



Information Update

Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2020

To: Lifesaving Society Affiliates, Instructors, Members, and Trainers

Re: COVID-19 Update & Lifesaving Society Manitoba Operations

The COVID-19 pandemic is an evolving situation. Lifesaving Society Manitoba is following all [Health Canada](#) and [Manitoba Government](#) recommendations for workplaces and taking additional action to protect our staff and members.

Office Closure

The Society's office in Winnipeg is closed to the public, effective immediately. Staff will be working from home and regularly checking e-mail and phone messages. Please expect delays in award processing, shipping and receiving, and responses to inquiries. This closure is scheduled to last until April 6, 2020, and will be revised as circumstances evolve.

Program Cancellations

We advise all Affiliates and Instructors to cancel all programs, including re-certifications, immediately and until further notice. Current public health recommendations call for social distancing of at least 2 meters between individuals. All Lifesaving Society courses involve close physical proximity between participants and instructors and therefore do not meet this recommendation.

Certifications and Re-Certifications

We understand that there is concern around the currency of instructor and lifeguard certifications due to the cancellation and postponement of courses and re-certifications. We are drafting a policy about extension of certification periods to accommodate those who are affected by the current suspension of programs. We will be sharing this policy as soon as possible.

Please continue to check our website and social media regularly for additional updates.

Stay safe everyone.