



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	June 2, 2021
SUBJECT:	Extreme Heat Weather Protocol and COVID-19 (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Paul Johnson General Manager Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	

Healthy and Safe Communities Department (Recreation Division and Public Health Services) have revised Hamilton's Extreme HEAT Weather Protocol in response to COVID-19 and in accordance with the COVID-19 provincial restrictions.

The City of Hamilton's Heat Warning and Information System includes seasonal monitoring and two levels of heat response: Heat Warning and Extended Heat Warning. The Medical Officer of Health for the City issues a **Heat Warning** when there are two or more consecutive days forecasted with daytime highs greater than or equal to 31°C and night time lows greater than or equal to 20°C or two or more consecutive days with a humidex of 40°C or greater. An **Extended Heat Warning** is triggered when there are three or more consecutive days observed with daytime highs greater than or equal to 31°C and night time lows greater than or equal to 20°C or three or more consecutive days with a humidex of 40°C or greater.

Staff have worked to ensure the plans in place reflect the current provincial restrictions and can be scaled up as more facilities and amenities reopen in the coming weeks and months.

Active Locations Supporting Heat Response

Under the current restrictions, the following locations across the city will be activated as Cooling Places:

City Recreation Centres - open 12pm to 7pm daily:

- Central Memorial Community Centre, 93 West Avenue S, Hamilton

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.
OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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- Norman Pinky Lewis Recreation Centre, 192 Wentworth Street N, Hamilton
- Ryerson Recreation Centre, 251 Duke Street, Hamilton
- Sackville Hill Seniors Centre, 780 Upper Wentworth Street, Hamilton
- Sir Allan MacNab, 145 Magnolia Drive, Hamilton
- Stoney Creek Recreation Centre, 45 King Street E, Stoney Creek (*May 24 – July 4)
(*From July 5 – Sept 6, Dominic Agostino Riverdale Community Centre will open)

Hamilton Public Library locations:

- Hamilton Central Library, 55 York Blvd, Hamilton
Hours of operation: Tuesday to Friday, 1 pm to 6 pm; Saturday to Monday 1 pm to 5 pm
- All HPL Branches: Tuesday - Friday 1 pm to 6 pm; Saturday 1 pm to 5 pm

Locations were selected to serve the broader community need and because the necessary public health measures such as physical distancing could be easily implemented. All locations can be identified by a “Cool Down Here” sign at the entrance and will have drinking water available on-site.

To protect residents, COVID-19 precautions will be in place at all Cooling Places, including:

- Reduced capacity and chairs set up to ensure physical distancing.
- Contact tracing required, including name, contact information and time in/out.
- Screening for COVID-19 symptoms.
- Mask or face covering must be worn.
- Regular cleaning and disinfection, including chairs between users and high touch point cleaning every 3 hours.
- Staff trained on the safe use, care, disposal and limitations of PPE.
- Staff will contact Public Health Services for specific advice and control measures regarding anyone who displays symptoms or is suspected to have COVID-19.

For more information and tips to stay cool, please visit www.hamilton.ca/heat.

If you have any questions about the HEAT Response, please contact Janine Gaunt, Manager, District Recreation Operations, Recreation Division at ext. 2455 or at Janine.Gaunt@hamilton.ca and if you have questions about public health triggers please contact Jane Murrell, Program Supervisor, Healthy Environments Division, Public Health Services at ext. 5049 or at Jane.Murrell@hamilton.ca.