



Release:

Town of Nanton Office

THRC Services – Phased Re-Opening over the Summer

NANTON, AB (June 10th 2020) –With the move to Stage 2 relaunch there are naturally some questions with respect to the services available at the THRC.

Government announcements late last week and on June 9th indicated the following amongst other mitigation regulations:

Pool Activities

- Aquatic sports, diving, lane swimming, swimming camps, swimming lessons, drop-in, leisure aquatic features (such as lazy rivers, water slides and wave pools) and public swimming are permitted to resume in Stage 2.

This news – and the subsequent mitigation regulations provided yesterday - caught many local governments by surprise as pools were moved up from stage 3 of the planned re-launch without notice. It will unfortunately take a little time to get our facilities staffed by recalled or other qualified life-guards, but we're hoping to have plans in place for July for limited re-opening. During the lockdown, we have been unashamedly refocusing on significant repair and maintenance projects throughout the THRC, some of which you will have already read about.

In addition to the above, the Chief Medical Officer requires the Town to implement measures announced June 9th to mitigate the risk of transmission among attendees that are, in some cases, going to be a challenge to effectively implement in a smaller, older facility, including:

- Maintenance of 2 metre physical distancing throughout the facility, including the pool deck and between swimmers;
- One-way traffic for showers, change rooms and washrooms;
- Symptom screening;
- Collecting name and contact information of all users;
- Measures that prevent different groups of users from congregating together;
- Limit use of shared equipment and pool toys;
- Intensified cleaning and disinfectant of equipment, lockers and change rooms with strict occupancy limits.

At present, while the renewal of the pool boiler is nearing completion in the next few days, immediate re-opening is not practical, but we do hope that you will have an opportunity to be back in the pool in the near future. There is a chance that re-opening is more likely for stage 3 given the stage 2 regulatory requirements, particularly around physical distancing within the facility, but we are actively looking at affordable solutions that are not impractical.

The curling lounge should be available for rentals or events under other areas of the COVID-19 regulations as soon we confirm practical processes for bathroom access and maintenance as, again, 2

metre distancing is difficult to achieve in those spaces without monitoring and controlling access constantly.

It is important to consider that whatever service levels we return to this year for the THRC will be markedly different from before – for how long, we cannot be sure. As custodians and users of the THRC ourselves we are keen to see it re-open for everyone and will keep the community informed of our plans as they develop.

THESE ARRANGEMENTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE RE-EVALUATED AS THE COVID19 SITUATION CHANGES.

LINKS:

[Alberta Health Services COVID-19 Information](#)

[COVID-19 Self-Assessment - Stop the Spread](#)

[Govn of Canada COVID Outbreak Update](#)

<https://www.nanton.ca/387/COVID-19-and-Emergency-Management>

-Ends-