

Fall recreation guide to be released; aquatic program availability impacts

(Penticton, BC – August 17, 2021) – With the continued fluidity of the COVID-19 pandemic in our communities, Recreation Penticton will be offering adjusted program options for the coming autumn season with the release of its Fall 2021 Recreation Guide, available to view online August 18, 2021.

"This recreation guide is more reflective of what residents are used to seeing with a wider selection of programs, which we are delighted to be offering once again," said Manager of Recreation, Arts & Culture, Kelsey Johnson. "Although this guide has a variety of program options, we are still working on our continued phased approach of the return to activities, which will result in service impacts."

Popular programs returning for the fall include parent and tot programs, parkour, skating lessons and fitness classes. In addition to information on programming, the fall recreation guide contains operational information including hours of operation, McLaren Arena public skating schedule and the code of conduct.

With the scheduled reopening of Community Centre pools August 30 after the annual maintenance closure, residents can expect limited service options when visiting the aquatic facility.

"Like many industries both globally and locally, the pandemic has had a significant impact on staffing, particularly in our aquatics sector. Due to our reduced resources, we will not be able to offer pre-pandemic service levels for our public swimming, aquatic fitness and learn to swim lessons," stated Johnson.

At this time, existing resources will be focused on increasing the capacity and variety of basic programming (public swimming, generic aquatic fitness and learn to swim) in a safe and sustainable manner. Specialized programming will be considered as more resources become available. Schedules and programs will be posted and updated as they are finalized via the City's website and Recreation Penticton's social media channels (@recreationpenticton). Reservations may still be required for some swims or programs due to capacity limitations.

The Recreation Guide is available online August 18 (penticton.ca/recguide). Registration for programs open August 25 for residents and August 26 for non-residents and can be done online through the City's website (penticton.ca/register).

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