# 2020

# CITY OF CRANBROOK AQUATIC CENTRE COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN



Western Financial Place
City of Cranbrook Community Service
Department 1777 2<sup>nd</sup> Street North
Cranbrook BC, V1C1G9
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CITY OF CRANBROOK AQUATIC CENTRE COVID-19 SAFETY PLAN	
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#### City of Cranbrook Aquatic Centre COVID- 19 Safety Plan

#### Acknowledgements

This Safety Plan is the result of input and insight from invaluable resources, aquatics professionals, front line workers and management staff from across the Kootenays. These people have contributed their time and expertise to help ensure a safe and successful return to operations for the Western Financial Place Aquatic Centre. They include:

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#### Risk Assessment

Aquatics Facilities, along with any place of employment and public access, are required to limit the number of individuals attending at one time. Restrictions will be in place and strictly enforced for admissions to facility, flow of traffic, usage of space, personal hygiene practices, number of participants, physical distance, personal protection, specific times for specific programs, signing in and out for contact tracing and reduced hours of operation due to a decrease in public and family swims.

Lifeguards will be stationed using a combination of On Deck Movement and Elevated Lifeguard Stations to optimize direct supervision and physical distance from other team members and patrons. Lifeguard Rescue Equipment will be individual wherever possible and enhanced disinfection and cleaning where appropriate. Staff breaks will be staggered to decrease risk of close contact.

All regulations, guidelines and recommendations will be strictly adhered to.

Appendix A: Risk Assessment and Mitigation (City of Cranbrook, WSBC, LSS, BCRPA, RHA)

#### **Progressive Re-Opening**

The City of Cranbrook can positively impact the community and the surrounding areas. Safely and slowly increasing community programming has many benefits including increasing the confidence in our entire organization while promoting health and safety education. Many healthcare professionals have sent clients to our facility for the therapeutic properties of water and the benefits of supported and supervised safe physical activities. Sport, Leisure, Education and Therapy can resume within the Aquatics Facility under the guidelines and recommendations outlined by provincial governing bodies. The Western Financial Place Aquatic Centre provides an important service to the entire community. Through online and in-person training Aquatic Professionals can ensure water safety skills are reaching all communities within the East Kootenay.

Water Safety Education and Rescue Training decrease the risk of water related injuries and fatalities. Lifesaving Society BC/Yukon and BCRPA have outlined clear and concise documents with a consistent phased approach to returning operations within the aquatics industry in British Columbia. Red Cross Canada is in the process of completing their official document for resuming water safety education. BCRPA, WorkSafeBC, Provincial Health Authorities and BCCDC have all been working together to outline how, as a province, to move forward in a way that promotes worker and public safety while opening different sectors of industry.

Each stage in the progressive reopening will provide the Aquatics Team and the public time to become educated in our updated operations. We are not returning to what was but to what is next. There is no need to rush into opening and operations. The goal is to maintain consistency

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throughout the Province. That will hinge on many factors and include oversight by many different Governing bodies and Health Authorities. Each stage will last approximately two to three weeks to ensure operations of the Aquatic Centre are safely progressed. Advancing to the next stage is contingent of achieving sustained safe operations of the Aquatic Centre. Stages will take into account the guidelines set out by the Lifesaving Society of BC & Yukon:

Stage 1: Lifeguard and Lifesaving training and updates for all current COVID-19 safe work practices, work site hygiene, First Aid, Lifesaving and Lifeguarding techniques.

Stage 2: Programming and operations will start to allow public to utilize the facility in a safe way through leadership training, private swim lessons with an emphasis on caregiver involvement, lane swims, aquatic fitness classes, therapy, sport and limited Family sessions.

Stage 3: Additional programming in the form of group lessons and having a Family swim time and Public Swim time. Opening of Swirl Pool (Hot Tub) and increasing equipment that can be used by patrons.

Stage 4: Occurs after the COVID Pandemic has been declared under control via effective Treatment and/or Vaccination by the Provincial Health Authority. (LSS)

Appendix B: Reopening Stages

#### Employee Health and Hygiene

#### **Employee Illness**

- 1. If an employee is ill or presents with any symptoms consistent with cold, influenza or COVID-19, even if symptoms are mild, they must remain at home, and contact their family physician/primary care provider or Health Link BC at 8-1-1
- 2. If while at work, an employee starts experiencing symptoms of respiratory illness consistent with COVID-19, even if symptoms are mild, ask the employee, to leave work immediately, to go straight home, and to contact a family physician/primary care provider or Health Link BC at 8-1-1 for further guidance.
- 3. Ensure that objects and surfaces touched by sick employees who have gone home are cleaned and disinfected before being used by others.
- 4. If an employee has a COVID-19 diagnosis, the local public health department will identify any co-workers who may have been exposed to the sick employee.
- The employer and employees should be reassured that if they haven't been contacted by public health then there is no issue or concern that was identified by public health. (RHA Tips)

#### Personal Hygiene

- 1. Avoid physical greetings such as handshakes, high fives and hugs.
- 2. Employees must wash their hands with soap and water at the start and end of their shift, before eating, after returning from a break, and when hands are visibly soiled.
- 3. Hand sanitizing using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer should also be practiced frequently throughout the day, especially after touching people or their belongings.
- 4. Employees must practice good hygiene throughout their shift including proper hand hygiene and cough/sneeze etiquette.
- 5. Employees must avoid touching their face without washing hands first and after. (RHA)
- There should be no sharing of equipment without cleaning and disinfecting between users.
- 7. Employees must wash their hands when arriving and leaving the aquatic facility, and before and after:
  - a. Eating
  - b. Breaks
  - c. Smoking
  - d. Blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing
  - e. Going to the toilet
  - f. Being in contact with animals or pets
  - g. Using shared equipment (e.g. water test kits)
  - h. Providing routine care for another person who needs assistance (LSS)

#### Make Space

- 1. Physical distancing of 2 meters is enforced between employees.
- 2. Break times will be staggered to avoid close contact in close spaces.
- Events and meetings that require close contact are prohibited; rather use telephone or online communication.
- 4. Consistent work teams or pods will be utilized whenever possible to avoid increasing the number of interactions.
- 5. Personal items and clothing brought in by staff must be kept to a minimum. When staff must bring in items they should be stored separately (in employee lockers) with adequate space between individuals' items.
- 6. Staff should change clothes before and after their shift.
  - a. Instructors are encouraged to use the Family change rooms to change into uniform before the start of their Swim Program shift.
  - b. Remove work clothes and/or bathing suit at the end of the shift.

- c. Used items should be placed in a bag until cleaned.
- d. Clean clothing using laundry soap and hot water.
- 7. Personal items need to be taken home at the end of the shift and their locker is cleaned.
- 8. Employee visitors are strongly discouraged. (RHA/LSS/WSBC)

#### **Environmental Modification**

- 1. Pool Desk and Lobby
  - a. Visual barriers will be set up to distinguish entrance and exit doors.
  - b. Markers will be placed at 2 meter distances.
  - c. Plexiglas will separate Pool Desk and Patrons while interacting during registration and payments.
  - d. Cashless transactions and online registrations are strongly encouraged.
  - e. Unnecessary furniture and items are removed.
  - f. Individual employee cubies will hold personal office supplies.
- 2. Changing Rooms
  - a. Locker access will be restricted and monitored.
  - b. Markers will be placed at 2 meter distances.
- 3. Pool Deck
  - a. All unnecessary equipment and furniture are removed to increase the availability of physical space around the pool deck.
  - b. Equipment for lanes, lessons and courses will be provided individually and cleaned and sanitized after every use.
  - c. Lifeguard chairs will be stationed in two designated positions for optimal supervision and physical distance.
  - d. Lifeguard positions will have markings 2 meters away for public relations. (LSS, WSBC, BCRPA)

#### Personal Protective Equipment

- 1. Patrons and the Public are <u>required</u> to wear non-medical masks in the facility while not directly participating in an aquatic program including but not limited to:
  - a. Movement throughout the facility
  - b. In changerooms
  - c. Entering and exiting the Western Financial Place Building
- 2. Other than masks, personal protective equipment (face shield, gloves & goggles) for employees conducting regular pool maintenance duties are not mandatory unless normally required for safety reasons (e.g. when handling pool chemicals).

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- 3. The use of non-medical masks may help prevent the risk of transmission from the wearer.
  - a. Reusable and Disposable non-medical masks are provided for Employees.
- 4. Employees are <u>required</u> to wear non-medical masks <u>at all time</u>s.
- 5. Employees, when wearing a non-medical mask, must be aware of the following:
  - a. Masks can become contaminated on the outside when touched by hands so employees should avoid touching or adjusting them often.
  - b. Masks that become wet, soiled, or damaged are less effective and must be replaced immediately.
  - c. Masks must be put on and taken off correctly, including not touching the front of the mask, and washing hands.
  - d. Cloth masks must be washed every day using the warmest water setting and stored in a clean dry place to prevent contamination.
  - e. Never share masks with others.
- 6. PPE recommendations vary and are dependant on the duties being performed in the workplace. Choose appropriate PPE for each task.
- 7. When using PPE follow all WHO, WSBC and COVID-19 Pool Safety Plan procedures.
- 8. Each Lifeguard will have their own personal first aid equipment and Fanny Pack.
  - a. Pocket Mask with HEPA filter
  - b. Gloves
  - c. Scissors
  - d. Goggles

Appendix C: WHO procedure for removing gloves

Appendix D: WHO procedure for removing PPE

#### **Facility Admissions and Access**

#### Admissions

- 1. At the entrance, signs are installed to inform patrons that:
  - a. Patrons must not enter if they suspect they have COVID-19 or if they have any of the known COVID-19 symptoms.

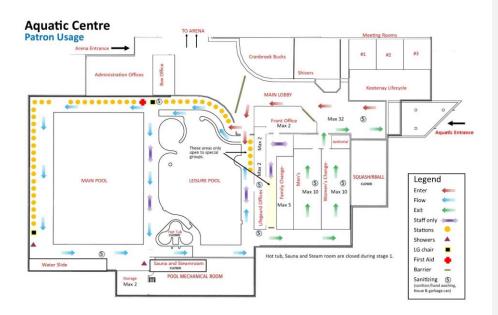
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- b. Patrons are required to wear a non-medical mask while in the Western Financial Place Recreation Centre and not directly in the water.
- c. Patrons must maintain physical distance of 2 meters from other patrons and staff.
- d. On arrival, patrons must wash their hands with soap and water or use hand sanitizer.
- e. Avoid aquatic facilities if patrons are at high-risk of COVID-19 contraction or
- f. Patrons will be screened for common symptoms of COVID-19. Entrance will only be permitted if symptom free.
- g. If patrons present any symptoms while in attendance at the aquatic center, they will be given a disposable mask and asked to vacate the facility.
- 2. Patrons are encouraged to shower at home prior to entering the facility and to arrive in their bathing suit to limit time spent in the change rooms and on the pool deck.
- 3. Patrons must self-apply wristbands if required by age/swimming ability.
- 4. A reservation system and swim time limitations are in place to avoid crowd gathering and wait times.
- 5. Admission fees and payments can be completed online and over the phone through the registration system. Cashless payments are encouraged.

#### **Patron Flow**

- Patron movement through the facility will be directed by staff and clearly marked by signage and directional markers.
- 2. Patrons will be asked to pre-register for any activity/program.
- 3. Arriving 10 min before activity will be permitted.
  - a. Visual markers will be spaced 2M apart to await entrance.
- 4. Entrance will be through the viewing area glass door leading from the lobby to the pool deck.
  - a. Once patrons enter, they will be directed to a designated spot to place their belongings.
    - 2-4 meters away from others' items.
    - Patrons must shower on the pool deck before entering the water.
- 5. Exit will be through change rooms
  - a. Patrons will be directed to their belongings and encouraged to change then leave the facility and shower at home.



#### **Occupancy Limits**

Public Spaces	Maximum Occupancy
Lobby	32
Men's Public Bathroom	2
Women's Public Bathroom	2
Family Changeroom	5 Households or 5 Individuals
Womens Changeroom	10
Mens Changeroom	10
Meeting Room 1	6

Staff Spaces	Maximum Occupancy*
Pool Desk	3
Administration Offices	<u>6</u>
Lifeguard Control Room	3
Lifeguard Change Rooms	2
First Aid Storage	1
Pool Deck Equipment Room	2
Mechanical Room	2

<sup>\*</sup>Staff spaces can have higher occupancy when a non-medical mask is worn by all within the space when 2M physical distancing cannot be maintained.

Pool Spaces	Maximum Occupancy
Main Pool (Lanes)	48
Main Pool	71
Wave Pool	42
Swirl Pool	3 Households or 7 Individuals

<sup>\*</sup>Capacities are based on BCRPA and LSS space considerations. It is well above the typical amount of patrons that attend the Cranbrook Aquatic Centre.

- 1. Change room patron Limit will be based on 5m2 floor space (LSS, BCRPA)
  - a. Family can accommodate 5 families/patrons with physical limitations.
  - b. Mens and Womens can accommodate 10 patrons.
- 2. Maximum Bather Load will be based on 7m2 of surface water space.
  - a. Main Pool (20x25)/7 = 71.4 so we can round down to 71
  - b. Wave Pool (15x20)/7 = 42.8 so we can round to 42
  - c. Hot Tub will remain closed until later in the opening process.
- 3. With reduced bather load in mind it is important to note that airing on the side of caution is important. A 110-patron swim is busy and would be challenging to enforce social distancing parameters.
- 4. **Consider** 50 as our maximum occupancy during Family and Public swims in Stage 2 and 3 of our re-opening due to Staffing and rule enforcement.

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#### **Aquatic Amenities**

#### Diving Board, Waterslide and Rope Swing

- 1. Floor markings installed to indicate physical distancing measures for line-ups.
- 2. Clean all touch points as usual at the end of each day.
- 3. Rope swings represent a higher transmission risk to Lifeguard facilitating use so will not be opened in Step 1, 2 and possibly 3 of opening.

#### Sauna/Steam Room

- 1. Saunas and steam rooms present a higher risk of COVID-19 transmission due to:
  - a. Design makes it more difficult to maintain appropriate physical distancing.
  - b. Challenging surfaces to keep clean and disinfected.
  - c. Potential for COVID-19 to be spread when patrons touch common surfaces.
- 2. The sauna and steam room will remain closed until further notice.

#### Hot Tub

- 1. Reduced bather load to encourage physical distancing.
- 2. Places will have markers for physical distancing.
- 3. Can accommodate up to 3 Households (with a maximum up to 12 people) or 7 Individuals.

#### **Programming**

#### General

- 1. Educate swimmers before they enter the facility on the rules of physical distancing, hygiene and respiratory etiquette using consistent media messaging and signage.
- 2. Do not allow entry to anyone with symptoms or who has been in contact with someone with symptoms.
- 3. Encourage swimmers to bring their own PFD and training equipment.
- 4. If possible, participants take a shower and change at home with access to the change room limited.

- 5. Swimming in one-way lanes, no overtaking, maintain a distance between swimmers and keep ends of lanes free.
- 6. Use the space that you are directed to on the deck reserved for you or your household members or programming group.
- Ask swimmers to wash hand with soap for 20 seconds before swimming or use hand sanitizer.
- 8. Encourage swimmers to cover a sneeze or cough and throw away tissues as soon as used then immediately wash hands.
- 9. Patrons are <u>required</u> to wear a face covering: cloth or disposable face mask when on the pool deck.
- 10. The use of face masks is prohibited while in the water with a risk of getting the neck or head wet.
- 11. Group supervisors, such as day camps, should organize activities to encourage physical distancing of participants rather than free swim.
- 12. Patrons in need of physical assistance due to limitations should receive help from a family member.
- 13. Patrons are encouraged to arrive no more than 10 minutes before their scheduled activity to check in.
- 14. After the activity patrons are required to collect their belongings and vacate the facility.

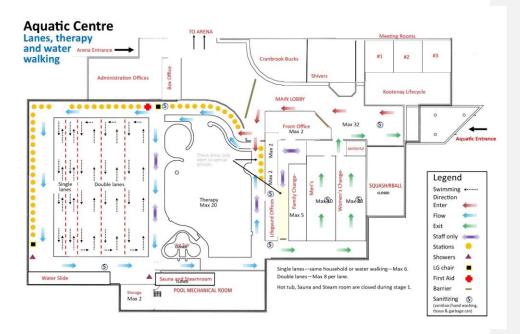
#### Equipment

- 1. Do not share training equipment, kickboard, pull buoy or personal flotation device (PFD).
- 2. Users are prohibited from spitting or blowing nose in the water.
- 3. Participants should not share water bottles, goggles, towels, or equipment.
  - a. The use of goggles is strongly encouraged to reduce mucus contamination.
- 4. Free swims such as public and family swim times will take place starting in the 3 stage of return to operations or in relation to the Provincial Health Orders.

#### Lane Swim

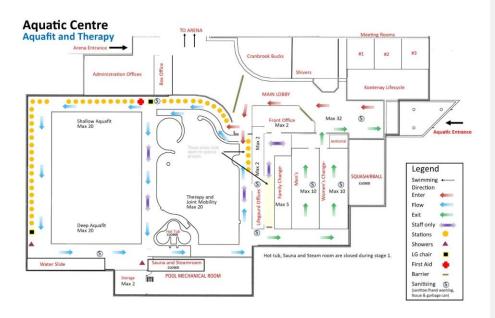
- 1. To maintain physical Distancing of 2M swimmers should swim in the middle of the one lane and return by the middle of the adjacent lane.
- 2. Swimmers from the same household can be in a shared single lane.
- 3. Equipment is not to be shared.
- 4. Equipment will be disinfected after each use.
- 5. Two single lanes and three double lanes will be utilized.

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#### Aquafit/Water Walking/Therapy

- 1. Participants must always maintain 2M of physical distance.
- 2. Equipment used will be left in the pool water for 5 minutes after use.
  - a. Both side will need to sit in the water.
  - b. Either submerge or flip over buoyant equipment.
  - c. Leave in designated storage space to dry overnight.
  - d. Patrons at risk of severe illness are encouraged to stay home. This includes:
    - Patrons over 65
    - People that live in a nursing or assisted living facility
    - People with underlying medical conditions



#### **Swimming Lessons**

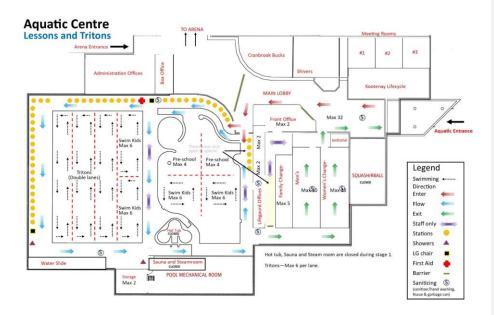
- 1. Swim Lessons will slowly restart in stages 2 and 3.
- 2. Private Lessons will be accommodated in stage 2.
- 3. Group Lessons will be accommodated in stage 3
- 4. Children under 7 and/or in need of physical assistance will always have a caregiver in the water within arm's reach at all times.
  - a. Caregivers will be responsible for handling their participant.
  - b. Instructors will aid Caregivers with verbal and visual cues.
  - c. If an instructor needs to enter the water to demonstrate a skill swimmers will be instructed to exit the pool to sit or stand on the edge until instructor is exiting the water.
- 5. Lessons will be taught by an Instructor from the pool deck unless an in-water demonstration is needed.
- 6. Each class/lesson will have a designated zone to place their belongings with physical distance being maintained.

- Participants will have registered through online or over the phone registration and be given specific attendance times and days in the same way programs were arranged prior to COVID considerations.
- 8. Each participant will use assigned equipment. There will be no sharing. After each session the equipment will be disinfected by the Lifeguard/Instructors

#### **Aquatic Sports**

- 1. Organized aquatic sports will be in accordance with provincial/territorial health authority recommendations.
- Younger athletes that need physical manipulation and close proximity to others should not resume training before provincial/territorial health authority approval has been granted
- 3. Masters athletes or athletes at high-risk for severe illness from COVID-19 are encouraged to stay home.
- 4. Organizations must present a plan in accordance with ViaSport Return to Sport Guidelines, and have approval from the City of Cranbrook Aquatic Center before booking pool time. The plan should establish guidelines for the spatial, temporal and physical organization of a swimming pool, making it possible to comply with the rules of physical distancing while presenting an overall vision of the development and movement of individuals.
- 5. All aquatic sports:
  - a. Organize local training only (athletes should not come from another region/province to practice their sport).
  - b. Parents should not attend training sessions (if possible, the athlete should go to the aquatic facility on their own or the parent should stay in their vehicle).
  - c. All Safe Sport guidelines must be adhered to.
  - d. Keep the same group of athletes for each training session where ever possible.
  - e. Maintain physical distancing of at least <u>3</u> metres between each athlete.
  - f. Do not hold dry land training by the pool.
  - g. Athletes should not leave equipment or sport bags at the facility.
  - h. All regulations and guidelines are subject to change in response to Provincial Health Authority recommendations and orders.
  - i. When changes occur to the Return to Sport Plan each sport organization will be responsible to provide an update the City of Cranbrook Aquatic Centre.

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#### Cleaning and Sanitation

The risk of exposure to cleaning staff is inherently low, however cleaning staff should wear disposable gloves and appropriate PPE based on WHMIS and SDS sheets for all cleaning tasks, including handling trash. PPE should be removed carefully to avoid contamination of the wearer and surrounding area. Work uniforms should be washed after each shift.

Surfaces frequently touched by hands are most likely to be contaminated. These include doorknobs, handrails, light switches, cabinet handles, faucet handles, tables, countertops, and electronics. These areas are high priority cleaning areas within the facility.

Cranbrook Aquatic Centre has updated a detailed cleaning and maintenance log which includes where, what, and how often cleaning is occurring. Log sheets are in fillable PDF and are signed off by employees each time cleaning occurs.

The cleaning schedule will be posted in public access space and online to inform patrons of the Aquatic Centers COVID-19 mitigation efforts.

#### **Cleaning Products**

- 1. Specialized disinfection products are not necessary, use regular disinfecting solutions found in your pool safety plan; chlorine-based products are recommended, avoid using quaternary ammonium as it can create chloramines. (RHA)
- 2. Current cleaners in our Pool Safety Plan have been approved by Interior Health.
- 3. Approved cleaners can be found on the list of Health Canada Approved Disinfectants for COVID-19
- 4. Follow manufacturer's instructions when using disinfectants.
- 5. All employees required to clean will receive the appropriate training before returning to operations with patrons in attendance.
- 6. The production of aerosols will be avoided, and cleaners will be applied using a bucket with a mop or scrub brush, and a damp cloth.
- 7. Cleaning cloths and products will be color coded:
  - a. Red Bathrooms, Washroom, Showers, Toilets, Basins and Bathroom Floors
  - b. Green Kitchen, Food Prep areas, Tables, Counters
  - c. Blue General Areas, Pool Hall, Railings, Safety guards, Lockers
  - d. Purple Glass, Plexiglas Screens
  - e. Yellow First Aid areas, Undesirable materials
- 8. Rescue Equipment (rescue tube, rescue can, rescue pole, ring buoys)
  - a. Clean and disinfect rescue equipment at the end of the day or during an exchange between lifeguards
  - b. After cleaning, leave the rescue equipment immersed in the water during disinfection
  - c. For clarity regarding first aid disinfection protocols, see COVID 19 Aquatic Facility Maintenance: Cleaning, decontamination, and safe water management of aquatic facilities, pg. 48. Guidelines for Reopening BC & Yukon Swimming Pools and Waterfronts.
- 9. Training Accessories and Recreational Toys and Games:
  - a. Clean and disinfect training accessories after use by a bather or daily
  - b. After cleaning, leave the rescue equipment immersed in the water during disinfection and store to dry overnight
- 10. Personal Flotation Devices (PFDs):

a. Leave PFD immersed in the water during disinfection and store to dry overnight Deck Equipment

#### Schedule

Surfaces	Area	Frequency
<ul><li>Control Panels</li><li>Computer/Keyboard/Mouse</li><li>Tablets/Phones/Radios</li></ul>	All areas	Before and after individual employee use
<ul><li>Tabletops/Counters</li><li>Eating Area/Watercooler</li><li>Fridge handle</li></ul>	Lifeguard Control Room	Before and after individual employee use
<ul><li>Doorknobs</li><li>Light switches</li><li>Hand Railings</li><li>Benches/Counters</li></ul>	<ul> <li>All areas within the Aquatic Centre</li> </ul>	After each program block
<ul> <li>Bathrooms/Change Areas</li> <li>Lockers</li> <li>Counters/Benches</li> <li>Stalls/Safety Barriers</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Men's/Women's/Family Change areas</li> </ul>	Twice a day during closed times
<ul> <li>First Aid Equipment</li> <li>Lifeguard Chairs</li> <li>Lift</li> <li>Training Equipment</li> </ul>	Focal Point and pool deck	After each individual use
<ul><li>Rescue Tubes</li><li>Staff Change Area</li><li>Staff Washroom</li></ul>	All areas within the Aquatic Centre	After each individual scheduled shift
Swim Equipment	All areas within the     Aquatic Centre	After each individual or family group use

#### Safe Water Management

The management of safe water is imperative during viral outbreaks like COVID-19. We know through the work of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that: "There is no evidence that COVID-19 can be spread to humans through the water. Proper operation, maintenance, and disinfection (with chlorine or bromine) of pools should kill COVID-19."

To ensure the disease is killed in swimming pool water, aquatic facility operators should ensure water testing takes place as required by regulation or more frequently if required by protocols

established by the facility. Owner/operators should ensure their swimming pool water testing meets or exceeds the requirement of the Regulation or Guidelines.

Free Available Chlorine (FAC) levels should be carefully maintained at levels recommended by regulation or provincial guidelines. Operators may choose to enhance disinfection levels by raising levels above minimum until the COVID-19 virus is no longer present in the community. The control of other variables in the swimming pool water will ensure disinfection is effective. Careful monitoring of pH, Total Alkalinity, Calcium Hardness and Cyanuric Acid levels will enhance water quality.

#### **Managing Information**

#### **Record Keeping**

Supervisors and Managers will keep clear, accurate and easy to find records of all information shared to the public and staff within the WFP Aquatic Centre.

- 1. The Cranbrook Aquatic Center will keep daily records of the people who worked together and retain these records. This will assist in contact tracing and keeping staff working within pods as consistently as possible.
- 2. A daily Workplace Inspection Checklist will be completed by the Supervisor and Lifeguards on shift. It will be saved in the Inspections Folder/Binder.
- All staff training will be recorded and signed by all involved and kept for future reference.
- 4. The Aquatic Centre will maintain up-to-date and consistent messaging on websites, in social media, emails, press releases, and during conversations with customers to ensure all details are aligned, timely and accurate.
- 5. Aquatics team members are strongly encouraged to provide regular feedback on any issues with COVID-19 prevention measures. Employees will be able to bring forward ideas, concerns and problem solving to the Supervisor and Manager in the Community Services Department. All feedback can be given anonymously, if preferred and will be taken seriously (WSBC COVID-Safety Plan).
- 6. Open and transparent communication between staff, public, and all other entities involved is critical to ensuring the safest possible aquatic environment.

#### Signage and Messaging

The goal for maintaining consistent signage and messaging is to help workers and the public stay informed, follow public health advice, keep records, and make sure the information communicated is clear, accurate and easy to find.

- 1. Signage will be posted at entrances to educate anyone entering the facility to NOT enter if they are feeling unwell.
- 2. Hand washing signs will be posted in washrooms and changing rooms.
- 3. Signage indicating the new reduced bather load(s) and capacities will be posted where applicable.
- 4. Additional Admission Standards will be posted on line and at the Aquatic Centre:
  - a. Do not use the pool if you are sick or feel unwell.
  - b. Wearing a non-medical mask is required while in all public areas.
  - c. Everyone needs to wash their hands with liquid soap and paper towel when entering the pool area. If liquid soap and paper towel are not available, use alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
  - d. Shower before and after using the pool.
  - e. Do not spit or blow your nose into the water.
  - f. Practice physical distancing by keeping 2 metres from one another.
- 5. Information will be provided using simple language and diagrams or pictures.
- 6. Posters will be in plastic sleeves or laminated to protect them from water damage in wet areas or outside. This will provide an easy to clean surface.
- 7. Important signage will be placed in conspicuous areas and away from other posted information so it is clearly visible.

#### **Aquatic Staff Training**

Lifeguards at the WFP Aquatic Centre will need high levels of training and fitness and skills assessments. Due to the high risk of physical contact enhanced PPE will be required while cleaning, lifeguarding, and performing rescues. Lifesaving Society will be supplying Trainers and Instructors with skills videos, on-line material, in-service models to ensure professional training within the entire aquatics industry. Lifeguard / Instructors will need 12 hours training minimum to return to operations. On-line and In-Person training with small groups will need to take place. Lifeguard / Instructors will work in teams, or Pods, whenever possible to decrease the amount of social contacts within the work force.

#### **COVID-19 Updates**

#### Rescue Ready Assessment

All returning Lifeguards will be required to complete the Rescue Ready Assessment to have scheduled Lifeguard/Instructor shifts. After returning from an extended absence from duty

Lifeguards are required to show successful performance of rescues. If unsuccessful Employees will be given the opportunity to practice skills until they are prepared to succeed.

- 1. Object recovery: starting in the water, swim 15m and surface dive to recover a 20lb object; surface and carry object 5m.
- 2. Demonstrate anaerobic fitness: starting in the water, swim 50m head-up.
- 3. Demonstrate effective management of a distressed or drowning victim (using a training manequin) in deep water.
- 4. Demonstrate effective management of a submerged, non-breathing victim (using a training manequin) and perform 10 cycles of CPR on a CPR manikin.
- 5. Demonstrate endurance and strength: starting in the water, swim to recover a submerged manikin located 25m away; carry the manikin 25m.
- Demonstrate effective management of a suspected spinal-injured victim: Enter and approach a face-down victim (using a training manikin), roll victim over, immobilize and carry 15m.
- \*No person-to-person contact is permitted
- \*All assessments signed off by employee and supervisor.

#### **Training Plan**

Team building and trust will be invaluable during this time of heightened risk and restrictions. Open lines of communication, transparency, advanced training, and increased education will be what builds confidence within our aquatics team. When our team is strong and confident that will carry over and influence public perception in a positive way. Of equal importance is gaining the trust and confidence of the City of Cranbrook due to the high standard of safety precautions for our patrons and staff. Communicating to the public our coordinated East Kootenay Restart and the phased opening plan of Aquatic Facilities will ensure a safe and sustainable start to our facility. All training will be documented and signed by all involved.

- 1. Online Training sessions will be:
  - a. Staff Safety (All staff)
  - b. Facility Admission & Access (All)
  - c. Updated Policy and Procedure to include COVID Considerations (All)
  - d. Aquatic Programming (All)
  - e. Disinfection (All)
  - f. Safety Education (Lifeguards)
  - g. Rescue-Ready Assessment (Lifeguards)
  - h. Safety Supervision Zones (Lifeguards)

- i. Lifeguard Personal Protective Equipment (Lifeguards)
- j. First Aid Procedures (Lifeguards)
- k. Staff Awards (Lifeguards)
- 2. In Person, small group settings:
  - a. Rescue Ready Assessment (Lifeguards)
  - b. PPE (All)
  - c. First Aid Procedures (Lifeguards)
  - d. Cleaning Procedures (All)
  - e. Review all new Policy and Procedures (All)

#### COVID-19 Resuscitation and First Aid

First Aid and Resuscitation Guidelines for COVID-19 Principles of Mitigating Risk of Infection When Administering First Aid and Resuscitation. The purpose of this section is to assist lifeguards in assessing risk at each step of the rescue process. These principles do not replace lifeguard skills acquired in Standard First Aid and National Lifeguard certification. They provide supplemental considerations for use throughout the process to assist in mitigating risk.

#### Guidelines

When the process of drowning begins, the outcomes are often fatal. Unlike other injuries and many diseases, survival from drowning is determined almost exclusively at the scene of the incident and depends on two variable factors: how quickly the person is removed from the water, and how quickly effective resuscitation is performed. (ILS, LSS)
Lifeguards now face a decision about how to balance their own safety while providing lifesaving care. Several factors must be considered:

- 1. Individuals with moderate or severe infections are unlikely to be participating in water-related activities. This can be mitigated through admissions standards being met by all who enter the Facility.
- 2. Proper personal protective equipment, hand hygiene and screening before participating in a program at the Aquatic can help decrease the risk to rescuers.
- Rescuers should always assess the risk of providing care. This includes an assessment of
  their own health status. Rescuers with other health problems are more likely to contract
  severe forms of the disease, and should consult with their physician/primary care
  worker to aid in decision making.

4. The frequency of emergency response requiring direct contact by aquatic staff with a member of the public is low, therefore the likelihood of transmission is minimal.

Any attempt at first aid or resuscitation, may result in self-contamination. (LSS) Due to the inherent risk of working with the public it is important to always evaluate the situation and act according to training in COVID considerations.

#### Implementation

#### MITIGATING RISK WHEN ADMINISTERING CPR FOR A DROWNING VICTIM

As drowning is a hypoxic event, delay in ventilation increases the likelihood that the victim's condition will deteriorate or they may not survive. Drowning is considered a "special circumstance" where ventilations should be prioritized to positively affect victim outcome. Rescuers should put on gloves for all first aid interventions or at the latest, immediately after removing a victim from the water.

Due to the nature of COVID-19 as an aerosol transmitted pathogen, first aid protocols have been categorized into low-risk and high-risk categories. High-risk protocols include all treatments that generate aerosols, while protocols that do not generate aerosols fall under the low-risk category. Rescuers don PPE in accordance with the level of risk they encounter. Identified high-risk (aerosol-generating) protocols are as follows:

- 1. Chest compressions
- 2. Ventilations
- 3. High-flow oxygen administration (greater than 5 lpm)
  - The use of high flow oxygen is considered high-risk as it generates aerosols and therefore should be reserved for victims in need of resuscitation, hypoxic events and children
- 4. Abdominal thrusts/back blows
- 5. The use of Suction is considered high-risk as it generates aerosols. Clearing an airway using suction is not recommended at this time. Instead, roll the victim to allow drainage and utilize a finger sweep (with proper PPE) if required.

To minimize exposure to the rescuer, the following are ventilation techniques in order of preference:

1. Bag-valve-mask (BVM) with a viral filter; two rescuers with one rescuer maintaining a tight seal during ventilations and compressions.

<sup>\*</sup>All rescuers within 2 meters of the victim MUST don appropriate PPE for high-risk protocols.

- 2. If no BVM is available, or insufficient training, rescuers may consider mouth-to-mask ventilations with a viral filter; two rescuers with one rescuer maintaining a tight seal during ventilations and compressions.
- 3. If only one rescuer is responding, a pocket mask with a viral filter and head strap may be tightly placed on the victim's face to create a seal.
- 4. If family members or close contacts are nearby and trained, it is reasonable to see if they would be willing to provide the ventilations as there is an increased likelihood that they are already infected themselves.

Rescuers should properly discard of all protective equipment after the rescue and wash their hands and perform personal decontamination before continuing with their duties.

#### MITIGATING RISK WHEN ADMINISTERING CPR FOR NON-DROWNING VICTIM

If there is no history of drowning, Lifeguards are to do compression-only CPR until the arrival of appropriate equipment (if not immediately available). During compression-only CPR, rescuers will place a protective covering over the victim's mouth and nose such as a towel or light clothing. When the equipment arrives, use the same precautions as for a drowning victim. Rescuers should properly discard of all protective equipment after the rescue and wash their hands and perform personal decontamination before continuing with their duties.

#### MITIGATING RISK DURING FIRST AID

When administering first aid, apply the following principles to help reduce the risk of disease transmission. These principles do not replace first aid assessment and treatment skills, but rather provide supplemental considerations for use throughout the rescue process.

- 1. Rescuers should put on gloves for all first aid interventions or at the latest, immediately after removing a victim from the water.
- 2. Rescuers to wear facemasks with eye protection when performing first aid if direct victim contact is required to sustain treatment.
- 3. Maintain physical distancing (2 m) whenever possible.
- 4. Rescuers should minimize the number of people in direct contact with the victim.
- 5. Victims should be wearing a mask during treatment if possible.

Rescuers should properly discard all protective equipment after the rescue and wash their hands before continuing with their duties.

#### SCENE ASSESSMENT

- 1. Maintain physical distancing (2m) whenever possible.
- 2. Collect information about the health status of the victim with regard to COVID-19.

- 3. It is important to pass this information on to EMS, allowing them to provide optimal treatment to the victim.
- 4. This information may be obtained from the victim, the victim's caregiver, bystanders, etc. Determining the victim's health status and COVID-19 infection can be accomplished by asking common questions.

#### PRIMARY ASSESSMENT

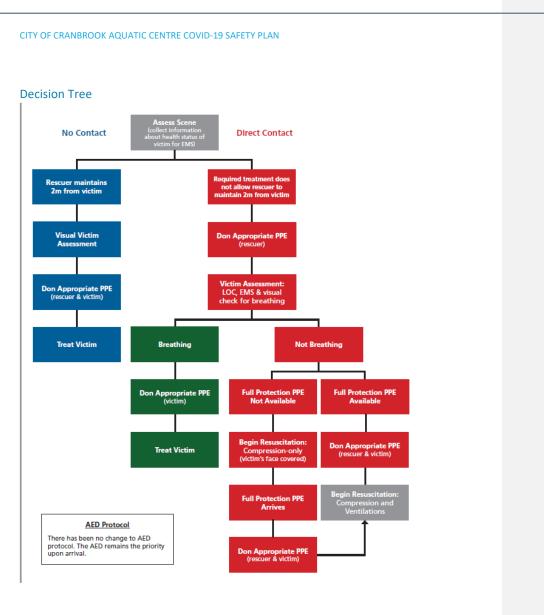
- 1. Maintain physical distancing (2m) whenever possible.
- 2. Determine if the victim's condition requires the lifeguard to make direct contact with the victim. (For clarity on 'no contact' as compared to 'direct contact' first aid treatment, see *Decision Tree for First Aid During a COVID-19 Era*, LSS pg. 45.)
- 3. Alternative options may include a victim's caregiver or family member administering first aid treatment with lifeguard direction (i.e. direct pressure to a wound, cleaning and bandaging, providing ventilation when resuscitation is required, etc.)
- 4. Don the PPE appropriate to the level of victim contact and first aid treatment required. Both rescuer & victim should don PPE. (For level of PPE required, *See Personal Protective Equipment*, LSS pg. 46.)
- 5. When victim history indicates positive or suspected COVID-19, inform EMS.
- Regardless of direct or indirect contact, proper hand hygiene is important following all first aid treatment.
- 7. Proper hand hygiene includes washing with soap and water or hand sanitizer (70% alcohol or higher) for 20 seconds.

#### SECONDARY ASSESSMENT

- 1. Maintain physical distancing (2m) whenever possible.
- Only take vital signs that can be observed from a distance (i.e., skin colour, visual breathing check) or are required for victim treatment decisions (i.e., skin temp of a possible heat stroke victim).

#### POST RESCUE PROCESS

- 1. Take care to remove and dispose of PPE in a safe manner.
- 2. Disinfect all surfaces that may have come in contact with the victim or rescuer during treatment (i.e. chair, clipboard, pen, etc.).
- 3. Where required, practice personal decontamination.
  - a. Remove PPE following WHO steps.
  - b. Launder clothing in hot water.
  - c. Proper hand hygiene and have a cleansing shower.
  - d. Wear fresh clothing.



COVID- 19 Decision Tree For First Aid and Resuscitation LSS page 45

#### PPE Chart

# LIFEGAURD PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT LSS pg 46

NO CONTACT	DIRECT CONTACT	
2m Physical distancing is maintained between the rescuer and victim	LOW-RISK Non-aerosol-generating treatment  2m Physical Distancing will compromise victim outcome	HIGH-RISK Aerosol-generating treatment  2m physical Distancing will compromise victim outcome
RESCUER: face shield/goggles, gloves, surgical mask VICTIM: surgical mask	RESCUER: face shield/goggles, gloves, surgical mask VICTIM: surgical mask	RESCUER: face shield/goggles, gloves, N95/surgical mask, gown VICTIM: (in order of preference) BVM with viral filter & continuous seal OR Pocket mask with viral filter & continuous seal OR Non-rebreather face mask with supplemental oxygen and open airway OR Pocket mask with viral filter and tight head strap (single- rescuer only) OR Surgical mask (compression- only CPR)

#### **RESOURCES**

Lifesaving Society BC & Yukon Branch. *Reopening BC & Yukon Pools and Waterfronts,* June 15, 2020.

Lifesaving Society BC & Yukon Branch. COVID-19 - Guidelines for Delivering Distance Education, June 26, 2020.

Lifesaving Society BC & Yukon Branch. COVID-19 Training and Resource Support, June 19, 2020.

Work Safe BC. COVID-19 Safety Plan Template, May 21, 2020.

Work Safe BC. OFAA protocols during COVID-19 pandemic, June 2020.

Regional Health Authorities, Ministry of Health and BC Centre for Disease Control. <u>Guidelines</u> for Swimming Pools, Version 1, June 3 2020.

British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association, and Recreation Facilities Association of BC. COVID-19 <u>Considerations for Restarting Swimming Pool Operations</u>

III. Swimming Pool Health and Safety Considerations June 18, 2020.

British Columbia Recreation and Parks Association. *The Recreation and Parks Sector <u>Guideline</u> for Restarting Operations,* June 15, 2020

Red Cross Canada. First Aid and Swimming & Water Safety Safe Classrom (in-person) Training COVID-19 Protocols, June 11, 2020.

Red Cross Canada. Swimming and Watersafety Program Training COVID-19 Protocols, June 2020.

World Health Organization. Steps to remove personal protective equipment (PPE): Web: n.d

World Health Organization. Glove Use Information Leaflet: Web: August 2020

International Drowning Researchers Alliance (IDRA), International Lifesaving Federation - Medical Committee (ILS-MC) and International Maritime Rescue Federation (IMRF), Resuscitation of the Drown Person in the Era of COVID-19 Disease: Recommendations, Identification of Research Needs and Global Call to Action, April 21, 2020.

International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR), International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation (ILCOR) COVID-19 infection risk to rescuers from patients in cardiac arrest. Web: March 30, 2020.

# Appendix A: Risk Assessment

Potentia	al Risk of Exposure	Protocols to be Implemented
Staff Health	<ul><li>Illness</li><li>Allergies</li><li>Pre-Existing conditions</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Checks will be done daily ensure employee wellness.</li> <li>New information will be shared immediately with Supervisor and Management</li> <li>Employees with heightened risk of serious illness will be assessed on an individual basis.</li> </ul>
Locations where employees gather	Staff lunch room     Meeting rooms     Guard Change area     Lifeguard Control room/first aid room     Janitorial closet	<ul> <li>Rotation of Breaks</li> <li>Limit participants</li> <li>Set Limits and guidelines to over ride those limits where necessary (first aid room).</li> <li>Physical Distancing Guidelines, communications &amp; signage</li> <li>Handwashing guidelines, facilities communications &amp; signage</li> <li>Occupancy Limits set and posted</li> </ul>
Job tasks and processes where workers are close to one another	<ul> <li>First Aid Situations</li> <li>Lifeguard Rescues</li> <li>Staff Training</li> <li>Instructing</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Tasks have been arranged to avoid close proximity.</li> <li>Physical Distancing Guidelines are in place.</li> <li>Follow all Red Cross and Lifesaving guidelines.</li> <li>Handwashing guidelines are posted</li> <li>PPE is used when physical distancing is not easily avoided.</li> <li>Online and Virtual training wherever possible.</li> <li>Small group sizes with consistent participants in pods.</li> </ul>
Conversations between staff members	<ul> <li>Instructing</li> <li>Communicating during emergency</li> <li>Communicating tasks and duties</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Sound deadening devices are being installed.</li> <li>Music and other ambient noise will be limited.</li> <li>Hand signal use will be consistent and clear.</li> <li>Whistles and two way radios will be utilized.</li> <li>Non-verbal communication will be worked on during training.</li> </ul>
Job tasks and processes where workers are in close proximity to members of the public	<ul> <li>Swim Instructing</li> <li>Public Education</li> <li>Fitness Instructing</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reduced facility capacities.</li> <li>Communications posted requesting sick individuals to not attend sites.</li> <li>Registration required for all attendance.</li> <li>All areas visually spaced with physical distancing markers.</li> </ul>

		<ul> <li>Washing hands when they arrive and before commencing activities.</li> <li>Staff PPE when required.</li> </ul>
Interaction with observers and caregivers.	<ul> <li>Restrict access.</li> <li>Keep distance.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Public Education and Signage will be available on site as well as through digital media that is consistent and clear.</li> <li>Users will have access to the posted COVID-19 Safety Plan and will be required to adhere to all facility and admissions policies.</li> <li>Communication will predominantly be done over the phone, through email or other media formats.</li> </ul>
Surfaces that people touch often	<ul> <li>Cabinets</li> <li>Computers</li> <li>Radios</li> <li>Handles/Knobs</li> <li>Appliances</li> <li>Railings</li> <li>Light Switches</li> <li>Counters</li> <li>Stalls</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Increased cleaning.</li> <li>Spray and paper towels/damp clothes available.</li> <li>Occupancy limits posted.</li> <li>Decreased contact with shared objects and spaces.</li> </ul>
Shares toys and equipment for use.	<ul><li>Lessons</li><li>Sport</li><li>Lanes</li><li>Therapy/Fitness</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Equipment will be individual or household members use only to reduce shared contact.</li> <li>All equipment will be cleaned and sanitized after each use.</li> </ul>
Shared resources.	<ul> <li>Remove hard copy sharing where possible.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Use Soft copies of COVID-19 Safety Plan.</li> <li>Daily Operation logs will be in fillable PDF with hand hygiene and sanitation before and after use.</li> <li>The use of Non-Medical masks when in common areas will be required.</li> <li>Worksafe, JOHS, and updated policy information will be available online, on the City of Cranbrook Network or by email.</li> </ul>
Shared Lifesaving Equipment	<ul><li>Oxygen tanks</li><li>AED</li><li>First Aid Kits</li><li>Rescue Aids</li><li>Spine boards</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Disinfect any gear used including spaces and equipment as simple as chairs.</li> <li>Allow for longer care time.</li> <li>Dispose of all single use items.</li> <li>PPE is Individual use only and will not be shared.</li> </ul>

# Appendix B: Reopening Stages

STAGES	PRECAUTIONS	ALLOWABLE ACTIVITIES*
Stage 1	The following activities and facilities can resume with:  • Controlled access and strict supervision.  • Reduced bather loads and ensure physical distancing and enhanced disinfection measures.  • High risk participants are strongly discouraged to attend.	Staff and Lifeguard training in all COVID updates     Emergency use of the facility for the City of Cranbrook     Equipment used will be supplies for staff training in first aid and water related rescues, cleaning and decontamination and PPE usage
Stage 2	The following activities and facilities can resume with:  • Controlled access and strict supervision.  • Reduced bather loads and high distancing and disinfection measures.  • Higher instructor/coach ratio.  • High risk participants are strongly discouraged to attend.	Private swimming lessons or training sessions that do not need physical manipulation by the instructor or coach Supervised Lane, Therapy and walking sessions with reduced bather loads Aquatic sports excluding groups that need physical manipulation by the coach Aquatic fitness classes with instructors being out of the water (except for demonstrations) Leadership Training Family swim time
Stage 3	The following activities and facilities can resume with:  •Reduced bather loads and high distancing and disinfection measures.  • Higher instructor/coach ratio.  • High risk participants are strongly discouraged to attend.	Recreational swimming     Group swimming lessons resume with Instructor out of the water.     Increased Public and Family swim sessions     Hot Tub open
Stage 4	Pandemic is over, COVID-19 is under control due to an appropriate treatment or an effective vaccine.	All activities can resume!

\*Note that the suggested stages of reopening of the Western Financial Place Aquatic Centre do not necessarily correlate with provincial/territorial health authority plan phases for reopening and are not meant in any way to supersede them.

# Appendix C: WHO procedure for removing gloves

GLOVE USE INFORMATION LEAFLET

# Technique for donning and removing non-sterile examination gloves

When the hand hygiene indication occurs before a contact requiring glove use, perform hand hygiene by rubbing with an alcohol-based handrub or by washing with soap and water.

#### I. HOW TO DON GLOVES:







Take out a glove from its original box

Touch only a restricted surface of the 3. Don the first glove glove corresponding to the wrist (at the top edge of the culf)







To avoid touching the skin of the forearm with the gloved hand, turn the external surface of the glove to be donned on the folded fingers of the gloved hand, thus permitting to glove the second hand

#### II. HOW TO REMOVE GLOVES:







Pinch one glove at the wrist level to remove it, without fouching the skin of the forearm, and peel away from the hand, thus allowing the glove to turn inside out.

Hold the removed glove in the gloved hand and slide the fingers of the unglo-ved hand inside between the glove and the wrist. Remove the second glove by rolling it down the hand and fold into the first glove

4. Then, perform hand hygiene by rubbing with an alcohol-based handrub or by washing with soap and water

## Appendix D: WHO procedure for removing PPE

 Remove waterproof apron and dispose of safely. If the apron is to be reused, place it in a container with disinfectant.



2 If wearing overshoes, remove them with your gloves still on (If wearing rubber boots, see step 4).



3 Remove gown and gloves and roll inside-out and dispose of safely.



4 If wearing rubber boots, remove them (ideally using the boot remover) without touching them with your hands. Place them in a container with disinfectant.



5 Perform hand hygiene.



6 If wearing a head cover, remove it now (from behind the head).



- 7 Remove face protection:
- 7a Remove face shield or gogles (from behind the head). Place eye protection in a separate container for reprocessing.



7b Remove mask from behind the head. When removing mask, untie the bottom string first and the top string next.



8 Perform hand hygiene.



Source: Modified from Clinical Management of Patients with Viral Haemorrhagic Fever: A pocket Guide for the Front-line Health Worker.



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