



<i>Village of Tahsis</i>	File #: VOT 008
<b>TITLE: Recreation Center Swimming Pool COVID-19 Safety Plan</b>	<b>Number of Pages</b> <b>10</b>

#### **PURPOSE**

**This Safety Plan describes the policies, guidelines and procedures for employees and the public in the Recreation Center Swimming Pool to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19.**

**This Safety Plan is intended as an addition to the Tahsis Recreation Centre Safety Plan. The requirements and standards in the Recreation Centre Safety Plan apply.**

#### **PROTOCOLS**

WorkSafe BC Protection Levels 1 through 4 are implemented based on the type of activity.

Definition of core bubble:

For most people, their core bubble is their immediate household. For others, their core bubble may contain a partner, relative, friend or co-parent who lives in a different household. **This should be a maximum of two people outside of those living in your immediate household.**

An immediate household is:

- A group of people who live in the same dwelling. For example:
  - If you have a rental suite in your home, the suite is a separate household
  - If you live in an apartment or house with roommates, you are all members of the same household

## MANAGING PATRONS

- Signs are posted at the pool entrance that inform patrons that they must not enter the pool area if they are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms.
- Masks must be worn by patrons when entering and exiting the pool area and while on the pool deck. (Updated Nov. 20/20)
- Patrons must maintain physical distance of 2 meters from other patrons and staff while on the pool deck, pool and all other areas.
- Patrons are required to use hand sanitizer upon entering the recreation center.
- The number of patrons permitted in the pool at any one time will be capped (see pool capacity section below)
- Patrons shower at home before and after pool use.
- Patrons arrive at the pool wearing their bathing suits
- Patrons are not permitted to share water bottles, towels, goggles or other equipment. Snorkels are not permitted.
- The use of goggles is encouraged.
- Any shared equipment, e.g., PFDs, are disinfected between each user by leaving in the pool for a few minutes.
- Patrons access the Rec Center through the building's front doors and exit the pool area directly through the back of the pool.
- Change rooms are only to be accessed by bathers who need to use the bathroom.
- Pool deck signage indicates one-way traffic flow around the pool area.
- Patrons are informed when they make a reservation of the policy restricting people exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 and people who have come in contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 from the facility.
- When making a reservation, patrons must state how many persons in their core bubble will be attending. Patrons in excess of the reserved number will not be permitted to attend.
- Patrons are also advised that they must cancel a reservation if they develop symptoms after booking an appointment.
- The facility's illness policy and protocols are communicated verbally to patrons prior to booking appointments. The policy and protocols are posted on the Village website on the "Recreation" page. Persons interested in making a reservation are referred to the web page.

## AQUATIC PROGRAMMING

- For aquafit classes, physical distancing of 2 meters is implemented.
- Instructors give safety guidelines to class participants before class begins
- Swimmers bring own equipment.
- Masks must be worn by patrons when entering and exiting the pool area and while on the pool deck. (Updated Nov. 20/20)

## **POOL CAPACITY AND PROTOCOL**

### **Recreational/ Family Swimming**

- A 2 metre space must be maintained around each patron using the pool unless they are in the same core bubble.
- Swimming is in one-way lanes, no overtaking, 2 metre distance maintained between swimmers and ends of lanes kept free.
- No more than 4 persons can swim in a lane.
- Maximum pool capacity is 10.

### **Lane Swimming**

- To maintain physical distancing, swimmers swim in a clockwise or counter clockwise rotation swimming in one lane and returning in the adjacent lane.
- Swimmers in the same core bubble may swim together in one lane but no more than 4 persons in a lane.
- Maximum pool capacity is 6.

## **AQUATIC STAFF TRAINING**

- Lifeguards will undergo refresher training to help ensure that they can perform rescues after a prolonged period of absence. This will also include reviewing the relevant safety plans, disinfection protocols, physical distancing requirements, adapted in-water rescue protocols and adapted first aid and resuscitation protocols.
- Staff supplied with their own PPE and personal first aid equipment (e.g., pocket mask, gloves and hand sanitizer).
- All training equipment is disinfected before, during and after training.
- All training is documented and includes the date, name, signature off all staff members trained.

## **IN-WATER RESCUE AND FIRST AID**

- Lifesaving Society (BC and Yukon Branch) Guidelines for In-Water Rescue are followed. The Guidelines are attached to this Plan (Appendix B).
- Lifesaving Society (BC and Yukon Branch) First Aid and Resuscitation Guidelines for COVID-19 are followed. The Guidelines are attached to the Plan (Appendix D).

## **POOL MAINTENANCE AND CLEANING**

- Rescue equipment is cleaned at the end of the day or during an exchange between lifeguards
- Training accessories are cleaned after use by a bather or daily
- PFDs are cleaned after use by a bather or daily

- All surfaces of deck equipment are cleaned at least daily.
- Pool apron is sprayed down frequently
- Water testing takes place as required by regulation or more frequently, if deemed necessary by the Recreation Director
- FAC levels are maintained at levels recommended by provincial guidelines and/or health authority regulation.
- **PPE** is not required for regular pool maintenance unless normally required for safety reasons, e.g., handling pool chemicals.

## **LIFEGUARD PROTOCOL AND EQUIPMENT**

- The employee protocols in the Recreation Centre Safety Plan apply to lifeguards.
- Lifeguards are required to maintain physical distancing (at least 2 meters). Where physical distancing cannot be guaranteed, a non-surgical face mask is worn by employees.
- Lifeguards have their own personal equipment needed for each shift (e.g., rescue tube, first aid fanny packs).
- **Masks must be worn by Lifeguards while on the pool deck and in all common areas. (Updated Nov. 20/20)**
- There is no sharing of equipment (e.g., pen, stopwatch)
- The itemized list of PPE for Lifeguards is found in the attached Appendix "D"
- All lifeguards must wash their hands before and after the following activities:
  - Eating
  - Taking a break
  - Smoking
  - Going to the washroom
  - Providing routine care for another person who needs assistance
  - Direction from Island Health is followed with regard to detailed cleaning, temporary closure and trace contacting

## TRAINING AND COMMUNICATION

- All staff meetings are held with physical distancing or through virtual means.
- Lifeguards who have been absent, or are new to the workplace, are oriented as necessary so that all COVID-19 related procedures are explained and understood
- All lifeguards are trained on this safety plan and related procedures documented within the relevant appendices
- All employees have the right to refuse work if they believe it presents an undue hazard. An undue hazard is an "unwarranted, inappropriate, excessive, or disproportionate" risk, above and beyond the potential exposure a general member of the public would face through regular, day-to-day activity. The Village's unsafe work policy in the Employee Handbook applies to this circumstance

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