

April 30, 2021

## Swim Alberta Update – April 30 2021: Hot Spots and Changes to Step 1

Dear Members;

No doubt all those clubs that fall within the identified [hot spots by Alberta Health](#) and the Government of Alberta are likely feeling disheartened by yesterday's decision. I continue to hear of the great work our clubs have done to put the safety of our members first in following all Health Regulations, Swim Alberta requirements, facility requirements and those that clubs have also put in place. I appreciate this decision has had another big impact on our youth swimmers in those affected areas.

Swim Alberta continues to work with Alberta Health and Sport Physical Activity and Recreation (SPAR) Division within the Government of Alberta, including involvement on a stakeholder engagement committee to define a path forward for SPAR organizations. This work continues as we prepare for an eventual return to stage 2 and movement into stage 3 and 4, which already we have begun planning for. I am hopeful that with the public following all guidance and regulations of Alberta Health that we will return to training in the near future in these hot zones.

All clubs should be aware that there has been some changes to the [Sport Physical Activity and Recreation Guidance](#) document. These have been updated in the [Swim Alberta Return to Swimming Requirements](#) document that is now published on the Swim Alberta website, understanding that clubs in hot spots cannot train indoors, but outdoor activities are permitted. These changes include:

- Updated requirements for outdoor participation to include all ages (including 19 and over)
- Updated physical distancing requirements
- Updated mask requirements for Aquatic Instructors; and
- Updated outdoor spectator requirements.

If you have any questions on the updated document, please reach out directly to Kevin Dennis at [kevin@swimalberta.ca](mailto:kevin@swimalberta.ca).

Swim Alberta continues to work hard behind the scenes, advocating for swimming (and sport) to the Government of Alberta and Alberta Health. We have tirelessly done this since the start of the Pandemic and continue to do so. The We Are Ready campaign has been seen by all levels of government and I strongly believe will help influence decisions as we move into steps 3 and 4.

I, the staff and board of Swim Alberta want to see our clubs vibrant and athletes training, as much as you do. Also similar to you, we all agree this needs to be done with safety as the primary focus and in full alignment with Alberta Health and all municipal regulations.

As always, if you have any questions please reach out.

Stay safe and stay well,

Cheryl Humphrey  
Executive Director, Swim Alberta