advantageous position. The centre hires interested and community minded youth (most of them students from Citadel High School) to run the majority of their programs and provide front line customer service. The centre benefits from their efforts and the youth benefit by getting valuable work experience and a little extra pocket money.

Citadel Community Centre offers members of the community a wide range of programs including soccer, badminton, yoga, to hula hooping. During the summer months, the centre offers several camps including: adventure camps, dance camps, skateboarding camps, basketball camps, super-hero camp and a princess camp.

The centre has hosted several events including the Acadian Games, Pan American Table Tennis Championships, the Wheelchair Basketball Championships, and several Basketball Tournaments. In 2010, Citadel will host several Canada Games Test Events leading up to being one of the host facilities for the 2011 Canada Games.

Citadel currently provides rental space for over 25 community groups. If you are interested in inquiring about rental space please contact us at 490-3895.

