
TO: MAYOR J. LEHMAN AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

FROM: B. ROTH, DIRECTOR OF RECREATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT

NOTED: P. ELLIOTT-SPENCER, GENERAL MANAGER OF COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES
C. LADD, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RE: CITY OF BARRIE BEACHES

DATE: MAY 29, 2017

The City of Barrie public beaches will officially begin another summer season on Friday June 30, 2017. Below are some highlights of what to expect at Barrie's beaches this summer:

Daily Lifeguard Service

Beginning Friday June 30, 2017 until Sunday August 20, 2017, City of Barrie lifeguards will be on duty at Johnson's Beach and Centennial Beach daily from 11:30 am until 5:30 pm, weather permitting. Signs will be posted at the beaches to note when lifeguards are on duty and buoy lines (with the addition this year of drop-off markers) will mark designated swimming areas that are supervised. Centennial Beach will remain open during construction with access from the north end and from the washroom building.

PFD Loan Service

Once again this summer, the City of Barrie is partnering with the Canadian Red Cross for the PFD Loan Service. This program allows visitors to borrow Personal Floatation Devices for free (a \$10 refundable deposit is required) from the Lifeguard office at Centennial Beach and Johnson's Beach, 7 days a week from 11:30 am to 5:30 pm. The PFD loan service - recognized with an Award of Excellence from the Canadian Red Cross in 2012 – is an important way to increase usage and public education surrounding the value of properly fitted PFD's. Approximately 90% of drowning victims are found not wearing a lifejacket or PFD.

Beach Water Quality

Barrie's beaches offer residents and visitors an opportunity to beat the summer heat on the shores of beautiful Kempenfelt Bay. In order to ensure our beaches are safe for swimming, weekly water samples are analyzed by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit using water taken from Centennial Beach, Johnson's Beach, Minet's Point Beach, Tyndale Park and Wilkin's Beach. Warnings will be posted at designated swimming beaches should bacterial levels exceed provincial guidelines.

Recreation on the Waterfront

Recreation Services is offering many opportunities for residents to be active on Barrie's beautiful waterfront. The very popular beach volleyball leagues at Tyndale Park begin May 23, 2017. Tyndale Park will also serve to be home to a number of day camp options beginning in July, including Beach Volleyball camp as well as our ever popular Earth Challenge with specialized weeks of canoe and archery. At Centennial Beach, exciting waterfront courses including Lifesaving Sport, Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross and National Lifeguard Waterfront. New for 2017, Recreation Services and the Barrie Police Services will partner on the waterfront to offer Lifesaving Sport and Safe Guard training for the Jr. Constable Camp.

For more information about Barrie's beautiful beaches and to register for the City of Barrie camps and programs, please visit www.barrie.ca