



**RECREATION AND CULTURE
SERVICES
MEMORANDUM**

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TO: MAYOR A. NUTTALL AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

FROM: K. ELLIS, MANAGER OF RECREATION AND CULTURE PROGRAMMING AND SPECIAL EVENTS

NOTED: D. BELL, DIRECTOR OF RECREATION AND CULTURE SERVICES

D. MCALPINE, GENERAL MANAGER OF COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES

M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RE: DOWNTOWN COUNTDOWN

DATE: DECEMBER 4, 2024

The purpose of this Memorandum is to provide members of Council with an update regarding the City of Barrie's plans for New Year's Eve's ***Downtown Countdown 2024*** event.

Downtown Countdown is the City of Barrie's beloved annual New Year's Eve celebration. This year's event will be held December 31st, 2024, from 6pm until midnight at Barrie City Hall. Thousands will gather to ring in the new year with a free evening of entertainment and activities featuring top quality live music, a children's zone, a community bonfire, roaming buskers, skating at the Circle at the Centre, food trucks, and more.

Starting at 7pm, the City of Barrie is pleased to present an exciting line-up of live music and entertainment with each segment leading up to its own spectacular fireworks display. The children's Downtown Countdown begins at 7pm, with children's entertainers and a full countdown with fireworks!

Following the children's countdown, the stage will feature entertainment from local bands, followed by a 'big name' headliner taking the stage. The full entertainment line-up will be announced in early December, with our brand-new Media Partners **Bell Media Inc.**, including **Pure Country Radio**. The evening will finish with our spectacular fireworks display along the waterfront, ringing in the New Year.

All events take place on Collier Street, with the intersection of Collier & Mulcaster being closed to traffic for increased safety for those attending.

Below is a tentative schedule of events for the evening:

6:00pm – Event begins with family friendly activities
7:00pm – Family performer
8:00pm – Family countdown and fireworks
8:30pm – Feature local artist
9:30pm – Opening band
10:40pm – Headlining band
12:00am – Midnight countdown and fireworks

To help residents travel safely to and from the event, Barrie Transit bus service will be free on New Year's Eve starting at 5pm with hourly service extended to 3am.

For more information about New Year's Eve in Barrie, visit www.barrie.ca/downtowncountdown