



The City has been reaching out to residents over the past few months and we've received a lot of great questions. We are doing our best to get them answered and each month we are going to highlight a few right here in the newsletter.

For plenty more Q&A just like this, visit ShapeYourCityPenticton.ca

Will there be any changes to the Marina or other facilities in Skaha Park this year?

There will be no discernable changes to services or any significant construction in Skaha Park in 2017. The marina and restaurant, concession stands, parking areas, boat launch, boathouse, and kid's splash pad are all set to operate like they have in years past.

The agreements with Trio Marine Group (Trio) to reform the marina building and expand the number of boat slips do not go into effect in 2017. If conditions precedent in the agreements are met, approximately 35 new boat slips are to be added by May of 2018 and the reformed marina building completed by May of 2019. The existing boathouse and

East concession may also be rebuilt in 2019. The City is considering options for the splash pad as the current facility is nearing the end of its useful life. As a free, public amenity, there is considerable demand to continue to offer such a facility in the park.

For more information, please consult the Skaha Park fact sheet. The City regularly produces fact sheets on current issues facing the City and they are available online at ShapeYourCityPenticton.ca or from the wall racks at City Hall, the Rec Centre and the Library.



What is a "Water Quality Advisory" and is it different than a "Boil Water Notice"?

The safety of the water supply is ensured through legislation and joint cooperation between water system operators and Interior Health officials. Three types of notifications are used to inform consumers of negative impacts to the quality of the water being supplied: Water Quality Advisory, Boil Water Notice, and Do Not Use.

In mid-May, heavy rains combined with spring runoff caused issues with the water quality in several Okanagan communities. During this period, Penticton suffered a significant water main break at the point where the main crosses Ellis Creek. As a precautionary measure, a Water Quality Advisory was issued for parts of the City. At the same time, a few surrounding communities issued a Boil Water Notice and there was some confusion among the public as to exactly what precautions were necessary.

A Water Quality Advisory is the lowest-level notification and is used in situations where the general public health threat is modest.

Additional precautions (e.g. boiling water for one minute) can be taken by individuals with weakened immune systems, those over 65 years of age, children under 2 years, or anyone with chronic illnesses.

A Boil Water Notice is different in that it applies to everyone regardless of age or health. Everyone is advised to use a safe alternate source of water or to boil water for all drinking, oral hygiene and food preparation/cooking purposes. Water should be brought to a full boil and allowed to boil for at least one minute to reduce the risk of infection from pathogens that may be found in the water.





Meet Us!

Who works for the City and what do they do?

Each month we shed some light on who does what around City Hall as well as the numerous other facilities and operations managed by the City.



Name: Jane Bentley

Position: Lifeguard Supervisor

Start date: May, 1991

Primary responsibilities: AquaFit therapy instruction and overseeing the safety of patrons.

What is a typical day-in-the-life for you?

Dynamic, it is the reason I love this job so much! On a typical day I can relieve someone's pain through water therapy, get someone feeling good through aquaFit, watch and keep safe a family enjoying their swim.

What is the most rewarding aspect of the job?

The New Waves Program, it is a program for people that need help one way or another accessing the pool. It is so rewarding to watch a person who has limited mobility on land experience the freedom of the water.

What is the best part of the day?

I am often fortunate enough to be on deck when adult lessons are in the water. Watching adults who have been afraid of water or more often never get the chance to learn to swim begin to get it is a very uplifting sight.



Have you always been a lifeguard?

I became a lifeguard when I was 16; I am now 51 and have spent 35 years working as a lifeguard, 25 of them at the Penticton pool.

Is there a unique aspect of your job that most people don't realize that you do?

If people understand the amount of training and renewal of awards that lifeguards, swimming instructors and fitness instructors did on an ongoing basis they would be surprised. It is a big commitment from staff to keep all their awards current.

Is there something that you've learned from this job that you didn't know was so important before you worked in this industry?

Team work! I think it is the fundamental aspect for success as a lifeguard and it spills over to all aspects of the job.



Jane's Top 5 Water Safety Tips:

- 1 Swim in supervised areas.
- 2 Drowning involving toddlers can be prevented if parents or caregivers are within arm's reach of their children when they are in or near water.
- 3 Never leave a child alone near the water. Don't be distracted by a ringing phone, a doorbell or another child.
- 4 Wear your lifejacket when boating.
- 5 Be vigilant. Drowning can take as little as 10 seconds and occurs in just inches of water...in bathtubs, wading pools, and wells, even buckets.

What is something that you think the public should be more aware of with respect to water safety?

Drowning can be very silent, it is the number one cause of accidental death of children between the ages of 1-4 and second leading cause of preventable death for children under the age of 10 and the third leading cause of accidental death in Canada for people under the age of 60. Learn to swim and get educated about water safety.

