

April 3, 2020- 3:00pm Local Time

During this time of uncertainty, Swim Nova Scotia continues to work together with Swimming Canada, the other Provincial Swimming Offices, and all levels of Government to ensure decisions that impact our swimming community are addressed uniformly and timely.

There is no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic affects all of us, however, it is essential that we follow the direction of our Federal and Provincial Governments during the State of the Emergency to ensure we take the necessary steps to keep our communities safe and healthy. New announcements are being made daily and we will continue to endeavor to update everyone as quickly as we can.

April 6- May 1st, 2020, Swim Nova Scotia registered Year-Round, Masters and Summer Clubs may conduct limited activities within the restrictions as outlined by Nova Scotia's Chief Medical Officer, all levels of Government and our insurance provider. Under our insurance provider, clubs may conduct online and virtual training only. Under the State of Emergency there are to be no in person activities of any kind.

Swim Nova Scotia has received additional information from our Insurance Company related to Online Training and Virtual Training Activities. Please also review best practices that Swimming Canada and their Integrated Support Lead (Dr. Allan Wrigley) have developed ([attached](#)). If your Club will be offering online training, please follow-up with me as soon as possible per the attached document with the required information.

As it relates to competition sanctioning, please see the [attached](#) memo from Swimming Canada and note the following cancellations by Swim Nova Scotia:

- Dare to Care Coach/Management Sessions- April 25-26; NEW DATE September 26-27
- NS Masters Provincial Championships- April 25
- AAA Long Course #4 (Dalplex Pool, Halifax)- May 1-2
- AA Short Course #4 (Acadia Pool, Wolfville)- May 2-3
- Nova Tech Explosion (RECC, Truro)- May 9-10
- 2020 Eastern Canadian Prospects (Toronto)- May 14-17

The Swim Nova Scotia Schedule of Events for the remainder of the season for all programs (Year-Round, Masters, Summer & Open Water) will be reviewed. All meet dates and formats are subject to change. We will have further information related to a safe return to competition as soon as possible.

Today, I participated in a very insightful webinar presented by Own The Podium and Gowling WLG. Anne Merklinger from Own the Podium, and lawyers from Gowling WLG discussed relevant short- and long-term financial programs and supports that enable sports organizations to navigate through these challenging times.

They reviewed the financial programs available from the Federal Government (Work-Sharing Program, 75% Temporary Wage Subsidy (CEWS), Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), Canada Emergency Business Accounts Loans and the Tax Return Deadline). In addition they highlighted key liabilities organizations should consider. The webinar slides and recording will be available on Monday April 6th on their [webpage](#), I encourage you to review this information.

I have been sharing information on the above Federal Subsidies via email as I receive them, and will continue to do so. The Federal Government Financial Initiatives information can be found here: [Canada's Covid-19 Economic Response Plan webpage](#)

Club Executives/Board of Director's should continue to work closely with Head Coaches and consider options related to the Club's current financial position, the financial outlook and projections for the short, medium and long term; membership policies; employment agreements and regulations/laws related to your Staff during these times of uncertainty.

Once again, all members are reminded to follow the advice of Nova Scotia's Chief Medical Officer and all Government Officials during the State of Emergency. Additional details and up to date information can be found on the Nova Scotia Provincial Government [webpage](#)

As always, I remain committed to providing the membership with updates and information as I have it available to me. Please reach out with any questions you may have, I am available via email or on my mobile phone.

Bette