

July 28, 2025

MEMO TO: Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Director, Recreation Services

SUBJECT: Water Quality Advisories at Beaches – Update – Board Briefing Memo

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to update you on the water quality advisories in effect at swimming locations in Vancouver. These advisories have been issued by Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) due to elevated E. coli levels exceeding water safety thresholds.

As of July 23, VCH has confirmed that water quality has returned to safe levels at all affected sites except Third Beach and Trout Lake. Accordingly, swimming advisories have been lifted at Second Beach, English Bay, Sunset Beach, and Kitsilano Beach, and regular operations have resumed at these locations. We anticipate the Third Beach advisory to be lifted by next week and will update once confirmed by VCH.

Trout Lake continues to experience elevated levels of E. coli. After further consultation with operational staff and VCH, the decision has been made to close Trout Lake to swimming for the remainder of the 2025 season. The health and safety of the public remain our top priority, and this measure aligns with guidance from public health officials, while also allowing us to reallocate staff to other beaches and outdoor pools.

Park Board Response:

- Signage remains in place at Third Beach and Trout Lake indicating the closure to swimming.
- Lifeguard staff at Trout Lake have been reallocated to other beaches and outdoor pools.
- Communications have been updated on the City and Park Board websites and through social media to ensure public awareness.
- Coordination is ongoing with VCH to monitor resampling schedules.
- Media is handled in coordination with VCH communications team.

Regards,

Steve Kellock (he/him)

Director, Recreation Services – Vancouver Parks and Recreation

Copy to: PB Leadership Team

PB Communications