

### HISTORY TRIBUTE

The Granite Curling Club opened its rink on December 20, 1929, at 480 1<sup>ST</sup> Avenue North in Saskatoon.

When it opened, it was a wood frame building with 7 sheets of natural ice. If you wanted to curl, you had to bring your own rocks. In 1941, the Granite Curling Club and the Nutana Curling Club were the first curling rinks west of Winnipeg to supply full sets of matching rocks for the members to use.

The curling year was very seasonal. The weather decided if your curling ice would stay frozen or not. In 1953, the Granite Curling Club installed its artificial ice plant. As the sport and the technology grew, with it came the expansion of the club. In 1965, the Granite Curling Club was rebuilt and expanded to 9 sheets of ice. This is the building that exists now.



## CURLING OVER THE YEARS AT THE GRANITE CURLING CLUB

The Granite Curling Club hosted the best curlers in the world for decades. The Saskatoon Superleague was the big star. Hundreds of Saskatchewan's best curlers called this league home for many years. The coveted trophy is still proudly displayed at the Nutana Curling Club. Bruce Korte, who's name appears on the trophy a record 13 times, relives the memories. "All the best players played there. It was an important part for all of us developing into the curlers we have become. Without that league, we would not have accomplished everything we did. And we had a lot of fun doing it. Many memories and friends were created at the Granite. It's important for us now that we curl at Nutana to keep these memories alive."



1980 World Champion Jim Wilson has fond memories of the Granite Curling Club, and for good reason. "The last time the Provincial Men's Tankard was held in Saskatoon was 1980 at the Granite. We won that Tankard (Rick Folk) that year, which propelled us to win the Labatt Brier in Calgary. We then went on to win the Air Canada Silver Broom. It was the hardest Championship to win in sport. I still get chills whenever I walk into the Granite."



# CURLING OVER THE YEARS AT THE GRANITE CURLING CLUB

In 2000, Bruce Korte's team of Darrell McKee, Roger Korte, and Rory Golanowski wore the Granite crest on their sleeves as they represented Saskatchewan at the Labatt Brier in Saskatoon. Their team banner hung proud in the Granite Curling Club until it closed its doors. All of the team members now call the Nutana Curling Club home and the banner, which bears the Granite Curling Club name, has made the trip with them. It will proudly be displayed at the Nutana to help preserve the legacy of the Granite Curling Club.



Over the years, the Saskatoon City Bonspiel takes place every January. Curlers from all of the clubs in the city would play for the championship. When it first started out, it was just a men's event. Hundreds of Teams used to play 10 days. Numerous events paid prizes in the bonspiel. Today the event has evolved to showcase a women's and an open division. The Granite Curling Club has always been a huge part of the event. With 9 sheets of ice, it hosted many games each year. We would like to recognize the last champion of the City Bonspiel Trophy from the Granite was Kelly Kesslering, Ed Barr, Chand Lengyel and Sean Hoey. We are happy that this wonderful team now calls the Nutana Curling Club home.



# CURLING OVER THE YEARS AT THE GRANITE CURLING CLUB

In 1990, Curl Saskatoon was formed. It was an organization created to coordinate the city curling clubs to work together to host large events and to promote curling in Saskatoon. One of the mandates was to focus on Junior Curling. It was just after 2010 that a Junior Coordinator was hired. The Junior Coordinator in conjunction with the elementary schools created the Ride to Curl program where school kids were bused to the rinks to curl. Junior curling leagues were formed, and bonspiels created. All these events were originated and administered at the Granite Curling Club. Today, the other clubs have absorbed as much of the program as they could, as well the legacy of the program and the people who ran them. Brooke Verbeem, who is now the Junior Coordinator of Curl Saskatoon, was a long-time member of the Granite. Today she calls the Nutana Curling Club home. We welcome her and all of the kids and instructors to our club.



Once these kids were done elementary school and were exposed to curling from the ride to curl program, there became an increased desire to continue curling in high school. The Granite Curling Club was one of the pioneers for High School Curling. They had a busy schedule. With the Granite closing, the other clubs in the city could not leave these up and coming curlers with no place to play. Any extra ice that the clubs have at that time, now high school kids are using. At the Nutana Curling Club we are tickled pink to see all of our sheets of ice full after school with high school curling. Thank you Granite for spearheading this initiative that we are honoured to carry forward.



## NUTANA'S COMMITMENT TO THE GRANITE CURLING CLUB LEGACY

We have mentioned a few memories which were created at the Granite Curling Club, by Granite Curling Club Members, who now affiliate with the Nutana Curling Club. We know there are many more memories that our current members have of the Granite. From all the wonderful ladies that have come from the Granite to curl in the Friday Afternoon League to the group that founded the Realtor League that curl on Wednesday afternoons. And now, around 50% of all curlers in Saskatoon and area curl at the Nutana Curling Club. This is why the Nutana Curling Club is very committed to provide a product for all to enjoy for many years to come. Our membership is bustling, our visitors who come to use the club as well as the people who come just to enjoy watching the sport, have so many positives that they take away from the club. Our business model is modern, sustainable, and profitable.

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The legacy of the Granite Curling Club will always be present at Nutana.

### HOW WOULD WE INVEST THE MONEY?

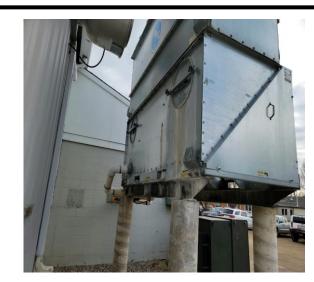
Like all curling clubs in the city, our club has some components that are aging and needs to be modernized. The club has done a good job in spending money on big ticket items to keep the club prospering. Electrical upgrades, Rocks 11 years ago, roof repairs, new headers a few years ago, upgrades to our lounge, sound attenuation and a modern camera system for streaming. The hundreds of thousands of dollars spent shows our commitment to be sustainable in the future. Nutana's Long Term Capital plan now focuses on the following in order:

1) Exterior Air-Cooled Condenser Time frame – Immediate

We currently operate with a water-cooled condenser. This piece of equipment is leaking, past its useful lifespan and needs to be replaced. An air-cooled condenser will save the club thousands of dollars each year in water and electrical costs.

Cost - \$175,000







#### 2) ICE MAINTENANCE ROOM

Time frame – 1 to 2 years

Our back room on the north side of the building needs to be rebuilt. The roof is leaking, and upper floor needs to be stabilized. Rooms need to be built on the main level. Walls need to be insulated and electrical and heat need to be installed. The door opening to the ice area needs to be expanded so the ice equipment can be stored. A cooling pad will be installed to keep our scraper blade cold all the time.

Cost - \$97,000



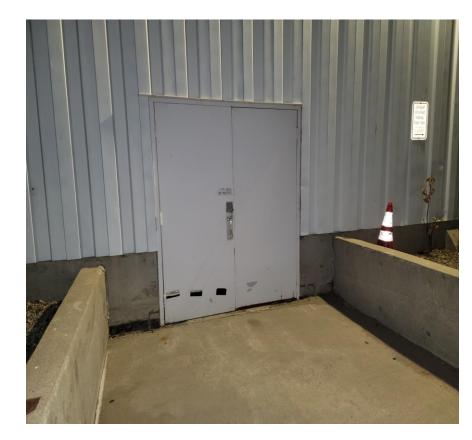
#### 3) REPLACE NORTH DOOR

Time frame – 1 to 2 years

The North Door and frame are damaged and existing beyond its useful life. Replacement is needed. The current door needs to be cut from the concrete. New concrete must be poured to create a new bottom for the door frame.

Cost - \$32,000





4) MAKEUP AIR UNIT AND EXHAUST

Time frame – 1-2 years

The makeup air unit for the building is not functional and must be replaced to support the kitchen exhaust system.

The existing unit is oversized. The exhaust system would be modified

Cost - \$65,000







#### 5) KITCHEN/DOWNSTAIRS RENOVATION

Time frame – 5 years

The equipment, flooring and shelving in the kitchen are becoming dated and need to be replaced. Due to the increasing volume in the kitchen, a walk-in cooler and walk-in freezer needs to be added. We are adding a wall across from the kitchen to the front desk to create a bar. A lounge will be created on the main floor level. Furniture will be required as well.

Cost - \$135,000







### **SUMMARY**

The 5 items on the previous pages are our large ticket items that need to be done. Through grants, financing and savings we hope to have these items all complete in the next 5 years.

Other items in our club that are aged and need to be replaced in the next 5 to 10 years will consist of but not limited to:

- FURNACES (2)
- WATER HEATERS (2)
- BAR GLASS WASHER
- PAINT STEEL BEAMS
- INCREASE SOUND ATTENUATION

### **LEGACY COMMITMENT**

Any donations that the Granite Curling Club makes to the Nutana Curling Club will be recognized indefinitely by the Club. An entire wall will be created on the main concourse honoring and thanking the Granite. This will describe the contribution, and what it was used for. We will also use this space to display any other Granite pictures etc. which are provided to the Nutana. As well, this document with all the history as well as details of the donation will be displayed on a section on our website called "THE GRANITE CURLING CLUB LEGACY". We will also encourage all previous Granite members who would like to provide pictures or history to add to this document for the website to do so. It can be a living document.