



**TORONTO** Parks, Forestry & Recreation

**This rink will close  
6:00 pm Sunday  
March 2, 2008**

00:00

↑ HIGH BANDWIDTH

## City Councillors Vote To Keep Outdoor Rinks Closed

Thursday March 6, 2008  
*CityNews.ca Staff*

It still feels like winter in the city of Toronto, especially after Wednesday's snowstorm, but if you're looking to take another turn around your local ice rink before spring finally does arrive you might be out of luck.

City councillors voted against a bid to reopen 41 outdoor rinks for March Break. They shut last Sunday. But with the GTA still in winter's grip, some politicians felt it was worth reopening the rinks to give families something to do when the kids are off for a week.

The City's Parks Department said it would cost \$380,000 to reopen the rinks and rehire seasonal staff, which is why most voted against the plan to keep them open longer. There are still eight rinks open if you're willing to travel to them, and they don't shut down until March 16.

**Which rinks are currently still running? Find out [here](#).**

Meanwhile, councillors also nixed a plan that would have permitted shopkeepers to open on all statutory holidays except for Christmas Day. At this point only stores in designated tourist areas, among them Eaton Centre retailers, may open on statutory holidays.

Stores disobeying the rules by opening on those designated days can be fined \$50,000. Those in support of the plan said it would help bring more tourists into the city.

[When do the statutory holidays fall in 2008?](#)