

***\*\*It is important to remember that these plans are fluid and can change with updated guidelines from the State and other public health agencies.***

## **Parks and Recreation Reopening Strategy Statement**

The goal of the Parks and Recreation Department is to reopen the Department's amenities, programs and services to community members in full compliance with state and federal regulations, adhering to all safety protocols for both patrons and staff. In order to accomplish this, staff recommends a staggered opening of amenities, programs, and services, determined by community need as well as identified essential services.

**Consequently, the Parks and Recreation Staff staggered approach includes:**

1. Operating the Senior Lunch Program (**ongoing**) and Camp Erie (**Tentative May 26, 2020**) as essential services to the community.
2. Opening the Erie Community Center for daily drop-in use only. (**Tentative May 26, 2020**)
3. Strategically reintroduce programs, events and rentals as COVID restrictions lift. (**June-August**)

These guidelines are intended to be fluid, allowing staff discretion to make operational decisions as needed to protect the safety and wellbeing of patrons and staff. This information is to be used in concert with other guiding documents and policies provided by the Town. Detailed plans regarding modifications and solutions to fluid conditions to adhere to safety protocols are outlined in this document.

### **Reopening the Erie Community Center**

Parks and Recreation staff recommend opening the Erie Community Center for daily drop-in use **tentatively on Tuesday, May 26, at 5:00 am**, adhering to all social distancing guidelines set by the Center for Disease Control. Staff will limit patron capacity to approximately 50% of room & building code to ensure patrons can distance themselves from one another. During the initial opening phase, patrons will be asked to limit workout times to a 60-90-minute window to maximize the number of patrons that can safely access the facility each day. Results of the COVID Sentiment Survey indicated a favorable response to predetermined timeslots. A limited number of dedicated hours will be established to accommodate those identified by the CDC to be at a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19 such as older adults or anyone with a serious underlying health condition.

Staff is currently researching software/applications to communicate to the public in real time the number of patrons in the facility at any given time. This communication is necessary to prevent people traveling to the facility and having to wait in a line prior to entry.

#### **Communication Plan:**

Communication to the community will be thoughtful, thorough, and timely. Our message will reinforce that all decisions are based on the well-being and safety of the community. Communication efforts will be tailored to the specific user group through established methods. For example, Camp Erie families will receive updates through our Camp Erie distribution list. Information regarding workout timeslots will be distributed through our ActiveNet email software. A full list of our communication methods includes:

1. Email
2. Website
3. Social Media
4. Print Marketing through mail or inside the ECC
5. Notify Me
6. Monument sign on County Line and Erie Parkway

