

Living in Mississauga

The Real Estate Market Watch

Summer 2014

Mississauga's Hershey Centre Rises to the Occasion

Local athletic facility will host martial arts, powerlifting, and more during the 2015 Pan-Am Games



MISSISSAUGA – With its state-of-the-art facilities and an enviably convenient location near Highways 401 and 403, Mississauga's Hershey Centre has been a favourite destination for both sporting and cultural events since it opened back in 1998.

Having established itself as the premiere 5,000-seat facility in the western GTA, the Centre has hosted a huge range of world-class events, from hockey championships to major concerts from artists such as B.B. King and The Tragically Hip. Offering plenty of indoor space, the Centre has also been the host venue of Mississauga's annual Carassauga Festival – a hugely popular event that generally draws close to 50,000 visitors.

Now, the Hershey Centre is preparing for perhaps its biggest spotlight moment to date, as a major event venue for the Toronto 2015 Pan Am & Parapan American Games (known, for short, simply as the "Pan Am Games"). With a rich history dating back to 1951 – when the first Games were held in Buenos Aires – the Pan Am Games are the world's third largest international multi-sport event, drawing top athletes from across Latin America, South America, the Caribbean and North America.

The Games will feature events in a number of host venues across the GTA, from Hamilton in the west to Oshawa in the east. For the purposes of the 2015 Games, the Hershey Centre will be temporarily renamed the Mississauga Sports Centre, and will host a number of different events – ranging from karate and wrestling, to powerlifting and wheelchair rugby.

Hosting an international audience and dozens of athletes is no easy feat, but thanks to its innovative design and the help of a massive 2007 expansion, it definitely appears that the Hershey Centre is up to the challenge.

Preparing the Hershey Centre's Facilities for International Sport

The Hershey Centre's original facility, located on Rose Cherry Place just a stone's throw from Highway 403, is already well-prepared for the Olympics with facilities that include four NHL-sized ice rinks, a triple gymnasium, a FIBA-sized basketball court, a Gymnastic Centre, and more.

For the Toronto 2015 sporting events, the Centre's primary multi-purpose arena – a huge 5,500-seat stadium space that serves as the home venue for the Mississauga Steelheads hockey squad – will be divided up into two sports areas. The first will host combat events including karate, judo, tae kwon do and wrestling, as well as wheelchair rugby during the Parapan games.

Two of the three "community rinks" will be used for athlete training and warm-ups, while the fourth will be used as a field for "goalball" – a Parapan event designed to accommodate blind participants.



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The Hershey SportZone: Family Fun – On and Off the Ice

While the Hershey Centre’s main four-rink facility hosts the best in North American athletic talent, Mississauga families will continue to enjoy the Hershey SportZone, a 200,000 square-foot expansion that was completed in 2007 after just 16 months of construction. This enormously popular addition contains a full-sized FIFA indoor artificial soccer field, making it a year-round destination for footy fanatics of all stripes.

The SportZone expansion also brought a new multi-rink ice facility, known as Iceland, to the southeast corner of Matheson Boulevard and Rose Cherry Place. The Iceland facility features four rinks, a pro shop, a restaurant, and plenty of seating (including a whopping 1,200 seats at the facility’s Olympic-sized arena).

As it prepares to host the Toronto 2015 games, the Hershey Centre continues to be one of Mississauga’s most well-loved local amenities – now’s the chance for you and your family to visit this local gem before it becomes an internationally-renowned institution!

Much of the information in the above article was gathered from the Hershey Centre’s official web site at www.hersheycentre.com, and from the Toronto 2015 Pan Am and Parapan Games’ official web site at <http://www.toronto2015.org>. Both sites offer excellent overviews as well as ticket information, facility details and more.

Neighbourhood Profile: Northeast Hurontario

In the quiet streets just a short distance southwest of Rose Cherry Place and the action of the Hershey Centre, you will find one of Mississauga’s most family-friendly selections of detached and semi-detached homes, as well as contemporary townhouses.

This sought-after neighbourhood makes up the northeast portion of Mississauga’s “Hurontario” community, and its quiet residential streets offer seclusion, green surroundings, and easy access to nearby arterial roads like Kennedy Road, Matheson Boulevard, and of course, Hurontario Street in the west.

This neighbourhood is also envied for its wealth of nearby amenities, including:

- The Grand Highland Golf Course, nestled right in the heart of the neighbourhood on Barondale Drive, allows nearby residents to enjoy the prestige and outdoor charm of a 9-hole executive course – without the hassle of driving out to the country.
- The area is also rich in its nearby educational offerings, with a huge selection of local elementary school options including Bristol Road Middle School, Brilliant Minds Montessori, St. Jude Separate School, Nahani Way Public School, Barondale Public School, and San Lorenzo Ruiz Elementary School.
- In addition to world-class recreational facilities just a short drive away at the Hershey Centre, the neighbourhood offers plenty of outdoor green play areas as well, such as the Parkway Belt Leash-Free Dog Park, Eastgate Park, and Barondale Green Park.



If you are interested in purchasing a home anywhere in Mississauga’s charming Hurontario neighbourhood, please do not hesitate to contact one of Living Realty’s Mississauga branch sales representatives or brokers at (905) 896-0002

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