



*“If you choose not to find joy in the snow, you will have less joy in your life
but still the same amount of snow” ~ Anonymous*

MARCH 5-8, 2026

**10th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SNOW CARVING
SYMPOSIUM!!!**

We are very excited to again welcome international, national and local teams to our International Snow Carving Symposium!!! Sculptors will transform a large cube of the world's best snow into beautiful pieces of art on the ice of Yellowknife Bay.

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ATTENTION CARVERS

This is a call-out for interested artistic individuals and groups, to join the 10th Annual Snowking Winter Festival International Snow Carving Symposium in March 2026.

Please submit your application, including a sketch or a photo of your design, by email, no later than **Monday, October 27, 2025** at 1700 MT. Further details are on the application form. You can find it on the website at www.snowking.ca.

For further information and details, please email snowcarving@snowking.ca

Details and Rules:

The Snow Carving Symposium, organised by Snowking's Winter Festival Society, will be held between March 5–8, 2026. A more detailed schedule and other information will be available at www.snowking.ca.

The symposium is open to up to nine teams of three adults.

To encourage creativity and artistic freedom for the 10th Anniversary Symposium, the Festival will not declare a theme. Artists are encouraged to propose their most impressive, challenging and astonishing ideas for their sculptures.

- The sculptures must be made entirely of snow.
- Each team will be assigned a block of snow measuring 10x10x10 ft (3m x 3m x 3m)
- No snow may be added, beyond the original blocks.
- Completed sculptures may extend up to a total of 2 meters laterally, and a total of 1 meter in height, beyond the dimensions of the original cube of snow.
- Teams will be provided with a snow scoop to move snow, one section of scaffolding with two platforms (1.5 m high), and various larger tools (such as ladders) to share.
- Power tools are not permitted. Colouring the snow is not permitted.
- The blocks of snow will be assigned to the competitors by lottery draw prior to the start of sculpting.
- Teams will have total of 33 hours to complete their sculptures.

Non-compliance with the above rules will result in ineligibility for the Peoples' Choice Award.

Two prizes will be awarded:

- **Artists' Choice** – voted by snow carving competitors and the Castle's carving team. This will be announced and awarded at the end of the symposium.
- **Peoples' Choice** – voted by visitors to the Snow Castle during the entire Snowking Winter Festival, announced at the castle's closing ceremony;

Most meals and hospitality will be provided. Expense money will be provided to all carvers, to cover additional expenses. Local transportation to and from the carving site will be provided by the Festival.

For artists from outside Yellowknife, a stipend to support travel costs, and accommodations will be provided by the Festival. If participants choose to arrive earlier or stay later than the approved dates, or must adjust travel due to flight availability, they must apply to the coordinator for additional compensation, **prior** to booking. If participants choose to stay longer to take in the many attractions of Yellowknife in March, that is at your own expense. Extras such as telephone and bar are not refunded. Local teams will receive an honorarium for their time in the creation of their sculpture.

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