



Proposed Improvements to Skiing at Confederation are Approved and Underway

Foothills Nordic Ski Club and the City of Calgary have partnered to improve Calgarians' access to cross-country skiing within the city. As a long time provider of volunteer ski trail grooming at Confederation Park Golf Course, Foothills Nordic Ski Club has a new agreement with the City of Calgary that includes snow farming and harvesting, and snow making. These improvements will augment natural snow and provide a more consistent ski experience for Calgarians and are a must for Calgary's chinook-influenced climate.

The Ski Confederation Project fits well with the City's drive to promote healthy, active lifestyles and supports Sport and Recreation's mandate to increase year-round use of City golf courses.

Foothills Nordic Ski Club president, Kevin McLean, is very pleased that the club was able to raise funds and finalize a new operating agreement with the City on such a short timeline. Club volunteers worked tirelessly with relevant City departments, as well as Boards of neighboring communities, responding to questions and concerns, many of which related to community impacts. "The Ski Confederation Project was approved thanks to a tremendous amount of support and hard work on the part of the City, our donors and volunteers."

Only one month following the City's approval, operations are in place to enhance the cross-country ski experience at Confederation. The main parking lot is now open during the peak hours of the Club's programming. Lights have been installed in the driving range. Trails have been track-set at Canmore Park for additional public cross-country skiing. Portable toilets have been placed in parking lots of the golf course and Canmore Park. All grooming, farming, harvesting and snow making equipment is on-site and a team of trained volunteers are in place, including a snow making lead. Snow making will occur over the course of three to four cold days. "As soon as the weather cooperates and winter returns, our snow making volunteers will get busy stockpiling snow to be used for the remainder of the season," says McLean.

Visit: <https://foothillsnordic.ca/ski-confederation-project-information/> for more information.

The Ski Confederation Project is a **volunteer initiative**. Contact: volunteer@foothillsnordic.ca to get involved!