

Municipality of Chatham-Kent
Community Human Services
Community Attraction and Leisure Services
Recreation & Community Engagement Services
Information Report

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Ann Robinson
Manager, Recreation & Community Engagement Services

Date: October 6, 2020

Subject: Re-opening of Chatham-Kent Indoor Pools

This report is for the information of Council.

Background

On March 13, 2020, the Recreation & Community Engagement section of Community Attraction and Leisure Services ceased programming in Chatham-Kent indoor pool facilities when they became closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During this time, recreation facilities staff continued to maintain the Gable Rees Rotary pool and Wallaceburg Sydenham pool while the aquatics staff were redeployed to other areas of the corporation.

Comments

On October 7, 2020, the Gable Rees Rotary pool reopened with a modified schedule and reduced capacity as per the COVID -19 Public Health and Lifesaving Society recommendations.

To control capacity of users in the pool, pre-registration is required for each program timeslot offered which can be done online via PerfectMind or by phone (519.360.1998). PerfectMind is a new registration software that was launched and users were educated via website, social media, in-person and print on how to create an account in order to access pre-registration.

Based on the LifeSaving Society recommendations, there is a maximum number of swimmers allowed in the pool based on the specific program offered (e.g. for lane swims, one swimmer is allowed per single lane or two swimmers per double lane).

Participants are met outside the facility by a pool ambassador and guided through the process. The Ambassadors assist with entry/exit, physical distancing, sanitizing,

screening, program traffic flow, changeroom use, timing, education, equipment use and placement (ie lifejackets).

On the pool deck, lifeguards are responsible for the safety of swimmers.

Specific and enhanced cleaning protocols are in place for:

- Main lobby area
- Front Desk
- Touch points throughout the building
- Changerooms/Washrooms
- Pool Deck
- Guard chairs
- Viewing area
- Staff areas

These cleaning protocols are implemented after each program/use.

Following the established traffic flow, all swimmers exit the building through a separate door prior to the next program group arriving. The separate entry/exit points ensure physical distancing measures are met.

A progressive opening will occur. Initial programs offered include lane and adult/senior swims, followed by more programs/times offered as safety, capacity and community demand increases.

Once safe practices and protocols are established at the Gable Rees Rotary Pool, the Wallaceburg Sydenham Pool will re-open with similar safety mechanisms and measures.

Consultation

CK Public Health Unit have been on-site and approved the re-opening plan and modifications (entry/exit, screening, signage, traffic flow, etc.).

Financial Implications

All materials related to the safe re-opening of pools due to the COVID-19 pandemic are covered by the Recreation & Community Engagement Services budget.

Prepared by:

Reviewed by:

Ann Robinson, Manager
Recreation & Community
Engagement Services

Evelyn Bish, Director
Community Attraction & Leisure Services

Reviewed by:

April Rietdyk, RN, BScN, MHS, PhD PUBH
General Manager
Community Human Services

Attachments: None

c. Dai Youg, Public Health Inspector, CK Public Health Unit

P:\RTC\Community Human Services\2020\CALS\Info Report - Reopening of CK Indoor Pools Oct 19, 2020.docx