



## **NEW CANADIAN SKATE PROGRAM RETURNS TO CENTRAL PARK!**

**Media Release –Wednesday, February 1st, 2023**

WINNIPEG, MB – On Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup> new Canadians hit the ice to learn one of Canada's favourite winter activities. The New Canadian Skate program runs every Friday from 12:30pm-1:30pm and from 1:45pm-2:45pm for seven weeks in Central Park. This free program provides registered participants with the necessary equipment (skates & helmets) and instruction to learn how to skate.

“Just because winter’s cold doesn’t mean it can’t be a lot of fun. We’re proud to connect with the newcomer community in the heart of our city to introduce skating to those who may have never tried it before,” said Joe Kornelsen, Executive Director of the West End BIZ. “The rink has transformed the park in recent years and invite everyone wanting to explore Winnipeg to try out one of the nicest urban rinks in the city.”

“It is heartwarming to see groups of newcomer adults learning to skate in Central Park. Skating is a great way to fit into the culture of Winnipeg; it’s a fun skill that parents can share with their kids” said Val Calvers, Executive Director of Mosaic Newcomer Family Resource Network.

The West End BIZ has been running the program for the last couple of years, with a short pause in 2021 due to the pandemic. The program is open to all skill levels and is a great opportunity to meet new people and experience ice skating.

This program is run by the West End BIZ, with support by Knox United Church, Mosaic Newcomer Family Resource Network and The City of Winnipeg.

The West End Business Improvement Zone (West End BIZ) is a non-profit organization committed to working with business and area stakeholders to enhance, promote, advocate for, and support Winnipeg’s West End.

-30-

For further information, please call Joe Kornelsen, Executive Director by mobile at 204-960-0265 or email [joe@westendbiz.ca](mailto:joe@westendbiz.ca).