



VANCOUVER
BOARD OF
PARKS AND
RECREATION

September 1, 2020

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Shauna Wilton
Acting General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT : **COVID-19 Outdoor Aquatics Services Update – Board Briefing Memo**

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to provide you with an update on Park Board outdoor aquatics services as the season comes to a close on September 7, 2020.

As you are aware, the outdoor aquatics season typically starts in May and ends on Labour Day, however for 2020, the season opening was delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The new health and safety protocols implemented at pools and beaches went relatively smoothly, considering the circumstances, and aside from some challenges related to high volume demands on the new online reservation system, no significant concerns or compliance issues were reported.

Over the past few years, we have been able to keep outdoor pools and spray parks open past Labour Day based on a combination of favourable weather and availability of operational resources. For 2020, we are once again able to extend the spray park season (to Sep 13), however outdoor pools will need to close on schedule as the operations crew responsible for winding down the outdoor facilities is also critical for starting-up indoor pool operations.

This year, due to the closure of all Park Board indoor pools in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, staff are now in the unprecedented position of having to simultaneously re-open several indoor pools and it is critical we prioritize this work operationally. As noted in the communications sent on August 21, work is underway to re-open the indoor pools at Britannia, Hillcrest, Kerrisdale, and Vancouver Aquatic Centre in mid-September, followed by re-opening Lord Byng, Killarney, Renfrew, and Templeton pools in mid-October. Staff are working diligently to ensure these facilities will be ready to open as planned, with enhanced new safety protocols in place, in order to support aquatics users across the city.

If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Shauna Wilton', written in a cursive style.

Shauna Wilton
Acting General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

/em/sw/clc

Copy to: PB Senior Leadership Team, PB Aquatics Services Team, PB Communications