



LIFESAVING SOCIETY®  
SOCIÉTÉ DE SAUVETAGE

*The Lifeguarding Experts  
Les experts en surveillance aquatique*

**LIFESAVING SOCIETY MANITOBA**

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November 12, 2020

Dear Members,

As of today, all of Manitoba is at Level Red for the COVID-19 pandemic response with travel restrictions still in place to communities north of the 53<sup>rd</sup> parallel. This has resulted in the closure of all aquatic facilities in the province and the cancellation of certification and recertification courses. To support aquatic facilities and staff the Lifesaving Society will extend the validity of awards required for employment that expire after March 1, 2020 until December 31, 2020.

This extension only applies to:

- Awards that expired after March 1, 2020.
- Bronze Cross, National Lifeguard, and all Instructor/Examiner certifications.

*At this time, there is no word from Manitoba Workplace Safety and Health in regards to granting extensions to first aid certifications. We will update you when we have more information.*

It should be noted that, unless there is no easing of Public Health orders to allow pools to reopen before December 31, 2020, this will be the final extension granted. It is the responsibility of members to ensure they prepare themselves for, and actively pursue, recertification at the earliest possible opportunity.

*Certificates will not be reprinted. Employers and employees do not need to take any actions to qualify for the extensions.*

We will work closely with affiliates, instructors, and trainers to help ensure there is capacity to address the anticipated demand for recertifications once facilities are permitted to re-open. The Lifesaving Society will continue to review the situation and provide support and as much notice as possible for any further updates on certification extension.

Please continue to follow all public health advice to ensure that you, your family, and our fellow citizens stay safe and healthy! For the most recent information and advice refer to Health Canada, Manitoba Health and local Health Authorities.

Kathy Plett  
Program Coordinator  
Lifesaving Society Manitoba