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CITY OF WELLAND SUMMER CAMP 2021

COVID19 GUIDANCE TOOL

Last revised: April, 2021

This document provides supplemental guidance to reduce the risk of introducing and spreading COVID-19 in our summer day camp program and it is used in conjunction with complete guidance provided in the Ministry of Health's COVID-19 Guidance: Summer Day Camps, along with our existing day camp procedures, resources, and systems.

This guidance is subject to change.

DECIDING TO OFFER DAY CAMP PROGRAMS

Day camps provide short-term programs that provide care and learning opportunities for children of all ages. It is critical that we keep children in day camp programs safe and healthy. Plans and procedures must be in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to campers and staff. Each day camp setting is unique, and as such, careful consideration must be given to the ability to develop or modify the day camp to meet the required infection prevention and control measures when offering these programs.

Our facilities for indoor sports and recreational fitness activities, including community centres and multi-purpose facilities, will operate day camps for children as we modify activities to avoid physical contact and meet the safety requirements set out in the Ministry of Health's COVID-19 Guidance: Summer Day Camps.

PUBLIC HEALTH REQUIREMENTS FOR OPERATION

The following document provides direction for day camp staff, parents and guardians to reduce the risk of introducing and spreading COVID-19.

SCREENING

- All individuals, including children, parents/guardians and staff must be asked questions about symptoms and exposures upon arrival each camp day (this is referred to as 'active screening'). We will be using our existing screening tool found here <https://www.welland.ca/HotTopics/visitor.asp> and ask parents to provide a successful screen upon arrival at camp where temperature will be taken on site.
- When screening is done on site, screeners will take all appropriate precautions, including maintaining a distance of at least 2 metres (6 feet) from those being screened and/or separation by a physical barrier (such as a Plexiglas barrier). Additionally, the screener will wear personal protective equipment (PPE), including a surgical/procedure mask and eye protection (i.e. goggles or face shield).

- Daily screening results will be recorded and records maintained.
- A post screening sign will be located at all camper drop-off points.

MANAGEMENT OF INDIVIDUALS WHO DEVELOP SYMPTOMS OF POSSIBLE COVID-19

If a child or staff member fails a screen, they must be excluded from the day camp. Refer the individual to an assessment centre for testing for COVID-19. Contact Niagara Region Public Health at 905-688-8248 or 1-888-505-6074, press 7 - if a camper or staff member reports that they are positive for COVID-19. The health unit will provide specific advice on required control measures to prevent the potential spread and how to monitor for other possibly infected staff members and children.

GUIDANCE FOR DAY CAMPS

If a child or staff member becomes ill while at camp, the following immediate control actions are required:

- Immediately separate children, staff, or visitors who show one or more symptoms compatible with COVID-19 (e.g. fever, cough, difficulty breathing, etc.) from others into a supervised area until the person can go home. Each camp location has an isolation room to wait for parent/guardian pickup. Symptomatic persons should wear a surgical/procedural mask when tolerated. Refer the individual to an assessment centre for testing for COVID-19. They are to remain in self-isolation while awaiting test results. If they test positive, they will be instructed to remain in self-isolation for minimum of 10 days from symptom onset if they do not have a fever and symptoms are improving. If they test negative, they may return to camp once symptom-free for 24 hours.
- Anyone providing care to a symptomatic individual should maintain a distance of 2 metres (6 feet) if possible. It is recommended that a supply of personal protective equipment (PPE) is kept for those needing to provide direct care, including surgical/procedural masks and eye protection (goggles or face shield), as a minimum. Gloves and gowns may also be worn if available and depending on the individual's symptoms. The symptomatic individual must depart camp as soon as possible, after which the direct care provider should discard the PPE and perform hand hygiene.
- Once the individual has left the day camp, clean and disinfect the space the person occupied, as well as any toys/equipment used inside or outside by the person. Children/staff in the same room should be directed to wash their hands. Our day camp will have protocols and parent agreements that outline expectations for staff, children, and parents regarding screening, exclusion, and possible closure. Our summer day camp will also have protocols in place to notify parents/guardians if their child begins to show symptoms of COVID19 while attending camp, including the need for immediate pick up.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING AND COHORTING

Infection spread can be slowed and more easily contained when people stay together in the same small groups (i.e. 'cohorts') throughout the day, every day. We will operate our camp programs by creating consistent cohorts of no more than 15 campers who remain together for a minimum of seven days, and by following these requirements:

- Staff assigned to a cohort must remain with that group until the session has completed. Staff plus assigned children together form a single cohort.
- We have 10 campers for each cohort with the option of 2 Community Living Campers for each cohort. Each community living camper will have a support person making a cohort maximum 14 people.
- Camp cohorts cannot mix and must remain together until the end of the session/week.
- Staff should not be covering lunches/break periods for staff outside of their assigned cohort.
- No moving of rooms/campers during the session.
- Staff should be practicing physical distancing in staff rooms, offices, etc.
- Indoor and outdoor spaces used for camp programs should restrict enrolment to allow for a 2 metre (6 feet) radius in each direction per person, in order to ensure adequate physical distancing. Activities must promote physical distancing of at least 2 metres (6 feet) between cohorts, and between children within cohorts where possible.
- Masks or face coverings should be used if physical distancing of at least 2 metres (6 feet) cannot be maintained between cohorts.
- Safety from other hazards should not be compromised due to physical distancing and cohorting.

The following is an outline for our Summer Camp Cohorts as we are operating at a 10% decrease this year due to safety protocol and regulations:

Munchkins – Age 4 – 5	Fun Factory – Age 6 – 8	Kool Kids – Age 9 – 12
Location: Chippawa Park Community Hall – 90 First Avenue	Location: Welland Youth Arena and Main Arena 2 nd Floor Community Room 501 King Street	Location: Welland Community Wellness Complex 145 Lincoln Street
Cohort 1	Cohort 1	Cohort 1
Cohort 2	Cohort 2	Cohort 2
	Cohort 3	Cohort 3
	Cohort 4	

HYGIENE

- Perform proper hand hygiene (including assisting children with hand hygiene) upon entry to the camp and regularly throughout the daily schedule.
- Wash hands regularly with soap and water for at least 15 seconds and have alcohol-based hand sanitizer with minimum 60% alcohol content available for staff.
- Ensure supplies for handwashing are supplied at camp and restocked regularly.
- Ensure consistent practice of good respiratory etiquette – sneeze and cough into your sleeve and have single-use tissues available.

FACE COVERINGS (MEDICAL OR NON-MEDICAL MASKS)

- Staff and campers should bring their own face covering to wear at all times and when physical distancing cannot be maintained between cohorts, to help prevent them from transmitting COVID-19 if infected.
- If staff or campers wear a face covering, they need to be used properly. When the face covering becomes soiled, it must be removed and replaced with a clean one. All face coverings should be washed or exchanged on a daily basis.
- The use of face coverings can be challenging for some children.
- Note: Cloth face coverings should not be placed on:
 - o Anyone with a medical exemption;
 - o Anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious; and
 - o Anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the cover without help.
- When a camper has no symptoms of COVID-19 but is in need of care (such as toileting, first aid), staff should wear a surgical/procedural mask when possible.

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANING AND DISINFECTION

- In addition to standard cleaning protocols, clean and disinfect common and frequently touched surfaces including doorknobs, light switches, toilet handles, and tabletops at least twice daily.
- All toys used at the day camp must be of a material that can be cleaned and disinfected (i.e. no plush toys, untreated wood) to increase frequency of cleaning and disinfecting of toys.
- Frequently clean and disinfect toys and equipment using a disinfectant with a Health Canada Drug Identification Number (DIN) and follow the manufacturer's instructions for use.

DRINKING WATER

- Day camps with private water supplies must ensure water samples are taken before the opening of the day camp operation with tests. Furthermore, water sampling should occur over the period of operation.
- All staff and campers must bring their own labelled water bottle. Water bottles will be required to be filled rather than campers and staff drinking directly from the mouthpiece of water fountains.
- Water filling stations should be cleaned and sanitized at least twice daily.
- The use of water or sensory tables is not permitted.
- Field trips requiring group transportation are not permitted. Staff can take participants to the park, do walking trips, and go to outdoor fields, as long as physical distancing of 2 metres (6 feet) is maintained and staff are able to maintain appropriate supervision of participants at all times to ensure safety. We will be checking guidelines regularly to ensure for accuracy.

COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDANCE FOR DAY CAMPS

- Activities with exposures to animals or pets that involve frequent touching by different camp participants (e.g. petting zoo, animal visitors, etc.) are not permitted.
- Aquatic activities (e.g. pool, splash pad, wading pool etc.) must adhere to regulated requirements as well as to municipal guidance and restrictions at the time of activity.
- Limit any non-essential visitors, volunteers, and activities involving external groups or organizations as much as possible.
- Outdoor play at day camp sites is encouraged, in small groups in order to permit physical distancing. Activities and sports involving direct or physical contact should be modified to eliminate contact.
- Staggered arrival and departure times will be implemented to maintain physical distancing.

PSYCHOSOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR CHILDREN

- Pay attention to children’s feelings and reactions, and let them know that it is okay to be concerned.
- Reassure children about their personal safety and health, and the many things they can do to stay healthy (e.g. hand washing, cough/sneeze etiquette, staying home when sick, keeping clean).
- Let children know they can ask questions and make sure that the information provided is suitable for their age level.

REFERENCES

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2020). CDC Youth Programs and Camps Decision Tool. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/youth-programs-decision-tool.html>
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- Ontario Ministry of Health. (2020). COVID-19 Fact Sheet: Talking to Children About the Pandemic. Retrieved from: http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_talking_childr_en_guidance.pdf
- Ontario Ministry of Health. (2020). COVID-19 Guidance: Summer Day Camps. Retrieved from: http://www.health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/2019_summer_day_camps_guidance.pdf