



RECREATION AND CULTURE MEMORANDUM

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TO: DEPUTY MAYOR, B. WARD AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

FROM: S. LEE-YOUNG, MANAGER OF RECREATION AND CULTURE SERVICES, EXT 5166

NOTED: R. BELL, DIRECTOR OF RECREATION AND CULTURE SERVICES

D. MCALPINE, GENERAL MANAGER OF COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES

M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

RE: WATERFRONT BEACHES; OPEN FOR SEASON

DATE: JUNE 6, 2022

The purpose of this Memorandum is to provide members of Council with an update regarding the opening of the City of Barrie public beaches on Thursday, June 30, 2022. Here are some highlights of what to expect at Barrie's beaches this summer:

Beginning Thursday, June 30, 2022, until Sunday August 21, 2022, at Johnson's Beach and until Friday September 2nd, 2022, at Centennial Beach, the City of Barrie lifeguards will be on duty daily from 11:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., weather permitting. Signs will be posted at the beaches behind each lifeguard chair to note when lifeguards are on duty.

The Swim Buoy Lines (with the addition of drop-off markers) will be anchored out for the season during the week of June 6th (depending on the weather). The swim buoy lines mark the designated swimming areas that are recommended for swimming.

The Mobi Mat (accessibility mat) will be anchored on the sand between lifeguard chairs 4 and 5. This mat permits wheelchairs, strollers, etc, to be able to wheel closer to the waters edge and is accessible from the boardwalk.

The PFD loan service will be offered once again this year, as it was the summer of 2019, pre Pandemic. The PFD loaner program allows visitors to borrow Personal Floatation Devices for free (deposit is required) from the Lifeguard office at Centennial Beach and Johnson's Beach, 7 days a week from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. 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.

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, and Tyndale Beach. Warnings will be posted at designated swimming beaches when bacterial levels exceed provincial guidelines.

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