



YMCA of Greater Halifax/Dartmouth

Update on Re-opening our Centres and YMCA Programs:

Our YMCA Team began return to work training in June to ensure staff were well equipped with understanding the new COVID operational health and safety protocols in place at each of our centres. We have instituted enhanced cleaning procedures, health screening protocols, and other operational practices to ensure the health and safety of our participants, members, clients, staff and volunteers.

YMCA Licensed Child Care: On Monday June 15, we re-opened our Purdy's Wharf YMCA Child Care Centre and welcomed 22 children back into our care. Educators, parents and children were very excited to reunite in person. On September 1, we are expecting more of our families to rejoin our centre.

YMCA Summer Day Camps: Our YMCA Summer Day Camps at the Community YMCA are now complete for the 2020 season. The program began on July 6 and ran for eight consecutive weeks, wrapping up on Friday August 28. The YMCA is proud of the efforts of all of our staff to meet the overwhelming community need for recreational child care for families who are headed back to work seeking quality, safe care for their school-aged children in the summer months.

Big Cove YMCA Camp: On Wednesday July 8, [Big Cove YMCA Camp](#) opened as a campground and day use facility for the 2020 summer season. For the months of July and August visitors chose Day Programs running from 10:00 am – 6:00 pm, and Overnights with the choice of cabin or campsite. Leadership 1 and Leadership 2 sessions were also held during the weekends of August. Thank you to all campers, and staff for making the most of this non-traditional camp season, we look forward to welcoming you back to the Cove in 2021!

YMCA Employment Programs/Nova Scotia Works Centres: All YMCA Nova Scotia Works Centres re-opened for in-person services on July 13. At this time, we are open for in-person services including the use of resource centre computers. Workshops will continue to be offered virtually.

YMCA Community Action Network (YCAN) & Head Start Program: This youth development program began on July 6. Both YCAN and Head Start are being delivered in-person and virtually.

YMCA Centre for Immigrant Programs: In July and August, the YMCA Centre for Immigrant Programs focused on in-person appointment only critical services, as well as the introduction of small group outdoor programming. We continue to offer other services remotely via telephone, email, and various online platforms. As fall approaches, the YMCA will be working with school



and community partners to continue to deliver place-based settlement and language programs across the province in alignment with public health guidelines.

YMCA Before and After School Program (YPHD): We continue to take YPHD registration for the 2020/21 school year, **the start date for before and after school programs is September 8th**. Please visit our website for more information about the additional safety measures we have implemented in our operational plans at your child's YPHD locations.

John W. Lindsay YMCA: We are looking forward to opening our doors to the community soon! Please visit our website www.jwl2020.ca for all information about membership options and **Join Today!**

A brand new, modern facility allows us to open with state-of-the-art safety features and procedures right from day one. With 70,000 square feet to work with and plenty of bright open spaces, we can welcome a lot of members and participants at the same time, while still keeping everyone safe, distanced, and well.

YMCA Programs on Hold:

YMCA Health Outreach Programs: As we ease into the month of September, we are working with our YMCA Health, Safety & Compliance Officer to ensure our YMCA Fitness Outreach Programs (Forever Fit, Early morning fitness, AIM & Warm Water Aqua) are safe for return under Nova Scotia Public Health Guidelines and an acceptable COVID operational plan is in place. A new registration system is currently being implemented as part of this plan as well.

As this preparation work continues, these programs continue to be on hold, with the intent to re-open in the month of October.

Community YMCA: For the summer, the Community YMCA was focused on children in our YMCA Day Camp program, we are currently preparing programs for the fall season and encourage you to check our webpage for updates.

Please follow us on our social media channels (@YMCAHD) and the homepage of our website www.ymcahfx.ca for the latest updates on YMCA programs. We thank you for your patience as we re-open. If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact Lorrie Turnbull, Chief Operating Officer at lorrie.turnbull@halifax.ymca.ca

Stay safe and keep smiling.

Your YMCA Team