

Community Information & Volunteer Centre

Capital News: Volunteer Centre Column December 27

New York New Year's 2012 free family event

Gathering around the TV to watch the crystal ball descend in New York's Time Square on New Year's Eve is a common activity in many households.

But remember that midnight in New York is 9 pm in Kelowna, so . . .

Why get out of the house and attend the first ever New York New Year's right here in Kelowna? Come to Stuart Park between 6 – 9 pm on December 31st.

All activities are free and there will be a wide range from which to choose. Bring your skates, get some exercise and enjoy the special lighting effects on ice and around the park.

Three live bands will perform on stage with "The Merkins" at 6 pm, 'The Calum Hughes Collective' at 7 pm and the high-energy Celtic band "Cod Gone Wild" at 8 pm.

The snow zone will host a snowball toss, tube ride races and a snowman building area. Other drop-in activity stations will include face painting, tattoos and crafts.

Sip hot chocolate and munch hot dogs, by donation, available on the Kelowna Yacht Club patio.

Glow sticks and other give-away items will be courtesy of event partners 99.9 Sun FM, Okanagan Strata Management, and Interior Savings.

Social media fans will enjoy an onsite "Twitterfall", a projection of tweets and online conversation about the event managed by Tourism Kelowna's social media guru, Kyle Harms.

The grand finale for the evening will be a New Year's countdown at 8:59 pm, followed by a short fireworks display off of Cold Sands Beach in City Park just after 9:00 pm.

Festivals Kelowna is presenting this fun and family-friendly event for our community to ring in the New Year.

So come with friends and family to skate, munch, sip, participate and ooh and awe as you create memories to share throughout 2013.

Dawn Wilkinson manages the Community Information and Volunteer Centre at Kelowna Community Resources. Go to kcr.ca and click on Volunteer Opportunities Search to create your volunteer profile. View all the Volunteer Centre columns at: kcr.ca/volunteercolumn. Contact 250-763-8008 ext 24 or informkelowna@kcr.ca.