

## NEWS RELEASE

Distributed September 4, 2020

### **Parks, Recreation and Culture restarting drop-in sessions**

*Pre-registration required*

#### **Summary**

A few swimming, skating, drop-in sports, weight room workouts and pottery sessions are starting up again with City of Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture this month. All sessions must be pre-registered and pre-paid up to 72 hours in advance. This new system in place will limit participants to comply with the Provincial Mass Gathering Order and give adequate time between sessions for staff to clean and sanitize the facility.

There are three ways to pre-register:

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Online: visit [www.nanaimo.ca/goto/PRC-Registration](http://www.nanaimo.ca/goto/PRC-Registration) and choose the appropriate drop-in activity. Clients will need to create an account, and payment is done through Visa or Mastercard. This is the preferred method as it is the most efficient.

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Telephone: call 250-756-5200 and book using a Visa or Mastercard.

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In Person: stop in at Oliver Woods Community Centre, Bowen Park Complex or Nanaimo Aquatic Centre to book with a front desk clerk using cash, Visa or Mastercard.

Schedules (in PDF format) for pre-registered drop-in sessions at Nanaimo Aquatic Centre, Nanaimo Ice Centre, Oliver Woods Community Centre and the Bowen Park Pottery Studio are available online at [recreation.nanaimo.ca](http://recreation.nanaimo.ca) (click on Drop-in Schedules). If a session is full, it will not show as available to book when looking or trying to book online.

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Swimming sessions at Nanaimo Aquatic Centre consists of 50 metre leisure and lengths, family and aquafit.

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Skating sessions happen at Nanaimo Ice Centre and Cliff McNabb Arena and consist of Everyone Welcome, Parent & Tot, Adult Leisure, Adult Scrub, Senior Scrub, Senior Scrub Plus and Stick 'n' Puck.

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Oliver Woods Community Centre will offer gymnasium sessions for badminton and pickleball.

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Bowen Park's Pottery Studio will also be open.

In person registration is available at the following facilities once they open to the public during the following times:

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Continued... Parks, Recreation and Culture restarting drop-in sessions

Oliver Woods Community Centre (opens Sep 9): Monday to Friday, 8:30 am-4:30 pm (closed 12-1 pm) and Saturday and Sunday, 9:30 am-2:30 pm.

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Bowen Park Complex (opens Sep 10): Monday to Friday, 8:30 am-4:30 pm (closed 12-1 pm).

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Nanaimo Aquatic Centre (opens Sep 10): Monday to Friday, 6:30 am-7 pm (closed 2:30-3:30 pm) and Saturday and Sunday, 8 am-8 pm (closed 12-12:30 pm).

Schedules are subject to change. For more information on Nanaimo Parks, Recreation and Culture programs, visit [www.nanaimo.ca/recreation-parks](http://www.nanaimo.ca/recreation-parks).

*Strategic Link:* Providing recreation opportunities for members of the community makes Nanaimo a more livable City.

## Key Points

- Sessions are available for pre-registration up to 72 hours in advance through the website ([recreation.nanaimo.ca](http://recreation.nanaimo.ca)), telephone (250-756-5200) or in person at Bowen Complex, Nanaimo Aquatic Centre or Oliver Woods Community Centre once these facilities open. Pre-registration is required.
- Schedules (in PDF format) can be found online at [recreation.nanaimo.ca](http://recreation.nanaimo.ca) and by clicking on "Drop-In Schedules".

## Quotes

"Many of Nanaimo's citizens have been awaiting the return of public sessions. This new format that requires pre-registration will ensure we are doing everything we can to offer these recreation opportunities again while keeping the risk of contracting COVID-19 low. Schedules and the sessions offered are different than before, and schedules are subject to change as the City continues to monitor and adapt to the every-changing circumstances arising from the pandemic."

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