

Memorandum

Office of the City Clerk
Fax: 623-5468
Telephone: 625-2230

TO: Members of Council
FROM: Dana Earle, Deputy City Clerk
DATE: Friday, April 23, 2021
SUBJECT: **Additional Information/New Business**
Committee of the Whole/City Council – April 26, 2021

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

New Business

1. Memorandum from Ms. K. Dixon, Director of Engineering, dated April 23, 2021 relative to Update – COVID-19 – City Services – Spring 2021.
2. Establishment of Committee of the Whole – Special Session

“THAT a Committee of the Whole – Closed Session meeting be scheduled for Monday, May 3, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. in order to receive information relative to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including municipal or local board employees; and labour relations or employee negotiations.”

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Memorandum

TO: Dana Earle, Deputy City Clerk

FROM: Cory Halvorsen, Manager, Parks and Open Space, Infrastructure and Operations
Leah Prentice, Director, Recreation and Culture, Community Services

DATE: April 23, 2021

SUBJECT: Update – COVID-19 – City Services – Spring 2021

This memo is in follow up to a motion approved by City Council at their April 12, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting, requesting an update regarding providing public access to City outdoor recreation infrastructure and amenities, including potential dates and expectations of allowed activities.

Currently, a province-wide emergency and ‘Stay at Home’ order is in effect until May 20, 2021, which includes increased restrictions related to gathering/group sizes and use of outdoor recreational amenities.

The following outlines the current restrictions resulting from the enhanced measures announced in the April 16 Stay at Home Order, and anticipated user access to specific City outdoor recreation amenities once the Stay at Home Order is lifted:

City Parks

- Outdoor gatherings/events are prohibited, and outdoor activities must only include members of the same household.
- Where a Park, recreational area, or amenity remains open users shall maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from any other person who is also using the amenity, other than a person who is a member of the same household;
- Outdoor Parks and recreational areas (including trails) remain open for individual or family/household use;
- Playgrounds remain open for use;
- Off-leash dog areas remain open for use;
- Benches in Parks remain open for use;
- Boat launches remain open to support authorized use of boats;

- Community Gardens remain open;
- Outdoor recreational amenities such as courts and sports fields, golf/disk golf courses, and skate/bmx parks, outdoor fitness areas, outdoor picnic sites and picnic tables are closed.

Outdoor Sports Fields (Ball Diamonds, Soccer Fields)

Outdoor sport fields are closed under enhanced Stay at Home order. Outdoor sports field maintenance will continue so that fields will be ready, and Parks operations will have capacity to provide field lining services, should regulations support practicing or playing of organized sports in the spring/summer (Orange/Green Zones).

Municipal Golf Courses (Chapples, Strathcona)

Golf services are planned to resume May 21 when the regulations permit operation. Staff recruitment is well underway as operations were originally planning to open in early May under the Grey regulatory status with the clubhouses closed except for washroom access. COVID measures implemented last season will be applied this year.

Marina Boater Services

Marina Boater Services is planned to resume operations May 15 with activity restricted to launching and docking boats into their slips. Recreational boating is planned to resume May 21 after the enhanced Stay at Home Order, as marinas are permitted in the Grey regulatory zone. Restrictions to group sizes, 2m physical distancing, and access to indoor facilities will apply until the Provincial Framework for Reopening zone is Red. COVID measures implemented last season will be applied this year.

Campgrounds (Chippewa, Trowbridge)

Campgrounds are planned to resume operations by June 4th should regulations permit operations at that time. Campground sites cannot be made available for recreational camping use until the Provincial Framework for Reopening zone is Red.

Amusement Rides

Amusement Rides are unlikely to be permitted this season as they have not been permitted since the beginning of the pandemic. Administration recommends that the Chippewa Park amusement rides remain closed for the entire 2021 season, as work to prepare the rides would typically be underway at this time. Should regulations permit amusement rides prior to July 15 Administration will request a Technical Standards and Safety Authority start of year inspection to authorize operation of the Muskeg Express for the remainder of the summer.

Thunder Bay Community Tennis Centre

The Tennis Centre is currently closed under the enhanced Stay at Home Order.

The facility is anticipated to reopen upon return to Grey Zone of Provincial Framework. Access will be subject to pre-booking, active screening, limited capacity and COVID measures based on the colour zone in effect at that time.

Fort William Stadium/Legion Track:

The stadium and track are currently closed under the enhanced Stay at Home Order.

The facility is anticipated to reopen upon return to Red Zone of Provincial Framework for Reopening, with the precise date to be determined in consultation with primary user groups.

Limited demand is expected from organized user groups until the Orange Zone of the Provincial Framework for Reopening. Public track use will resume in the Orange Zone, during scheduled hours only.

Port Arthur Stadium:

Port Arthur Stadium is not expected to reopen in 2021 due to the Border Cats' cancellation of their season.

An update on additional 2021 summer operations will be presented in June.

cc.: Norm Gale, City Manager
Kerri Marshall, General Manager, Infrastructure and Operations
Kayla Dixon, Director, Engineering
Kelly Robertson, General Manager, Community Services