



**COVID-19**

**Recreation & Leisure Services  
Recovery Plan**

**June 22, 2020**

## Objective

The Recreation and Leisure Department has identified a Recreation Recovery Chart to outline the re-introduction of Recreation and Leisure Services to the City of Fort St John. This resource has been produced to provide communication to the community of Fort St John regarding the safe re-introduction of services, facilities, parks and playgrounds, special events, and user rentals.

## Principles

The safe re-introduction of Recreation is dependant on the Health and Safety of workers and community members. This means general operation as it was once known may not be immediately attainable. The Province of BC has identified the following principles that will guide the City's decision making throughout our recovery process:

- Personal Hygiene
- Staff Illness Protocols
- Environmental Hygiene
- Safe Social Interactions
- Physical Modifications

## References

The Recreation Recovery Plan was produced based on information, recommendations, and considerations from the following organizations. The information from these groups has been tailored to meet the unique needs of the City of Fort St John's citizens, businesses, and non-profit organizations.

- Federal and Provincial Governments
- City of Fort St John Covid Response Plans
- WorkSafeBC
- Northern Health Authority
- BC Recreation and Parks Association
- Northern BC Recreation Association
- Recreational Facilities Association BC
- Municipal Insurance Association BC
- ViaSport BC
- National, provincial, and local sport organizations

## Covid-19 Recovery

The City of Fort St John has participated in the coordinate planning with the local Emergency Operations Centre to develop a [Covid Safety Plan](#). This document identifies how operations change based on advice from Provincial Health Officials and other regulatory bodies such as WorkSafeBC. The City has taken a phased approach for both its response and recovery in order to adequately reduce exposure risks.

## Recreation Recovery Chart

To expand on the City's Safety Plan, the Recreation Department has created the following chart outlining what can be expected at each phase of Covid Recovery. These phases are subject to interpretation within the current Federal and Provincial guidelines at the time of implementation. Phases may correspond with other organizations' restart plans, however the decision to move between phases is based on assessments of safety, risk, and capacity within the Recreation and Leisure Department.

	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
<b>Projected Dates</b>	March – July 6	July 6 – September 8	September 8 - TBD	TBD
<b>Corresponds with...</b>	BC Restart Phase 1 City of Fort St John Phase 1 BCRPA Level 1 ViaSport 'Strictest Controls'	BC Restart Phase 2 City of Fort St John Phase 2 BCRPA Level 2 ViaSport 'Transition Measures'	BC Restart Phase 3 City of Fort St John Phase 3 BCRPA Level 3 ViaSport 'Progressive Loosen'	BC Restart Phase 4 City of Fort St John Phase 4 BCRPA Level 4 ViaSport 'New Normal'
<b>Services</b>	Online programming Outdoor washrooms	Mobile Visitor Centre Outdoor Programming	Visitor Services, walking track, skating (seasonal), swimming, modified in-door programming	Resume all services for 'new normal' use
<b>Facilities</b>	All facilities closed	All in-door facilities closed	All in-door facilities open with restrictions	All facilities available for 'new normal' use
<b>Parks and Playgrounds</b>	Not recommended for use Spray park closed (seasonal)	Recommended at users own risk Spray Park open (seasonal)	Recommended at users own risk	Recommended for 'new normal' use
<b>Special Events</b>	Virtual special events	Select small group special events	Select small group special events	Large group special events following 'new normal' guidelines
<b>User Rentals</b>	No field or facility rentals	Field bookings with limited grounds maintenance	Field and select facility bookings	Resume all rentals for 'new normal' use

## Phase 1

### Services

- Social Media Campaign and Recreation 'Boredom Busters'
- Virtual Canada Day week events
- Select special event approvals with Covid safety measures

### Sites

Select sites are closed to the public and being utilized for workers performing maintenance and administrative work:

- Pomeroy Sports Centre
- North Peace Leisure Pool
- North Peace Arena

## Phase 2

### Services

- Modified outdoor recreation programming
- Covid-19 Public education and communications through a Park Ambassador program
- Visitor information services
- Field rentals with limited grounds maintenance

### Sites

#### June 22, 2020 (confirmed)

- Parks
- Playgrounds
- Spray Park

#### July 6, 2020 (confirmed)

- Mobile Visitor Centre
- Park Ambassador Program
- Field rentals

## Phase 3

### Services

- Opening of facilities
- Modified indoor recreation programming

## Sites

### September 8, 2020 (projected)

- Pomeroy Sport Centre
- Kids Arena Field House

### September 2020 (projected)

- North Peace Leisure Pool

### October 2020 (projected)

- North Peace Arena

## Phase 4

Regular operations TBD based on BC's announcement of BC Restart Phase 4.

## Covid-19 Safety Measures

### Worker Safety Measures

The City of Fort St John is committed to providing a safe and healthy work environment for its employees, contract workers, and public with the goals of preventing injuries, illnesses, property damage or damage to the environment. With respect to Covid-19, the City is committed to following the orders of the Provincial Health Officer and guidance provided by the BC Centre for Disease Control.

The City has developed a [Covid Safety Plan](#) which assesses the risk of exposure at our worksites, and implements measures to keep our employees, contract workers, and the public safe as we align with BC's Restart Plan.

### Public Safety Measures

The City of Fort St John is committed to public safety and is taking the following measures to ensure public safety throughout the progression of our phased recovery:

- Covid Risk Reviews will be conducted prior to implementing new services
- Opportunity for physical distancing will be created where practicable
- Engineered and administrative controls will be implemented where practicable
- A maximum capacity for in-door spaces will be calculated based on the recommended 5-meter radius per person
- Workers will participate in training for Covid-19 protocols, safety measures, and prevention strategies
- Enhanced cleaning and disinfecting will take place at in-door facilities
- Handwashing or sanitization amenities will be provided where practicable and/or required
- Signage and messaging will be provided at popular recreation sites across the City and on the City's website and social media pages
- Workers and public will be expected to self-assess before attending in-person recreation opportunities, and are required to stay home if experiencing symptoms of illness

## **User Safety Measures**

It is expected that all user groups, lease holders, and event organizers educate themselves on the risks of Covid-19 and the current PHO orders and recommendations communicated through the provincial government. A plan detailing how these regulations will be met must be submitted to the City at the time of application, booking, or prior to resuming operations on City property. These plans will not be reviewed or approved by the City; it is the responsibility of the organization to ensure that all requirements are followed and appropriate safety controls are in place to protect their participants, volunteers, and workers. The City maintains the right to deny events that are deemed to be unsafe, unsuitable, or that do not abide by the City guidelines, policies, or standards.