

Policy No.: R00 - Use of the Nature Fresh Farms Recreation Centre following closure due to COVID-19

Date Enacted: August 24, 2021

Amended By:

Subject

This Policy sets out the framework for the use of NFFRC by the public following its closure as a result of COVID-19 and the use of the NFFRC as a vaccination clinic by the Windsor Essex County Health Unit.

Purpose

The Municipality has a legislated obligation to provide a safe workplace for its Staff and an obligation to provide a safe environment to members of the public who access municipal facilities to obtain services and participate in Programs.

The most effective way in which to deal with an occupational health and safety risk in the workplace is to eliminate the hazard. The purpose of this Policy is to take steps to attempt to eliminate the risk of COVID-19 in the workplace and to provide a safe environment in which the public may utilize the NFFRC, particularly those members of the public who are vulnerable to the effects of COVID-19, including the elderly.

Being Vaccinated means having very good protection against infection from COVID-19 and lowering the risk of serious illness. Further, the risk of other people catching COVID-19 from a Vaccinated person is much lower than from an unvaccinated person.

As of August 13, 2021, 63.26% of the population of Ontario were Vaccinated¹; however, only 53.9% of the population within postal code area “N8H” (most of Leamington) were Vaccinated².

As a result of this low rate of Vaccination and taking into consideration the risks to the health and safety of the Staff and the public and the desire to ensure that there are no outbreaks within the NFFRC which would further negatively impact the public through

¹ <https://health-infobase.canada.ca/covid-19/vaccination-coverage/>

² <https://www.wechu.org/cv/vaccination-stats>

the disruption of Programs, it is necessary to take all necessary other steps to eliminate the risk of COVID-19.

Scope

This Policy applies to any member of the public who wishes to enter the NFFRC.

Definitions

“CAO” means the Chief Administrative Officer of the Municipality or his or her delegate.

“COVID-19” means the infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus.

“Entrant” means a person twelve (12) years of age and older who wishes to enter the NFFRC.

“Member” means a person who has purchased a membership to use the NFFRC.

“Municipality” means The Corporation of the Municipality of Leamington.

“NFFRC” means the Nature Fresh Farms Recreation Centre.

“Rapid Test” means an antigen test which detects protein fragments specific to the Coronavirus.

“User” means a person who has not purchased a membership to use the NFFRC, but has purchased a pass to use the NFFRC.

“Program” means any program or service offered at the NFFRC to a Member or User and includes, but is not limited to, aquatic programs, day camps, fitness classes, use of badminton, racquetball or pickleball courts, first aid and other courses, use of the walking track and use of weight room, gymnasium or pool.

“Staff” means an employee or a volunteer of the Municipality.

“Vaccinated” means to be fully treated with a vaccine approved in Canada or approved by the World Health Organization to produce immunity against COVID-19 and “Vaccination” shall have a corresponding meaning.

Policy

1. Every Member or User shall make an appointment to participate in a Program; or in the event that the Program is a class where there will be more than one participant, the Member or User shall register to attend each time the class is offered.
2. A Member or User who does not make an appointment or register to attend a Program shall be refused the opportunity to participate in the Program.

3. Prior to entering the NFFRC, every Entrant shall:
 - a) be Vaccinated at least two (2) weeks prior to the day of requested entrance to the NFFRC; or
 - b) obtain a negative Rapid Test a maximum of twelve (12) hours prior to the requested entrance to the NFFRC.
4. Staff shall request evidence of Vaccination or evidence of negative Rapid Test from each Entrant prior to an Entrant entering the NFFRC.
5. The form of evidence of Vaccination or negative Rapid Test to be provided by the Entrant shall be determined by the CAO in his sole discretion.

References and Related Policies

Health and Safety Standard H04-S-0091 - Vaccine or Rapid Test - COVID-19