

Dear Groups,

Thanks again for your participation in the Mayor + Councillor's consultation with sport groups on April 27. While there is no confirmed date for when facilities will open and activities can resume, we do know that things will not be exactly as they were before COVID-19 (at least not right away). The Recreation Team is committed to working in partnership with our community groups to plan for and support a smooth recovery and return to activity when it is safe to do so and following the directives of our peers at Peel Public Health and other levels of government.

Based on the input provided on the call, the following action plan will be implemented over the next short while:

- **Facilitating access to information and resources**
  - o Already circulated and attached again for your reference is the resource summary sheet of programs that groups may or may not be eligible to access. Staff will maintain a list of resources including funding opportunities on the city web site as new programs and further details are available.
  - o Staff will coordinate online meetings or webinars to provide further information and support to groups to help them address some of the immediate financial and service delivery impacts related to COVID-19 and plan for the future. As a starting point, a session will be coordinated in May to provide further information about emergency/relief funding and support available from other levels of government that is applicable to non-profit, sport and recreation sector partners. Additional sessions will be offered based on need and interest of groups and as additional support becomes available.
  
- **Planning for “return to play”**
  - o We heard from several groups that some of these sport-specific types resources are already in draft or being worked on now. Staff request that groups who have this information or are drafting information are to email copies or links to the resources that they are aware of to your City Liaison.
  - o Staff will continue to engage with our stakeholders and user groups (e.g. grouped based on type of sport, type of facility) to discuss

further considerations and inform planning for resuming activities when it is safe to do so. This work will align with public health protocols and directives for hygiene and physical distancing as well as guidelines from provincial/national sport organizations and other sources while reflecting unique needs of Mississauga-based organizations.

- **Extending the 2020 outdoor season**

- o Given the extenuating circumstances that we are facing, the Parks Operations team will look to extend the natural field season at select locations depending on weather and ability to complete our fall maintenance. Artificial sports fields could also be extended for use until weather conditions dictate that they are unplayable. Exact dates and locations will be determined as further details about the timing for re-opening of facilities unfolds.

- **Booking & Cancellation Policies**

- o There are many unknowns with respect to the start date and duration of the playing season as well as potential impacts that COVID-19 may have on participation rates. Adaptations to the current policies will be considered as required as further details become known with an aim of avoiding undue hardship to user groups.

- **Rates and Fees**

- o Rates and Fees are approved by Council on an annual basis. Reduced rental rates are available to organizations that are registered in the City's Community Group Registry Program ([www.mississauga.ca/communitygroups](http://www.mississauga.ca/communitygroups)). Changes to approved rates and fees can only be made by Council. Staff will keep our stakeholders and user groups apprised of any changes that may be considered.

- **Marketing Campaign**

- o A city-led marketing campaign will be implemented to encourage residents to return to sports and other activities offered throughout the City once the state of emergency ends.

We sincerely appreciate the role that your organizations play in keeping Mississauga residents active, healthy and connected to their communities. We are encouraged by the resilience and creativity that has been displayed through this very difficult time and look forward to working with you on the next steps.

Sincerely,



**Kelly Reichheld, BRLS**