



Facility Status Update – May, 19, 2020

Dear Members,

We want to send you an update on the MLRA lake status, and policy changes as a result of the evolving COVID -19 pandemic. First of all, on behalf of the MLRA team and the Board of directors I would like to thank every member for your patience as we manage through this challenging time.

On April 30th, the government of Alberta released a relaunch strategy in an effort to safely stage a COVID-19 recovery plan to open the economy. Although the province has eased restrictions on some outdoor recreation, many activities are still prohibited, and many facilities must remain closed completely. On May 13, 2020, the government of Alberta confirmed the launch of phase 1 but have delayed some services in Calgary and Brooks. The Premier and Chief Medical Officer of Health continue to stress the importance of a cautious, careful, and calculated approach. MLRA hears that message loud and clear and anticipate opening MLRA facility and amenities in a phased approach as well.

Effective May 20, 2020, the park and facility will open in a reduced capacity with closures as mandated or recommended by the different levels of government. Management and the Board of Directors have created policies and procedures within the guidance of the Alberta Government and health authorities and taking a reasonable yet cautious approach to opening. Members are expected to respect these orders and comply with the guidelines implemented by MLRA. Please note that the park, lake, and all MLRA property may close at any time due to government orders or by the Board of Directors.

The Board of Directors are all members of the community who would like nothing more than to get back to normal and enjoy the facility to its fullest potential. Unfortunately COVID-19 has taken much from us and the Board has been faced to make difficult decisions and some unfortunately may not be popular. Decisions made are based on public health guidance and it's important that we all work together to limit the spread and manage our expectations accordingly. We are just entering phase 1 and hopefully restrictions will ease further in stage 2.

Please see refer to the document - Members Procedures and Protocols. Every member entering the facility must be aware of all closures and guidelines and it is extremely important that everyone comply with the orders of government and respect our fellow members. While we understand that some members may not agree with some of the closures or procedures implemented, please understand this is a phased approach and we must proceed with caution. Again, this is only phase 1 and we hope to ease restrictions once the government moves to stage 2 (within the direction of authorities).

We have already heard some feedback on one specific rule amended due to COVID-19 – *The Minimum age a member is permitted to enter and remain in the facility without a parent is sixteen (16)*. As per the recommendations of health authorities, activities should be limited to members of your immediate household only and physical distancing must be maintained for anyone outside that circle. By no means are we banning children under the age of 16 but feel it is prudent to amend the rule to limit gatherings. Children

under the age of 16 typically attend the facility with friends and may not recognize or understand the serious safety implications of COVID-19. Or they may even just forget if they are distracted during times of play. This is a temporary rule amendment to mitigate the risks of physical interactions and gatherings.

While there is still much uncertainty with respect to the impacts of COVID-19, the safety and well-being of our members and employees remain top priority. We will continue to evaluate this complex and fluid situation and update our members accordingly. Thank you in advance for your cooperation and compliance.

Stay safe and enjoy the park!

Sincerely,

Brad Buxton
General Manager
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