



June 9, 2020

Dear Owner/Operator:

Re: Indoor and Outdoor Swimming Pools and Splash Pads

The Ontario government announced June 8, 2020, Stage 2 of reopening several businesses and public settings within the province.

Public Health Sudbury & Districts is one of the permitted regions that may proceed to Stage 2. This is effective at 12:01 a.m. June 12, 2020.

With the **right** to reopen businesses and public settings in our communities, comes the critical **responsibility** to do so in a *COVID-safe* way. The simple yet effective practices to prevent the spread of COVID-19 are more important now than ever.

Public Health Sudbury & Districts has the following expectations for all workplaces and public places in our service area:

- Effective measures to maintain physical distancing amongst all employees and clients are in place.
- Unless the nature of work requires the use of a medical mask, all individuals wear a [non-medical mask \(for example, a homemade cloth mask or face covering\)](#) when physical distancing is challenging or not possible. Owners/operators should encourage all visitors to bring and wear their own non-medical mask when not in the water.
- Screening practices are in place for employees and members of the public. Those who are ill are expected to stay home and are advised to be tested for COVID-19.
- Excellent hygiene practices including hand hygiene, and cough and sneeze etiquette is supported and encouraged.

What we know today

The Ontario government has released a [Framework for Reopening our Province: Phase 2: Restart – Stage 2](#). Under this framework, all indoor and outdoor swimming pools and outdoor splash pads and wading pools may open to the public with no access to high-contact aquatic features such as slides and climbing structures. **Public spas are not permitted to re-open at this time.**

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f: 705.522.5182

Rainbow Centre

10 rue Elm Street
Unit / Unité 130
Sudbury ON P3C 5N3
t: 705.522.9200
f: 705.677.9611

Sudbury East / Sudbury-Est

1 rue King Street
Box / Boîte 58
St.-Charles ON P0M 2W0
t: 705.222.9201
f: 705.867.0474

Espanola

800 rue Centre Street
Unit / Unité 100 C
Espanola ON P5E 1J3
t: 705.222.9202
f: 705.869.5583

Île Manitoulin Island

6163 Highway / Route 542
Box / Boîte 87
Mindemoya ON P0P 1S0
t: 705.370.9200
f: 705.377.5580

Chapleau

101 rue Pine Street E
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Chapleau ON P0M 1K0
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1.866.522.9200

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- This includes public pools as well as pools situated in hotels, motels, condo parks, resorts and other private facilities.
- Waterparks, wave pools and water slides will not be permitted to reopen in Stage 2.
- Change rooms and showers will be available to the public if operators can adequately sanitize and disinfect the facilities.
- Persons in the place of business shall maintain physical distancing of at least two metres from each other at all times by:
 - Reducing resting areas and pool capacity.
 - Limiting and distancing pool-side seating.
 - Using timed entry (for example, by appointment only).
- Equipment rented or loaned must be disinfected or quarantined appropriately between uses.
- Aquatic activities, such as fitness classes and swim lessons, must be in line with physical distancing measures. For example, only other household members can assist swimmers with physical contact.

What you need to do to re-open

As you get ready to re-open your public pool, be reminded that Subsection 5(3) of *Ontario Regulation 565 (Public Pools) R.R.O. 1990* respecting public pools or spas states:

“At least 14 days before the re-opening of a public pool or public spa after any closure that lasts for more than four weeks, the owner or operator shall notify in writing the medical officer of health or a public health inspector for the health unit where the pool or spa is situated,
(a) of the date that the pool or spa is to be re-opened;
(b) of the name and address of the operator; and
(c) in the case of a pool, whether the pool is intended to be operated as a Class A or a Class B pool. O. Reg. 494/17, s. 5.”

As per subsection 5(3) of the *Public Pools Regulation*, you are not permitted to re-open without the prior notification and subsequent inspection by Public Health Sudbury & Districts.

In April 2020, you were sent a letter asking you to fill out the “Application to Re-open a Public Pool/Spa” form. Please do so prior to re-opening and return it to Public Health Sudbury & Districts, Health Protection Division a minimum of 14 days prior to the proposed re-opening date. This form is once again attached for your convenience.

For your convenience, you can mail or fax the form back to our office, or you can email and scan the form to health_protection@phsd.ca. Once your notification has been received, a public health inspector will contact you to make arrangements for an opening inspection of your pool.

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Refer to the [Lifesaving Society Guidance Document “Guide to Reopening Pools and Waterfronts”](#) for best practices for minimizing the risk of COVID-19 transmission. Your public health inspector will ensure safety precautions are met at your opening inspection.

Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated. If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact Jon Groulx, Environmental Support Officer, Health Protection Division at 705.522.9200, ext. 557.

Thank you,

Cynthia Peacock-Rocca
Manager
Health Protection Division

CPR:ja

La version française de cette lettre sera disponible sur notre site Web.