

Aquatics Service Enhancement

DESCRIPTION:

A 2016 Safety Audit on the Prince George Aquatic Centre and Four Seasons Leisure Pool was conducted by the BC Lifesaving Society and the report recommends procedural lifeguard changes to enhance safety.

Safety Audit Recommendations Include:

- Two lifeguards are required on the main pool of the Aquatic Centre at all times.
 - Lifeguards must be able to scan their zone between 10 and 30 seconds as opposed to the old standard of 60 – 90 seconds. Two lifeguards on the main pool will enable scanning within the required 10 – 30 second scanning window.

Regular lifeguard facility rotations are required at the P.G. Aquatic Centre and Four Seasons Pool.

- Lifeguard rotations ensure guards remain alert, allow safety checks of anything that may have been missed, provide relief from a single post, and provide the opportunity to assist customers without breaking pool supervision requirements.
 - The rotation onto and off the pool deck allows thorough checks of the pool bottoms, corners and other areas of the facility (sauna, steam room, gym, change rooms) ensuring that these areas are clear and the new lifeguard is starting their position with nothing outstanding.
 - Allows the lifeguard coming on to the pool deck time to evaluate the current state of the pool such as bather activity and areas of concentration ensuring the guard is rescue ready.
 - Allows the lifeguard to deal with issues that may have come up but not been addressed because of pool supervision.
 - The rotation provides a structured approach to the switching of lifeguards ensuring that nothing is missed.

The Aquatic Division serves Prince George and neighboring areas with approximately 400,000 pool visits each year contributing to a healthy community. Having the Lifesaving Society conduct a Safety Audit of the City's pools is a valuable part of the planning process to ensure aquatics is meeting the safety standards of today and into the future. The service enhancement will provide increased safety for pool users and ensure the Aquatic Division is meeting BC safety standards and best practices as set out by the BC Lifesaving Society.

FINANCIAL COST OF THE ENHANCEMENT:

A labour enhancement of \$247,478:

PGAC two lifeguards on the main pool at all times: \$77,337 (LI1 Irregular Part-time FTE - 1.25)

- Two guards are required to meet the scanning requirements.

PGAC Facility Rotation Guard: \$170,141 (LI1 Irregular Part-time FTE - 2.75)

- The PGAC size, blind spots and water depth require a rotation guard.