



## Fun for all at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts

The countdown is on for the 2018 Scotties Tournament of Hearts taking place Jan 27 through Feb 4 at the South Okanagan Events Centre in Penticton. More than 300 community members have volunteered to make the week in the South Okanagan an unforgettable stay for the estimated 50,000 fans who will attend the national women's curling championship.

### Go wild Friday night

Friday, Jan 26  
6:30pm SOEC

Hear the roar Friday night as local fans rush for seats to watch the Wild Card Game before the opening of round-robin play. Free to spectators, the game showcases some of the top talent in Canada in a battle for a second chance at qualifying for the Scotties. The game is played between the top two teams on the Canadian Team Ranking System who failed to advance from their provincial playdowns.

Also free to watch is the Ford Hot Shot Skills competition with the preliminary round on Friday, Jan 26 and the playoffs on the morning of Saturday, Jan 27. Players will be tested in five different shots as they vie to win a two-year lease on a Ford vehicle.

### Cheer on Team BC

Saturday, Jan 27  
2:00pm SOEC

Cheer on Team BC at the opening draw at the tournament. Last year in St. Catharines, Ontario, more than 3,600 attended the opening draw. Show your spirit and help fill those seats. Come early and watch all the pageantry of the opening ceremony.

Single draw tickets are \$29.50 or purchase an opening day pack (two draws) for \$49. Team BC also takes the ice on Sunday at 9 am & 7 pm, Monday at 2 pm, Tuesday at 9 am & 7 pm and Wednesday at 2 pm.

### HeartStop Lounge

Saturday, Jan 27 - Saturday, Feb 3  
Trade and Convention Centre

After each draw, the party will move over to the HeartStop Lounge, located at the nearby Penticton Trade and Convention Centre. It will be open to everyone for the duration of the Scotties Tournament of Hearts. The HeartStop Lounge offers live music, dancing, drinks and food, as well as interactive activities for the entire family, and a chance to meet the athletes.

### Take in the Tournament

Single-draw tickets are on sale starting at \$19.50. Single-draw tickets give fans the most flexibility to pick and choose which draws they want to attend, including the championship round. Saturday, Feb 3 page playoff games and the semifinal on Sunday, Feb 4 are \$32.50, and the championship final on Sunday, Feb 4 is \$37.50. Visit [www.curling.ca/2018scotties](http://www.curling.ca/2018scotties) for more information.



JAN. 27-FEB. 4  
SOUTH OKANAGAN EVENTS CENTRE

photo courtesy of Curling Canada

## Don't flush 'flushable' wipes!

While the City's sewer system was built for a foul job, one small and seemingly harmless item can lead to big problems. Domestically marketed flushable wipes are a common-place product in cupboards and cabinets across Penticton. Ready for use at a moment's notice, flushable wipes serve as a handy alternative to traditional cleaning supplies, while offering the convenience of quick disposal.

Unfortunately, despite their marketed namesake, flushable wipes are anything but flushable! Having entered the City's sewer system, these products do not break down causing jams and blockages to the turbines and pumps that keep things moving. The next time you're finished using a 'flushable' wipe, assist City crews in keeping our sewer system running smooth by placing it in the wastepaper basket found next to your toilet.



## Budget Highlights

For 2018, the City's budget focuses on three key areas: Safety & Enforcement, Asset Management and Growth & Development. The following summaries outline the highlights from each area.

### Safety & Enforcement

2018 brings increased Bylaw Officer presence in the community by converting a relief position to a full-

time position in order to streamline calls for service and allow officers to spend more time in the field. The budget also includes funding to establish a more strategic approach to bylaw enforcement priorities identified by the community.

Finally, the 2018 budget adds one additional RCMP officer, bringing the total complement to 46.

### Asset Management

Investing \$18.2m in 2018 capital projects, including:

\$2.7m in Sewer utility projects

\$3.4m in Water utility projects

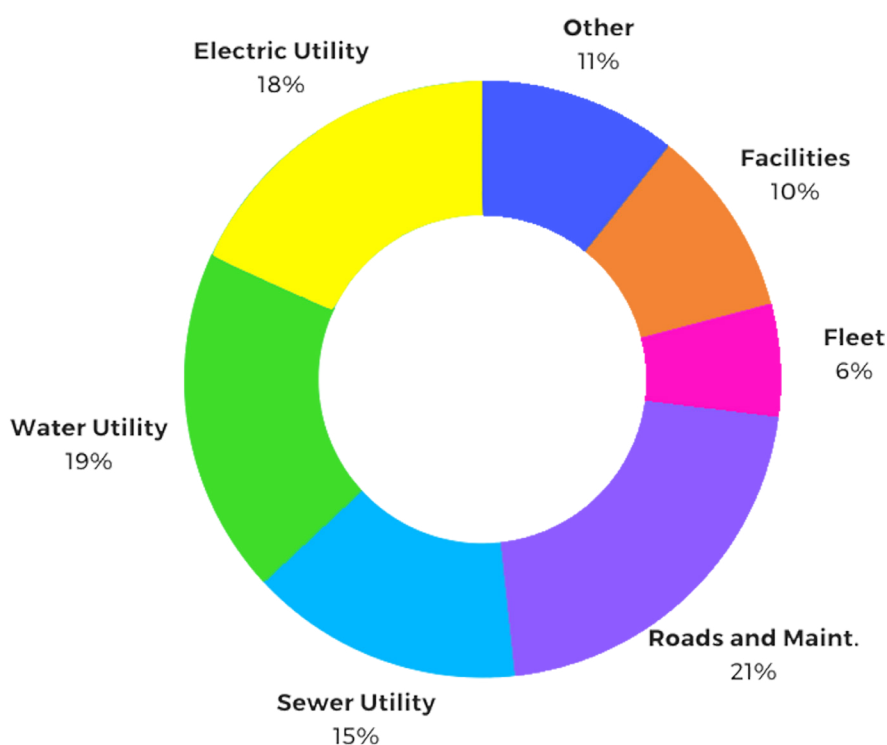
\$3.3m in Electrical utility projects

\$8.8m in General Fund projects

\$1.2m will be transferred into the City's asset management reserve to fund asset management projects in future years, bringing the total in the reserve to \$2.8m by the end of the 2018.

### Growth & Development

2018 will see a \$250,000 investment into Development Services in order to modernize the building permit and business license programs. This will reduce permit and license approval times and improve consistency and communication with owners, designers and builders. A \$400,000 contribution will be made to the YES Project to assist with the purchase of a building to establish the youth resource centre, a "one stop" hub for integrated youth service.



## Why are my winter bills so high?

The higher bills over the winter months are mainly due to the high consumption required to maintain the inside of your residence above the freezing mark. Over the months of December through to February, we normally experience sub-zero

temperatures both in the day and at night. In order to maintain the inside of your home above 0 degrees, the electricity is working overtime. As history shows, customers often experience bills doubling or tripling over this timeframe.

Whether there is electric heat or gas, power would still be required to heat the property.

In preparation for the colder months customers are encouraged to take some simple steps to conserve energy so their bills are not as high. To learn how, see the City of Penticton's energy saving brochure online at [www.penticton.ca/utility](http://www.penticton.ca/utility) or pick one up at City Hall.