



May 14, 2019

MEMO TO : Park Board Commissioners

FROM : Malcolm Bromley
General Manager, Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

SUBJECT : **Outdoor Aquatic Services – 2019 Season**

Dear Commissioners,

The purpose of this memo is to inform you that Outdoor Aquatic Services will commence on Saturday, May 18, 2019 (Victoria Day Weekend), with the opening of most spray parks and four outdoor pools. The Maple Grove leisure pool will begin service on June 15 this year.

Outdoor Pools

Kitsilano, New Brighton, Second Beach and Hillcrest pools have been emptied, cleaned, painted, and repaired (as necessary). We have been testing and commissioning the mechanical systems and all is on track for the 2019 season opening.

Daily operating hours are scheduled to be the same as previous years. The exact hours of operation are seasonally advertised on the Park Board website, printed on pocket cards, and promoted through Park Board communications and marketing. Generally, during the months of May and June, pool service is provided in the afternoon into early evening. In July and August, hours are expanded by adding morning service. Second Beach and Maple Grove pools will close September 3, with New Brighton and Kitsilano pools staying open through September 15.

During National Drowning Prevention Week, which runs from July 21-27, we are once again looking to host the Swim-to-Survive Lifesaving Program where participants learn the basic lifesaving skills to survive an unexpected fall into deep water. Swim-to-Survive is offered without charge through local volunteers over a two hour period.

Beaches

Staff are also preparing for the upcoming 'beach season', including a clean-up of winter debris, log removal, and beach grooming. Lifeguard hours at the beaches will be the same as previous years, with coverage from midday until early evening, seven days per week, from the Victoria Day weekend through Labour Day weekend. Hours are shifted slightly through August into September to account for earlier sunsets.

Supervised beaches include:

- English Bay
- Jericho Beach
- Kitsilano Beach
- Locarno Beach
- Second Beach
- Spanish Banks – East
- Spanish Banks – Extension (*in good weather*)
- Spanish Banks – West
- Sunset Beach
- Third Beach
- Trout Lake



Spray Parks & Wading Pools

Spray parks equipped with activator buttons (enabling use as weather permits) are opened first. Wading pools are opened for operation during July and August, in conjunction with summer playground service (supervised). Decommissioning and winterizing begins in late September.

We are looking forward to another exceptional summer of safe and enjoyable outdoor aquatics.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Malcolm Bromley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Malcolm Bromley
General Manager - Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation

em/dr/rm/clc

Copy to: PB Senior Leadership Team
PB Recreation Leadership Team
PB Communications