



Out & About Kingston

Michelle Allan is a Queen's student who gives us the scoop on exciting and new things to do in Kingston.

Throwing Hatchets at Kingston's newest entertainment centre

Hello Kingston!

My name is Michelle Allan and I'm FOCUS Kingston's newest writer. As a Queen's student, I've had the privilege of living in Kingston for the past three years. I've been here long enough to know my way around, but I still have so much to discover. In my column, I'll be documenting everything I learn about this wonderful city: specifically, bars, nightlife, and things to do in Kingston. This issue I'll be talking about the newest sport that's taken Ontario by storm.



We've seen CrossFit, escape rooms, and other recreational fads make their way to Kingston, but we've yet to experience the latest trend- until now.

In wake of multiple hatchet-chucking centres cropping up all over southern Ontario, Recreational Axe Throwing has finally come to the Limestone City. As of last weekend, Kingston Axe Throwing is officially open for business.

While another similar business involving axe throwing was advertising their arrival in YGK about nine months ago, they never ended up opening. Their website and Facebook page no longer exist, and it seems as though the whole endeavour didn't quite make it off the ground.

However, it looks like this time axe throwing is here to stay. While they haven't been open long, they've gotten great online reviews and seem to be very busy.

According to their website, "Axe throwing is very similar to the game of darts. The objective is to throw your axe to the bullseye

area of the target. The game of axe throwing can be played with multiple variations. This includes varying the throwing styles and distances."

They stress that axe throwing is safe, accessible, and easy to learn. All patrons are instructed on safety and technique before letting their axes fly, and staff are present to help when needed. Anyone over the age of 16 is allowed to participate- they even specify that those who are pregnant or physically disabled are able to be instructed in axe throwing.

Alcohol or no alcohol, axe throwing is an undeniably good time. The pictures of Kingston's new axe throwing centre show participants show lots of smiles, and they have a five-star rating on Facebook. I had to see for myself what axe throwing was really like.

The space was clean and open, with many lanes to throw axes and even a bar. One of the owners, Storm, was kind enough to let us try our hand at throwing some axes. He explained the proper way to safely throw the axes and how many points hitting each painted circle on the wood targets was worth.

The first throw was a bit scary, but there's something exhilarating about tossing a weapon around. When I managed to sink a blade into the target, it produced an immensely satisfying thunk, and I was in love. Axe throwing is like an extreme version of darts, and I can't wait to go back again. There's something distinctly rugged, Canadian, and hipster-esque about the whole axe-throwing trend, and I'm glad that it's finally reached Kingston.

Michelle Allan

