



## RECREATION AND CULTURE MEMORANDUM

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**TO: MAYOR ALEX NUTTALL AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

**FROM: K. ELLIS, ACTING MANAGER OF RECREATION AND CULTURE PROGRAMS**

**NOTED: D. 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 14, 2023**

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This Memorandum provides members of Council with an update on the City of Barrie public beaches and this summer season's operations.

Centennial Beach:

Opens: Friday June 30<sup>th</sup>

Closes: Friday Sept 1<sup>st</sup>

Lifeguards on Duty: 11:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. daily

Johnson's Beach:

Opens: Friday June 30<sup>th</sup>

Closes: Sunday August 20<sup>th</sup>

Lifeguards on Duty: 11:30 a.m - 5:30 p.m. daily

Please note that signs will be posted at the beaches behind each Lifeguard chair to communicate when Lifeguards are on duty. Swim Buoy Lines including the drop-off markers will be anchored out from the beach during the week of June 5<sup>th</sup> (weather dependent). The swim buoy lines mark the designated swimming areas recommended for swimmers. The accessibility mat will be anchored in the sand between lifeguard chairs #4 and #5. This mat permits wheelchairs and strollers the ability to get closer to the water's edge and is accessible from the boardwalk.

The City of Barrie is proud to continue offering our PFD Loaner Program this season at both Centennial Beach and Johnson's Beach. Guests at the beaches can loan out a PFD (Personal Flotation Device) from the Lifeguard Office at no charge with a security deposit whenever Lifeguards are on duty. This PFD Loaner Program was recognized with an Award of Excellence from the Canadian Red Cross in 2012 and is an effective way to increase usage and promotes public education surrounding the value of properly fitted PFD's. Approximately 90% of drowning victims are found not wearing a lifejacket or PFD.

To ensure our beaches are safe for swimming, weekly water samples will be 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 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 [barrie.ca](http://barrie.ca)