

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

January 5, 2016

The Municipality of the District of Chester and the Church Memorial Park have made the difficult decision to close the ice arena at the Eleanor Pew Morris Memorial Arena immediately due to public safety concerns.

An engineering study completed by ABLE Engineering identified a number of issues with the structural integrity of the roof of the ice arena. After discussions regarding the best course of action, both Municipal and Church Memorial Park Officials have agreed that the closure of the ice arena was in the best interest of public safety.

The closure does not affect the Curling Rink. Repairs to the roof of the Curling Rink were made in 2015 to address similar issues.

The building will remain closed to the public until repairs are completed. Repairs are anticipated to take approximately one month. The insurance company for the arena is aware of the issues and has been working with the Board of Church Memorial Park to arrange for repairs that would address the immediate safety concerns.

The Municipality and the Board of Church Memorial Park will work with user groups to minimize disruption to the users of the ice arena as much as possible. Discussions are currently underway to try and secure ice at other arenas in order to accommodate users of the ice surface. Both the Municipality and Church Memorial Park place the highest priority on the safety of the occupants; with the condition of the roof it necessary to take these measures.

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