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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Minnesota Wild Mascot Nordy Headlines Free Events at Wells Fargo Minneapolis WinterSkate

**MINNEAPOLIS (January 24, 2017)** — The Minnesota Wild’s mascot **Nordy** will lead a free skate-along at the Wells Fargo Minneapolis WinterSkate on Saturday, February 4 in Loring Park. Nordy will be on the ice from 2:00-3:30 pm, skating and taking photos with fans throughout the afternoon.

The skate-along headlines several free events taking place at the Wells Fargo Minneapolis WinterSkate this winter throughout the winter skating season. The refrigerated skating rink in Downtown Minneapolis is open daily and offers a chance for the community to enjoy outdoor skating—one of Minnesota’s favorite winter traditions—regardless of the temperature outside.

“We’re excited to welcome Nordy to Downtown Minneapolis and the Wells Fargo Minneapolis WinterSkate,” said Leah Wong, Vice President of External Relations, Minneapolis Downtown Council. “We hope the community will come out and enjoy the rink throughout the winter and take part in all the fun and free activities planned over the next month.”

Along with Skate with Nordy, the Wells Fargo Minneapolis WinterSkate will host a **Community Spirit Day** on Monday, February 20. During the President’s Day holiday, youth from around the region are invited to wear their favorite hockey team’s attire and enjoy free skating and hot cocoa at the Wells Fargo Minneapolis WinterSkate from 12:00-3:00 pm. Wells Fargo’s mascot, Jack the Dog, will also be on site from 1:00-2:00 pm on Community Spirit Day.



The full schedule of free activities includes:

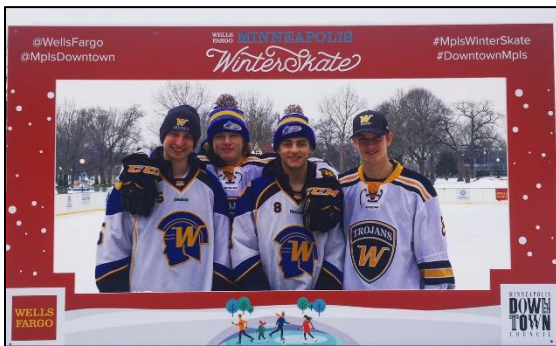
- **Wednesday, January 25:** Free hot cocoa giveaway, beginning 5 pm
- **Friday, January 27:** Music and Skating Night, 5-8 pm
- **Saturday, January 28:** Skate with the North Star Roller Girls, 1-4 pm
- **Wednesday, February 1:** After School Skating Lessons with Figure Skating Club of Minneapolis, 3-4:45 pm
- **Friday, February 3:** Music and Skating Night, 5-8 pm
- **Saturday, February 4:** Skate with Nordy, 2-3:30 pm
- **Wednesday, February 8:** After School Skating Lessons with Figure Skating Club of Minneapolis, 3-4:45 pm
- **Friday, February 10:** Music and Skating Night, 5-8 pm
- **Tuesday, February 14:** Movie Date Skate: “The Cutting Edge,” 6 pm
- **Wednesday, February 15:** After School Skating Lessons with Figure Skating Club of Minneapolis, 3-4:45 pm
- **Friday, February 17:** WinterFest in Loring Park, 6-8 pm
- **Monday, February 20:** Community Spirit Day: Wear your favorite hockey team’s attire, 1-3 pm

- **Wednesday, February 22:** After School Skating Lessons with Figure Skating Club of Minneapolis, 3-4:45 pm

Wells Fargo will be handing out their famous plush ponies during the Skate with Nordy event on February 4, the Movie Date Skate night on February 14 and the Community Spirit Day on February 20 while supplies last.



The Wells Fargo Minneapolis WinterSkate is open daily in Loring Park. The Warming House courtesy of CenterPoint Energy regular hours run 3:00-9:00 pm on Mondays-Fridays, 9:00 am-9:00 pm on Saturdays and 10:00 am-6:00 pm on Sundays. Special hours apply on Minneapolis School Release Days and holidays, which are listed at [www.downtownmpls.com/winterskate](http://www.downtownmpls.com/winterskate). Skating on the rink is free, and complimentary skates are available for use at the warming house.



Skaters at the Wells Fargo Minneapolis WinterSkate are encouraged to participate in an ongoing Instagram campaign throughout the winter. While you're there, take a photo with the Wells Fargo Minneapolis WinterSkate frame (at left) and post on your social media account using the hashtag **#MplsWinterSkate**.

For more information on Wells Fargo Minneapolis WinterSkate, visit [www.downtownmpls.com/winterskate](http://www.downtownmpls.com/winterskate) or follow @MplsDowntown on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) using the hashtag #MplsWinterSkate.

#### **About the Wells Fargo Minneapolis WinterSkate:**

The Wells Fargo Minneapolis WinterSkate is an open-air ice rink with a chilled sheet of ice located inside Loring Park in Downtown Minneapolis. It is produced in partnership with the Minneapolis Downtown Council, Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board and Minneapolis SafeZone Collaborative. The Wells Fargo Minneapolis WinterSkate is sponsored by Wells Fargo, Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District, VEIT, Kraus-Anderson, Minneapolis Building and Construction Trades Council, CenterPoint Energy, Love Your Melon, BUZ'N 102.9 FM, 104.1 JACK FM and 830 WCCO-AM. The rink is free and open to the community and has a heated warming house available for use during operating hours. Complimentary skates are available for use during warming house hours. For full hours and programming information visit [www.downtownmpls.com/winterskate](http://www.downtownmpls.com/winterskate).

#### **About the Minneapolis Downtown Council:**

Founded in 1955, and one of the most historic central business associations in the nation, the Minneapolis Downtown Council (MDC) is a membership-based entity that works to create an extraordinary downtown. The MDC's collaborative developments of *Intersections: The Downtown 2025 Plan* was designed to help downtown businesses, community leaders and citizens build on downtown assets and implement future goals. For more information, please visit [DowntownMpls.com](http://DowntownMpls.com).

#### **About the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board:**

The Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board is an independent, semi-autonomous body responsible for the Minneapolis park system. With 179 park properties totaling 6,801 acres of land and water, the Park Board provides places and recreation opportunities for all people to gather and engage in activities that promote health, well-being, community and the environment. Its Grand Rounds Scenic Byway, neighborhood parks, recreation centers and diversified programming have made the park system an important component of what makes Minneapolis a great place to live, play and work. More than 21 million annual visits are made to the nationally acclaimed park system, which was named the number one park system in the nation in 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 by The Trust for Public Land's 2015 ParkScore® Index.

#### **About The Minneapolis SafeZone Collaborative:**

The Minneapolis SafeZone Collaborative is an initiative that brings the public and private sectors together to make the heart of downtown safe and welcoming for those who live, work, and visit here. In December 2004, the downtown business community approached city leadership to ask for efforts to increase downtown safety. As a result, the Minneapolis SafeZone Collaborative for downtown was formed by the Minneapolis Police Department. In July 2009, SafeZone became a subsidiary of the Minneapolis Downtown Improvement District. The organization focuses on public safety through leveraging collaborative partnerships, technology, communication resources and strategic initiatives.

**About Wells Fargo:**

Wells Fargo & Company (NYSE: WFC) is a diversified, community-based financial services company with \$1.9 trillion in assets. Founded in 1852 and headquartered in San Francisco, Wells Fargo provides banking, insurance, investments, mortgage, and consumer and commercial finance through more than 8,600 locations, 13,000 ATMs, the internet (wellsfargo.com) and mobile banking, and has offices in 42 countries and territories to support customers who conduct business in the global economy. With approximately 269,000 team members, Wells Fargo serves one in three households in the United States. Wells Fargo & Company was ranked No. 27 on Fortune's 2016 rankings of America's largest corporations. Wells Fargo's vision is to satisfy our customers' financial needs and help them succeed financially. News, insights and perspectives from Wells Fargo are also available at [Wells Fargo Stories](#).

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