

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Celebrate Pictou Winter Carnival Inside and Out

Pictou, NS (February 9, 2009) – Join in the celebrations inside and out during Pictou Winter Carnival 2009. This year's schedule of events for February 13-14 include activities that embrace the winter spirit with both indoor and outdoor activities for everyone. Pictou Recreation, Tourism and Culture have partnered with Recreation Nova Scotia, and the NS Department of Health, Promotion and Protection in delivering the "Take the Roof Off Winter" program within the Town of Pictou during the Winter Carnival this year. The program's goal is to encourage outdoor physical activity in winter, with a focus on families and unstructured outdoor fun.

"While we have traditional outdoor winter activities, such as sleigh rides and coasting, we tried to incorporate some new and unique indoor events," says Michelle Young, Waterfront Transition Coordinator with Pictou Recreation, Tourism & Culture.

Just when you think you have seen it all, take part in the "Sweatheart Regatta" at the Fisheries Training Pool. Enter a team and take on the challenge to design, build and race a boat made entirely of corrugated cardboard, taking place on Saturday, February 14th from 1:00pm to 5:30pm. Pre-registration is required, \$15 per team with all materials supplied. If a hot breakfast is in order to start your day, be sure to take in the Pancake Breakfast at Stella Maris Church Hall on Saturday beginning at 8:00am. For tickets call 485-5759 or can be purchased at the door.

If getting out and about appeals more to your festive side, coasting, sleigh rides and the snow sculpture contest are great outdoor activities. "This year we are hosting the snow sculpture contest at the Hector Exhibit Centre," says Dayle Crouse, Curator, Hector Exhibit Centre. "This central location will offer an opportunity to view all the sculptures together, and hopefully encourage community participation." Students from McCulloch School will kick off the snow sculpture competition beginning on Friday afternoon with some unique creations. The competition will run until Saturday, February 14th at the Hector Exhibit. The competition is open to anyone and sculptures must be completed by 3:30pm.

Whether you enjoy indoor or outdoor activities, there are plenty of events for the young and the young at heart. A general skate is taking place at the Hector Arena on Friday from 3:00pm-4:45pm where there is an opportunity to win an "official" Take the Roof Off Winter toque. The library will be offering Valentine Puppet Show and "Snowball" craft for children at 2:00pm on Saturday, while the New Horizons Seniors Club will once again be hosting an Auction 45's card party at 7:00pm. Be sure not to miss out on the ever popular Saturday Night Trivia at Carver's with Pictou County's own "Spyder MacDonald" as host for the evening.

The students at the Pictou Elementary School will be participating in a "Winter Walk Day" as part of their Take the Roof Off Winter event during Friday and then at 5:00pm the Cupid Spaghetti Supper takes place at the school gym. Tickets must be purchased by February 11th by calling the school. Last, but not least, the popular annual favorite "Valentine Chocoholic" promises to be fun for all ages at the Pictou United Church.

Pictou Recreation, Tourism & Culture thanks all the sponsors of Winter Carnival 2009, and are looking forward to the celebration. Make sure to pick up a complete schedule of events available the week-end of January 24.

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For more information:

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