

Friday, May 21, 2021
MEDIA RELEASE



COVID-19 UPDATE: OPEN WITH RESTRICTIONS – ROADMAP TO REOPENING

Welland, ON – Yesterday, Premier Ford introduced the Roadmap to Reopen the province. This Roadmap is a cautious three-step plan that will allow a safe and gradual reopening of the province based on the provincewide vaccination rate and improvements in key public health and health system indicators.

The Roadmap to Reopen details are available by visiting the Provincial Reopening Ontario website <https://www.ontario.ca/page/reopening-ontario#section-5>.

As of May 22 at 12:01 AM the following City of Welland outdoor facilities will be open with restrictions:

- Tennis Courts
- Basketball Courts
 - Gaiser Park Basketball Court will reopen Friday, May 28, 2021
- Maple Park Courts, including Pickleball
- Lawn Bowling
- Sports Fields
- Skateboard (BMX) Park
- Outdoor amenities are available for use as Parks Staff will be deploying the remainder of picnic benches to all parks throughout the City in the coming weeks. We caution all residents to ensure they are following all safety protocols.

No outdoor organized sports or recreational classes are permitted at this time and will not resume until we enter Step 1 of the Roadmap to Reopen. Splash pads are tentatively scheduled to open on June 14.

Welland Community Wellness Complex will proceed with Spring Block 3 programming, which is set to begin at the start of Step 1 (tentatively June 14). In lieu of cancelling programs we will be following the Step 1 guidelines and taking classes outside. Here is what you need to know:

- Spring Block 3 Programs (June 14-July 10) - Classes will be outside on the grass area by the Canal, or in a designated section of the parking lot. Details will be sent to each class individually regarding class location prior to June 14.
- Summer Block 1 Programs (July 12-August 7) - Registration opens online on Tuesday May 25th at 9:00am, <https://wellness.welland.ca/>. Details on location have yet to be determined. Classes will be outside at the WCWC or at several City Parks and Pavilions. We suggest you register for your regular programs and if the location does not suit your needs, options will be available.

- Summer Block 2 Programs (August 9-September 4) - Based on Ontario's Road to Reopen document, Step 3 has the WCWC reopening and welcoming members into the facility. We highly recommend registering for these programs too.

Youngs Sportsplex (570 River Rd.): Youngs Sportsplex indoor and outdoor activities will remain closed until they can safely move into the Roadmap Steps. For more information, visit www.youngssportsplex.com.

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