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PARKVILLE

# Daytime warming

Homeless will have a place to go in harsh cold

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People experiencing homelessness in Parkville will be able to access a daytime warming centre.

Parkville council voted unanimously to provide support in principle for the operation of a centre by Risebridge at the Parkville Community Centre on Mills Street. Council met for a special meeting on Dec. 21.

“Council has heard the calls from the community for an emergency warming centre for those experiencing homelessness during these periods of extreme cold weather,” said Mayor Doug O’Brien. “And the city has been exploring solutions.”

O’Brien said Jovan Johnson, Risebridge executive director, shared a proposal for the centre with council on Dec. 19.

He added the city received verbal indication that the province will provide funding for an emergency warming centre for 12 hours out of every 24-hour period.

“This funding is in place while certain climate conditions prevail,” O’Brien said.

The funding comes through the new Ministry of Emergency Management and Climate Readiness (EMCR), unveiled during Premier David Eby’s cabinet announcement on Dec. 7.

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**IT'S A RUFF LIFE:** Moto the dog looks to win his race down the hill at Parkville Community Park with Bayleigh Edwards during the recent snowfall in the city. (Michael Briones photo)



**PQBEAT**

RDN board chair Vanessa Craig

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