



## Ponoka Aquaplex Offering Extended Hours and Expanded Schedules for Swim Lessons and Private Facility Rentals

(April 28, 2021 – Ponoka, Alberta) – The Ponoka Aquaplex is extending its hours and offering an expanded schedule for public and private swimming lessons and private facility bookings to accommodate growing demand. Starting May 1, the facility will be open from 10:30 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday to Friday. It will also be open on Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and will offer Saturday swim lessons for all Red Cross levels (Starfish to Swim Kids 10).

### Registration for May Swim Lessons Now Open

Registration is now open for swimming lessons that begin in May. Saturday swim lessons will begin May 8 until June 26 from 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. for all levels from Starfish to Swim Kids 10. Monday and Wednesday lessons begin on May 26 until June 23 for Sea Otter up to Swim Kids 6.

Only three or four children will be permitted in each swimming lesson due to provincial COVID-19 restrictions. A caregiver, aged 16 or older, is required to accompany children into the water for all pre-school lessons and Swim Kids 1-4.

### Register and Pay Online

All lessons and rentals must be booked in advance. To register and pay for swim lessons or to book and pay for private lessons or facility rentals, please visit the Town website at [www.ponoka.ca](http://www.ponoka.ca) and click 'Aquaplex' under 'Popular Pages' or click the following link: <https://www.ponoka.ca/visiting/recreation/aquaplex>. If you need assistance with bookings or making an online payment, please phone 403-783-0131.

### Private Lessons and Facility Bookings

Private facility rentals as well as one-hour private and semi-private lessons are also available in May. Private facility rentals continue to be reduced in price from \$110 per hour to \$46 to encourage more families to use the Aquaplex. Only guests living in the same household are permitted to share a private booking.

The hot tub and wading pool will only be open for private household rentals at this time. The rope and diving board will remain unavailable. To view the Aquaplex pool and swim lesson schedules and rates, please visit <https://www.ponoka.ca/visiting/recreation/aquaplex>.

### Additional COVID-19 Measures

To help protect the health and safety of visitors and Aquaplex staff, the following additional COVID-19 safety measures are in place to help prevent the spread of the virus:

- Swimmers are asked to arrive no more than five minutes before their scheduled times and must wear a mask at all times in the facility (unless they are in the water), including on the pool deck and in the change rooms;
- Facility users are required to use available hand sanitizer upon entering the building and follow physical distancing requirements;
- Aquaplex users must sign in at reception and fill out a form with contact information for notification purposes should an outbreak occur;



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- Guests are required to come dressed for swimming as change room and locker access will not be available prior to using the pools;
- Swimmers are required to have a soapy shower on the pool deck before entering the pools;
- Occupancy limits are in place for the pools and deck, along with one-way traffic flow measures for the lobby and pool deck;
- No spectators are permitted during swim lessons. Spectators are only permitted during private facility rentals if they are from the same household as those in the pool;
- There is time-limited access to change rooms upon leaving the pools and blow dryers are not permitted;
- Visitors at Town facilities are urged to stay home if they have flu-like symptoms such as fever, cough, runny nose, sore throat or shortness of breath; if they have travelled outside of Canada in the last 14 days; or if they have been in close contact with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19.

***For the most up-to-date information on the reopening of Town facilities, please visit the Town website at [www.ponoka.ca](http://www.ponoka.ca). If you have questions, please phone the Town Office at 403-783-4431 or the Aquaplex at 403-783-0131.***

***In accordance with provincial health restrictions, the Town Office remains closed to the public but is open for business by phone at 403-783-4431, by email at [town@ponoka.ca](mailto:town@ponoka.ca), or online at [www.ponoka.ca](http://www.ponoka.ca).***

***For more information on how you can help protect yourself and others against the spread of COVID-19, including how and when to book vaccinations, please visit [www.alberta.ca/COVID19](http://www.alberta.ca/COVID19).***

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