

## **THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF WARFIELD**

POLICY TITLE: Inclement Weather & Pool Safety

POLICY #0400

### **POLICY STATEMENT:**

It is the policy of Council to ensure the safety of Warfield Centennial Pool users and pool staff during inclement weather.

### **POLICY BACKGROUND:**

Lightning is more frequent during the summer months, June to August, occurring every 1 – 2 seconds somewhere in Canada, and is the summer weather phenomenon that kills the most people. Adhering to safety rules is important. First and foremost is the need to evacuate the pool. Periodically during the swimming pool season, inclement weather conditions arise that make pool operations impractical.

### **POLICY GOAL:**

It is the goal of this policy to establish guidelines for the evacuation and closure of the Warfield Centennial Pool during inclement weather.

### **POLICY OBJECTIVES:**

1. When lightning or thunder occurs the pool must be evacuated and swimmers moved inside to a safe dry area not near electrical conductors, electrical equipment, metal objects (lifeguard stands, ladders, diving boards), including showers; and that pool guards / staff should secure the entrance to the pool deck.
2. That the swimming pool be cleared at the first sound of thunder or first sight of lightning and 30 minutes should lapse after the lightning and thunder stop before swimmers are permitted to get back into the water.
3. Should the threat of thunder or lightning continue for one hour, after the pool is cleared at the first sound of thunder or the first sight of lightning, staff may close the pool for the remainder of the session. If the pool is closed due to severe weather conditions, one staff member should remain at the pool to the end of the session to notify any possible users of the situation and to inform them of the pool swim schedule.
4. Should inclement weather conditions (cold, wind, rain) be such that there are no pool users present and that no new users have arrived at the pool for a minimum of 2 hours, staffing levels must be reduced to minimal requirement levels to accommodate any users that do arrive. Staff members should remain at the pool to the end of the session to respond to any questions from the public.
5. Appropriate signage indicating that the pool is closed shall also be displayed at the entrance gate and Sugar Shack.

Initially approved at meeting #33-09 of June 15, 2009

Scheduled to be reviewed on June 2, 2010