



## Playgrounds Open Under Parks and Recreation Recovery Plan

Date: Thursday, June 11, 2020

For Immediate Release

VICTORIA, BC – Starting tomorrow, Victoria’s playgrounds, spray parks, lacrosse box, basketball courts and outdoor fitness areas will reopen as part of the City’s new Parks and Recreation COVID-19 Recovery Plan.

The plan approved by Council today guides the City’s gradual return to parks and recreation programs and services during the ongoing pandemic.

Level 2 of the plan, which gets underway on Friday, includes the reopening of all outdoor recreation facilities, as well as details for the safe operation of summer camps and outdoor adult health and wellness programs at Royal Athletic Park, and a return to park and field bookings by community groups.

“Recreation and play are essential elements of community health and well-being,” said Mayor Lisa Helps. “For many children and families, shooting some hoops or getting back to your favourite swings and monkey bars will feel like a significant milestone in the recovery process.”

The safe re-opening of parks and recreation services will progress in managed stages, guided by advice from public health authorities, industry guidelines, WorkSafeBC requirements and Council direction.

New signs will be posted at outdoor recreation facilities to communicate COVID-19 guidelines for use, such as frequent hand washing and refraining from using equipment or attending programs when sick. Public washrooms with enhanced cleaning are available close to most facilities.

Level 1 of the plan, which was implemented in mid-May, included the reopening of tennis and pickleball courts, skate and bike parks, and sports fields.

The Crystal Pool and Fitness Centre will remain closed until Level 3 of the plan (anticipated opening in January 2021).

Read the [Parks and Recreation COVID-19 Recovery Plan](#).

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**For More Information:**

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