



**Subject: 2021 Beach Operations Update**

**To: Council**

**From: Corporate Services Department**

Report Number: 2021-132

Meeting Date: April 26, 2021

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**Recommendation:**

That Corporate Services Department Report 2021-132, Subject: 2021 Beach Operations Update, be received for information.

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**Purpose:**

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with updates on Beach Operations for the 2021 season including information on how Port Colborne residents can register for their free seasonal PORTicipate Pass.

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**Background:**

At the March 8, 2021 Council meeting, Council endorsed Strategic Operational Plans for both Centennial–Cedar Bay Beach and Nickel Beach locations. Staff identified that an information report would be presented to Council in April that provides more information on the seasonal resident passes and the status of operations. In addition, staff identified that adjustments would be made to the Strategic Operational Plans for both beaches if required by the Province.

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## **Discussion:**

### **Residents PORTicipate Pass and Non-Resident Daily Pass Sales**

The PORTicipate Pass attached as Appendix A, will be available for residents of Port Colborne to register beginning Monday, May 3, 2021. Several methods of registration will be available to residents:

- By phone (Vale Health & Wellness Centre or City Hall)
- Online through the City's website
- On site at Nickel Beach during open hours

Once registered, staff will be able to mail passes to residents or, if preferred, passes will be held for pickup on site at the Vale Health & Wellness Centre, City Hall (by appointment only), once the Provincial Stay-At-Home order has been lifted. In addition to providing residents with free parking at Nickel Beach and Centennial–Cedar Bay Beach, staff are investigating other uses for the PORTicipate Pass, such as free access to Museum exhibits and grounds.

Advanced online purchases of daily passes for non-Port Colborne residents will be delayed until the Stay-At-Home order has been lifted and opening dates for beaches are confirmed.

### **Status of Operations**

The current Stay-At-Home order in place from the Province is set to expire Thursday, May 20, 2021 – one day prior to the targeted opening date for beaches this season. Additionally, the May 3, 2021 start date for seasonal staff may be delayed. Both beach locations will remain closed at this time for passive use and accessible for Port Colborne residents only. The Strategic Operational Plans for beaches presented to Council on March 8, 2021 account for safe opening in the grey “lockdown” level of Ontario’s Reopening Framework. As such, staff intend on opening beaches using the Strategic Operational Plans as presented to Council once the Provincial Stay-At-Home order has been lifted. Staff will continue to monitor and evaluate the evolving COVID-19 pandemic and beaches will only open under Provincial Guidelines, and recommendations from the City’s ECG (Emergency Control Group).

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## **Conclusion:**

That Corporate Services Department Report 2021-132, Subject: 2021 Beach Operations Update, be received.

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**Appendices:**

- a. Sample PORTicipate Pass 2021

Respectfully submitted,

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**Report Approval:**

All reports reviewed and approved by the Department Director and also the City Treasurer when relevant. Final approval is by the Chief Administrative Officer.