



LIFESAVING SOCIETY®  
SOCIÉTÉ DE SAUVETAGE

*The Lifeguarding Experts*  
*Les experts en surveillance aquatique*

**LIFESAVING SOCIETY MANITOBA**

100 – 383 Provencher Blvd.

Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 0G9

Phone: (204) 956-2124 Fax (204) 944-8546

Email: [info@lifesaving.mb.ca](mailto:info@lifesaving.mb.ca)

Website: [www.lifesaving.mb.ca](http://www.lifesaving.mb.ca)

## Information Bulletin – COVID-19 Update for Phase 2

May 29, 2020

Dear Members and Supporters,

The Government of Manitoba has announced that effective June 1, 2020, swimming pools, spray pads, wading pools and waterparks in Manitoba are permitted to resume operations. Lifesaving Society Manitoba is here to assist our affiliates and aquatic facility operators around the province as they move towards reopening. This memo contains information regarding COVID-19 related changes to aquatic supervision and management, recommendations for resuscitation and first aid, and ongoing province-specific updates.

Please also refer to the end of the document for a list of guidelines, resources, and standards for restoring safe services from the provincial government.

### **Lifesaving Society Canada – National COVID-19 Information Bulletins**

National, the Lifesaving Society has created information bulletins and guidelines to assist facility operators in preparing their facilities for reopening as provincial public health guidelines allow. All of these documents are available in both official languages from our National website:

<https://www.lifesaving.ca/covid-19.php>

Currently, the following bulletins are available:

Information Bulletin – Resuscitation & First Aid Recommendations

Information Bulletin – Recommendations for Aquatic Staff Training

Information Bulletin – Clean, Decontamination & Water Management of Aquatic Facilities

Information Bulletin – Recommendations for Progressive Reopening

Lifesaving Society Manitoba will release further notices as new information becomes available. We will also release update bulletins that are specific to Manitoba, as appropriate.

## **Certification Extension Policy**

While the Province of Manitoba has announced that public swimming pools may open effective June 1, 2020, Lifesaving Society Manitoba is seeking further clarification on what types of training programs may take place. Due to the high contact nature of our courses we want to ensure the safety of instructors, participants, and the public. We are in discussion with Manitoba Public Health, and we will report back as soon as information is available. If the response we receive from Manitoba Public Health affects the ability of facilities to run courses, the Certification Extension Policy released March 31, 2020 will be updated.

## **First Aid and Swimming Instruction**

As of June 1, 2020 both First Aid and Swimming Instructional courses may resume as long as the training occurs in small groups, and all physical distancing requirements are met. Due to the high contact nature of the majority of the Society's training programs, Lifesaving Society is seeking further clarification from Manitoba Public Health on what is, and is not, allowed to take place as part of courses.

We will be releasing separate information updates on the required steps, and program adjustments, required for conducting first aid courses (EFA, SFA, CPR) and all of our aquatic courses (Bronze Medallion, etc.) once we receive further information from Manitoba Public Health.

## **Phase 2 of Restoring Safe Services**

Information on the Province of Manitoba's plan for Phase 2 of Restoring Safe Services is now available online:

<http://www.manitoba.ca/covid19/restoring/phase-two.html>

As before, affiliates, organizations or municipalities operating aquatic facilities (pools, spray pads, wading pools, waterparks, etc.) are encourage to contact the Society for support in their opening plans.

Kathy Plett  
Program Coordinator  
Lifesaving Society Manitoba

## **References and Resources**

The final version of the Government of Manitoba's plan for Phase 2 of restoring Safe Services is now available:

<http://www.manitoba.ca/covid19/restoring/phase-two.html>

A PDF copy of the Phase 2 plan may be downloaded by following the link below and scrolling to the bottom of the page:

<http://www.manitoba.ca/covid19/restoring/index.html>

The Province of Manitoba has released Sports Guidelines that provide further direction for all types of recreation facilities, including pools and spray pads, about to reopen safely. These guidelines are available now:

<http://www.manitoba.ca/covid19/restoring/sports-guidelines.html>

A Risk Assessment and Mitigation Tool is available to supplement the Sports Guidelines:

[http://www.manitoba.ca/asset\\_library/en/coronavirus/activities-guidelines.pdf](http://www.manitoba.ca/asset_library/en/coronavirus/activities-guidelines.pdf)

The EngageMB Question and Answer lists for implementation of Phase 1 and Phase 2 of Restoring Safe Services may be found at:

Phase 1: [https://engagemb.ca/covid19-csp?tool+qanda#tool\\_tab](https://engagemb.ca/covid19-csp?tool+qanda#tool_tab)

Phase 2: [https://engagemb.ca/restoring-safe-services-phase-two?tool+qanda#tool\\_tab](https://engagemb.ca/restoring-safe-services-phase-two?tool+qanda#tool_tab)

For the most recent information from Public Health authorities, visit:

Public Health Agency of Canada

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-healthservices/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

Manitoba Health

<https://www.gov.mb.ca/covid19/index.html>

