

The Lifeguarding Experts Les experts en surveillance aquatique

For Immeadiate Release March 17, 2020

Dear Lifesaving Society Canada Members,

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 outbreak, the Lifesaving Society Canada has been carefully monitoring the progression of the virus both in Canada and around the world.

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) assessed COVID-19 as a pandemic. The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has recommended strategies that if implemented early, can reduce the speed with which cases are occurring and reduce the peak of virus activity in communities.

In line with the recommendations from PHAC, the Lifesaving Society Canada Board of Directors is cancelling:

- All National in-person meetings including Board of Directors, Member Representatives, Management Team and Commissions until further notice. This directive also includes the Spring Conference in Winnipeg at the end of May 2020.
- All sporting events (to include the 3 National championships and attendance at the Lifesaving World Championships in Italy).
- All travel both at home and abroad for National staff and volunteers until further notice.

At this time, the Lifesaving Society Canada recommends that members check with the provincial/territorial Branches of the Lifesaving Society for updates on closures, cancellations and postponement of various Branch programs and activities as recommended by the local health authorities.

Lifesaving Society Canada will continue to monitor this situation closely and will provide updates as the situation evolves both at home and abroad.

For more information, please contact our CEO, Bobby White, at <u>bwhite@lifesaving.ca</u> or 613-902-4136.

Sincerely,

K/p-A

Rhonda Young-Pilon President, Lifesaving Society Canada