



STAFF REPORT

REPORT OF THE AQUATICS SUPERVISOR RE: WATERFRONT OPERATIONS FOR SUMMER 2021

OBJECTIVE

To recommend to the City a guideline for a safe reopening of our beaches for the summer of 2021, providing information on the necessary steps and respecting Covid-19 restrictions.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report from the Aquatics Supervisor and guidelines for reopening beaches and Waterfront operations for the summer of 2021 be received;

AND THAT approval be granted to hire 15 lifeguards to ensure that Spruce and Spine beach can be fully staffed and operational;

AND THAT the required funds of \$12,258 plus applicable taxes be taken from the Recreation and Culture Department operating budgets for equipment and contracted services.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dustin Whyte
Aquatics Supervisor

Approved,

Darla Hennessey
Manager of Recreation & Culture

Approved,

Daniel Gagnon
Chief Administrative Officer

BACKGROUND

The Covid-19 pandemic has changed the way that Elliot Lake's beaches, Spruce and Spine, operate during the summer months. The changes implemented in the summer of 2020 in regards to new guidelines and restrictions due to the virus were a success and the community experienced a safe summer on the beach with no major incidents. To mimic the success of the previous season, the same steps must be taken to ensure safety on our waterfronts.

ANALYSIS

The following steps cohere with the guidelines and restrictions set by the province in terms of Covid-19 and are absolutely necessary for Spruce and Spine beach to be fully operational:

STEP 1: Hire and train staff at least 2 weeks prior to being operational (a minimum of 15 staff will be required to fully staff both beaches from Canada day long weekend until labour day long weekend)

- Beaches will be open from Canada Day long weekend until Labour Day weekend. Hours of operation will be from 12pm – 7pm

STEP 2: Set up additional hand washing and sanitizing stations at both beaches in high traffic areas

STEP 3: Lifeguard/Additional staff orientation and training

- Our Lifeguards are trained to deliver a high standard of care, holding both the National Lifeguard Pool and Waterfront certification, as well as a current standard First Aid with an HCP level of CPR. This gives our staff the appropriate training and PPE for dealing with life threatening emergencies
- Experienced certified staff, having at least 20 hours of formal waterfront training, will Lifeguard the waterfront. Weekly in-service lifeguard training covers operational procedures such as guest service, scanning and vigilance techniques, safety, incident recognition, rescue procedures, CPR and First Aid, and physical conditioning drills
- Management will conduct unannounced safety audits and performance reviews and any areas of concern will be addressed

STEP 4: Signage

- Signage must be posted in and around the barrier and at all entrances to beach (info found on website)
- Signage must outline social distancing guidelines
- Signage must have operational times displayed
- By-law notice with the maximum \$ fine for not adhering to posted notices
- Contact info for Public health unit
- Procedures for exiting beach area safely in the case of an emergency are easily readable and displayed



FINANCIAL IMPACT

The following is a breakdown of the costs for equipment and services necessary to the successful completion of the guideline as outlined above:

- A. 2 Portable Hand washing stations \$2758
- B. Signage \$3500
- C. Training and equipment \$3000
- D. PPE \$3000

LINKS TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This project aligns with the City's Strategic Plan through the following:

- Health and Community Wellness
 - Provide activities and promote healthy lifestyles through recreation for all age groups.

SUMMARY

There are necessary steps required in order to safely reopen and operate Elliot Lake's Spruce and Spine beach for the summer of 2021. If the proper steps, as outlined above, are followed, and adequate staffing, equipment, and services are approved, then the community will be able to enjoy the beaches safely this summer.

