



**AGENDA**  
**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TOWN OF BARRHEAD COUNCIL TO BE**  
**HELD WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2022 AT 12:00 P.M. IN THE**  
**TOWN OF BARRHEAD COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

*Barrhead....a quality community....giving a quality lifestyle*

Present

Absent

Others Present

1. Endorsement of the Agreement to a Special Council Meeting
2. Call to Order
3. Acceptance of Agenda
4. New Business
  - a) Compliance Report Issued by Alberta Health Services on January 12, 2022
5. Adjournment



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# **BARRHEAD POOL SHIFTS TO RESTRICTIONS EXEMPTION PROGRAM (REP)**

## **PATRON BEHAVIOUR SPARKS PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION**

**Jan. 17, 2022, Barrhead, AB** – In a special meeting today, Council decided to move the Barrhead Regional Aquatics Centre to operate under the Restrictions Exemption Program (REP) effective February 1, 2022. The move to REP is in response to an Inspection Report issued by the local Health Inspector noting patrons disobeying Provincial Health Orders while utilizing the facilities. It is further required due to continued verbal and physical attacks experienced by our staff from patrons disinterested in masking and social distancing when requested to do so by staff.

“It’s the public who have chosen not to comply,” said Dave McKenzie, Mayor. “We have tried to keep the facility open to all members of the community and some of those members do not want to play nice. I’m disappointed it has come to this.”

The Public Health Inspection Report issued January 12, 2022, reported that the pool was not in compliance with the Records of Decision issued by the CMOH due to adults from differing households noted within three (3) metres of one another. The inspection details two (2) solutions to rectify the issue:

- Develop and enforce a system to identify a household or cohorts and ensure a three (3) metre separation is maintained, or
- Implement REP where the three (3) metre distancing is not required.

“We have two options, close our pool, or implement the REP program.” Added Rod Klumph, Councillor. “We have no other option but to go with REP.”

In September 2021, the Province mandated that businesses choose between two options for continued operation – operate at 1/3 capacity with social distancing and masking or put in place a REP program where patrons must show proof of vaccination, a negative test, or medical exemption. At that time, Town of Barrhead Council chose to operate the Aquatics Centre and other recreational facilities at 1/3 capacity to ensure that all users had equitable access to recreational activities in the Barrhead region. This decision also came with the belief that it would result in minimal abuse to our staff. However, over the last few months Town administration has received reports of ongoing verbal and physical abuse when staff ask patrons to mask and socially distance as required by provincial health orders. These requests have been met with aggression and anger. This behaviour further supports the decision to move to the REP program as one of the two provided solutions.

“It eats me alive that our young staff are being harassed for doing their jobs,” stated Ty Assaff, Councillor. “When you start attacking staff because of a mask, unfortunately, this council will have to come up with harsh decisions.”

Moving forward, patrons (ages 12+) visiting the Aquatics Centre must provide one of the following:

- Valid provincially issued proof (QR Code) of full vaccination status<sup>1,2</sup>,
- Proof of a privately paid negative rapid test result taken within 72 hours of service<sup>3</sup>, or
- Documentation of a medical exemption.

Personal identification that matches the vaccine record is also required for all adults aged 18 and over. For more information regarding the rules surrounding proof of vaccination, privately paid rapid tests, and medical exemption documentation requirements, visit <https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-public-health-actions.aspx>

To participate in the REP program, the Town of Barrhead is required to implement all public health restrictions outlined in [CMOH Order 55-2021](#).

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<sup>1</sup> Vaccination must be complete at least 14 days from second dose of a 2-dose vaccine or a single dose of Janssen.

<sup>2</sup> Other accepted forms of proof include other provincial vaccine records with QR codes, First Nation vaccine records, Canadian Armed Forces vaccine records with QR codes, U.S. Military proof of vaccination and ID card, Out-of-country vaccine records.

<sup>3</sup> Patrons must provide a written or printed copy of a negative Health Canada approved, or lab accredited, rapid antigen, rapid PCR, or lab-based PCR test. A self-test completed offsite and/or self-produced documentation of a negative result is not sufficient evidence to support entry into a facility/activity participating in REP.

Inspection Date	Inspection SubType	Inspection ID
2022-01-12	Complaint	0000209976

## INSPECTION REPORT

<b>Name of Establishment</b> Main Unit: Barrhead Regional Aquatic Centre Subunit: Barrhead Regional Aquatic Centre - Leisure Pools, Wading Pool - Indoor Subunit ID: 0000117716 Access Number: 9011268		<b>Owner / Agents Name</b> Town of Barrhead Received By: Shallon and Adrianna Delivery Method: Email
<b>Site Address</b> 5609 47 Street Barrhead AB T7N 1A1 Canada	<b>Rural Address</b>	<b>Mailing Address</b> PO Box 4189 Barrhead AB T7N 1A2 Canada

### Opening Comments

Received complaint of the pool not following CMOH orders

### Compliance Record

#### 1 Compliance - Records of Decision - Critical

**1.1 20. Is the pool in compliance with the Records of Decision issued by the Chief Medical Officer of Health during the COVID-19 pandemic?**

**First Cited: 2022-01-12**

**Compliance Result: NO - Not In Compliance**

Description: Adults from different house holds were noted within 3 meters of each other.

As per CMOH order 55 Sect 4.12 "An operator of a business or entity providing a place for indoor solo or 1:1 physical activity with a coach, instructor or trainer must ensure that an adult who is participating in indoor solo or 1:1 physical activity maintains three metres distance from any other person, including the coach, instructor or trainer, who is not a member of their cohort, referred to inspections 2.1(e)(i) or 2.1(e)(ii) of this Order.

The operator shall develop and enforce a system to identify a household or cohorts as referred to section 2.1(e)(i) or 2.1(e)(ii) of CMOH order 55-2021 and ensure a 3 meter separation is maintained. Alternatively, if a Restriction Exemption Program is implemented, the 3 meter distance is not required under the Restriction Exemption Program.

**Target Completion Date: 2022-01-14**

PHYSICAL DISTANCING, CAPACITY

Persons at the facility are not able to, or are not consistently maintaining appropriate separation distances in order to mitigate disease transmission risk. AR 243/2003 s 2(1)

### Closing Comments

Feel free to contact me to discuss this issue further.

**Inspection Actions Taken:**

- Follow-up Required

Should you have any questions regarding this report, you can get in touch with me using the contact information below.

Jeff Hammer

Public Health Inspector

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