

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JANUARY 8, 2026

FROM: The Town of Fort Frances
TO: Members of the Public
RE: Elevator and Lift Closures at the Memorial Sports Centre

The Town of Fort Frances wishes to make a statement to update the public on the situation regarding the elevators at the Memorial Sports Centre (MSC).

Currently the 52 Canadians elevator has broken down due to its age, requiring repairs. Following an inquiry by Operations and Facilities, it was found that the parts required to fix the elevator are no longer in production. Operations and Facilities are in the process of organizing the replacement of the elevator.

On October 20, 2025, due to contracted work being conducted during inclement weather, the MSC roof above the Ice For Kids (IFK) lift had a severe leak. The incoming water flooded the lift, causing damage to electrical circuit boards, ceiling tiles, and drywall in the area. This has put the lift out of commission. Operations and Facilities is continuing to monitor the situation and assess the damage.

Due to the age of the IFK lift, the required circuit boards are no longer available, and a replacement lift is required. A replacement lift has been specified and is in the process of being ordered. Repairs are anticipated to be completed in the next nine to twelve weeks. While elevator services are not available, the staff at the MSC are working hard to make accommodations on a case by case basis for those who need them to access areas of the MSC on the second floor. The MSC staff work diligently every day to serve users, and will continue to do so.

We want to thank the community for their patience and understanding while we work to resolve this issue.

If you have questions or concerns about accommodations at the MSC, please contact the Memorial Sports Centre at 807-274-4561. For questions or concerns about repairs and replacement of the elevators, please contact Operations and Facilities at 807-274-9893. If you would like to issue a complaint, please visit <https://fortfrances.ca/complaints-and-requests> and follow the steps outlined.