

# Media Release

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## Article Headline

Manitoba 150 introduces *The Ice Chute*

## Teaser

Manitoba 150 opens exhilarating toboggan run made of ice

## Tweet

#MB150 introduces *The Ice Chute*, a thrilling icy toboggan ride near the Manitoba 150 Trails at The Forks @Manitoba150 #MB150 @sputnikarchitecture

## Article Body

### WINNIPEG, February 5, 2020

A unique, made-in-Manitoba toboggan slide, *The Ice Chute* opens today as part of the celebration of Manitoba's 150th anniversary. Located at the south end of The Forks, *The Ice Chute* is a natural addition to the fun offered on the Manitoba 150 Trails.

"Manitoba 150 is delighted to add new winter fun for our anniversary year," said Stuart Murray and Monique LaCoste, co-chairs of the Manitoba 150 Host Committee Inc. "Through everything we're doing this year, we are bringing people together to build memories with friends and family and appreciate everything that's special about Manitoba, including our winters. Plus, it's really fun!"

Conceived, designed, and created by Manitoba firm Sputnik Architecture, *The Ice Chute* harkens back to Manitoba's rich past.

"I took inspiration for *The Ice Chute* from black and white photos of the 1922 Winnipeg Winter Carnival. This is my tribute to that time, to the spirit of fun, thrills, and outdoor appreciation you can clearly see in the images," said Peter Hargraves, Principal, Sputnik Architects Inc. "What better way to embrace winter than through the beautiful, temperamental medium of ice?"

Not officially part of the Manitoba 150 Trails, the toboggan run is a fun addition to the exciting winter experience, and a novel way to incorporate ice.

"Working with ice is a constantly moving target," said Hargraves. "As the temperature changes, so does the ice. It is a surprisingly fragile material, but I love the challenge of working with it." Hargraves has the support of his entire team as well as expert ice sculptor Luca Roncoroni.

Together, the team harvested ice from Fort Whyte Alive, wrangling 72 blocks of 11-cm thick ice for the base of *The Ice Chute*, 72 blocks of 15-cm thick ice for the walls, and 11 semi truckloads full of snow from The Forks to create the ramp. In total, they used 45 tons of ice, shaping them using chainsaws and a variety of other handheld tools.

*The Ice Chute* only lasts as long as the cold weather, so don't miss your chance to experience the thrill of tobogganing 250 feet on ice.

## Quick Facts

The Manitoba 150 Host Committee has added *The Ice Chute*, a man-made toboggan run composed of ice to the Manitoba 150 Trails.

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Sputnik Architecture conceived, designed, and created the 250 foot-long *The Ice Chute*.

Ice harvested from Fort Whyte Alive

Made of:

- 72 blocks of 11-cm thick ice for the base
- 72 blocks of 15-cm thick ice for the walls
- 45 tons of ice
- 11 semi truckloads of snow

Located at the far south end of The Forks.

### About the Manitoba 150 Host Committee

The year 2020 will mark 150 years since Manitoba became Canada's fifth province, the only province to enter Confederation through the leadership of the Metis Nation. The Manitoba 150 Host Committee Inc. (Manitoba 150) is an independent, not-for-profit organization overseeing commemorative activities in celebration of our province, its beauty, people, culture, and history throughout 2020.

Manitoba 150 supports initiatives and events that cultivate pride in our province, foster a profound connection with our diverse cultures and, above all, unite us in celebration.

**Additional information on Manitoba 150 can be found at [Manitoba150.com](https://manitoba150.com).**

### Associated Links

Manitoba 150

<https://manitoba150.com>

### Contacts

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