



**RECREATION SERVICES  
MEMORANDUM**

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**TO: MAYOR J. LEHMAN AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

**FROM: S. LEE YOUNG, MANAGER OF RECREATION PROGRAMS, EXT: 5166**

**NOTED: B. ROTH, DIRECTOR OF RECREATION SERVICES**

**D. MCALPINE, GENERAL MANAGER OF COMMUNITY AND CORPORATE SERVICES**

**M. PROWSE, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER**

**RE: CITY OF BARRIE BEACHES**

**DATE: MAY 27, 2019**

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The City of Barrie public beaches will officially begin another summer season on Friday June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Below are some highlights on what to expect this summer:

**Canadian Forces Snowbirds:**

We are honoured to have the Snowbirds for two shows on Friday June 28<sup>th</sup> and Saturday June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**Daily Lifeguard Service:**

Beginning Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup> until Sunday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the City of Barrie Lifeguards will be on duty at Centennial Beach and Johnson's Beach daily from 11:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., weather permitting. Signs will be posted at the beaches to note when lifegaurds are on duty and buoy lines (with the new addition of drop-off markers) will indicate designated swimming areas that are supervised.

**Mobi Mats:**

Supported by a Council amendment to the 2019 Business Plan, Recreation Services will be installing a Mobi Mat at Centennial Beach. This durable non-slip beach access pathway will allow individuals of all abilities including pedestrians, people using a wheelchair or walker, and parents with strollers to easily access the beachfront waters. Improving access to Centennial Beach for all users will attract more residents and visitors to both the beach and to Barrie's waterfront and downtown area.

**PFD Loan Service:**

Once again this summer, the City of Barrie is partnering with the Canadian Red Cross for the PFD Loan Service. This program allows visitors to borrow Personal Flotation Devices for free (a \$10 refundable deposit is required) from the Lifeguard office at Centennial Beach and Johnson's Beach, seven days a week from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.. The PFD Loan Service, recognized with an Award of Excellence from the Canadian Red Cross in 2012, is an important way to increase PFD usage and public education surrounding the value of properly fitted PFD's. Approximately 90% of drowning victims are found not wearing a lifejacket or PFD.

**Better Water Quality:**

Barrie's beaches offer residents and visitors an opportunity to beat the summer heat on the shores of beautiful Kempenfelt Bay. To ensure our beaches are safe for swimming, weekly water samples are analyzed by the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit using water taken from Centennial Beach, Minet's Point Beach, Tyndale Park and Wilkin's Beach. Warnings will be posted at designated swimming beaches when bacteria levels exceed provincial guidelines.



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**Recreation on the Waterfront:**

Recreation Services is offering many opportunities for residents to be active on Barrie's beautiful waterfront. The very popular beach volleyball leagues at Tyndale Park begin May 13<sup>th</sup>. Tyndale Park will also be home to a number of day camps beginning in July, including Beach Volleyball as well as our ever-popular Earth Challenge with specific weeks for canoeing and archery. At Centennial Beach, exciting waterfront courses include Lifesaving Sport, Bronze Medallion, Bronze Cross and National Lifeguard Waterfont. Again for Summer 2019, Recreation Services and the Barrie Police Services will partner on the waterfront to offer Lifesaving Sport and Safe Guard training for the Jr. Constable Camp.

For more information about Barrie's beautiful beaches and to register for the City of Barrie camps and programs, please visit [www.barrie.ca](http://www.barrie.ca).