

Dear Parents,

We here at New Minas Recreation and Community Development are very excited to be able to offer a summer camp program this year. As you are aware, we are living in unprecedented times, and have all had to make adjustments and sacrifices accordingly. We understand the complications that families face with regards to life under a state of emergency and COVID-19 and have therefore worked incredibly hard to be able to provide you with a service to help get life back to some semblance of “normal”.

In response to the health and safety restrictions imposed by the Nova Scotia Government, under unanticipated and truly unprecedented circumstances, we will be delivering a program that will provide children with a safe and fun summer, but it will look very different from years past. This plan includes two significant changes to how we normally operate and will undoubtedly pose challenges to families who have come to rely on us as your trusted summer resource. Most notably, programming will be affected due to a strict set of health and safety guidelines, but also our numbers will be decreased dramatically. If restrictions lift as the summer progresses, we will increase capacity.

Most Notable Changes due to COVID-19

- The capacity of our camps will be reduced from 120 children to 35 per week. Each camp (age group) will have openings for only 9 children (except for primary which will have 8)
- Strict health and safety protocols in accordance with provincial directives related to COVID 19 (see attached doc). Parents must read and sign this document in order to register their children.
- Registration will open on **June 15, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.**

As the Director of Recreation and Community Development for the Village of New Minas for the past 8 years, I have to say that this has been one of the more challenging exercises I have been a part of. I am also aware that what we are able to offer will most certainly not be able to accommodate everyone and will leave people out. For me, personally, this is incredibly disappointing, but understandable, given our current situation. I am grateful, however, for the dedication of our staff to be committed to this program and am proud to be able to offer an opportunity, even if in a decreased capacity. As stated prior, if restrictions change throughout the course of the summer, we will adjust accordingly to allow more children to be involved.

The health and safety of our children is and always will be our top priority at New Minas Summer Day Camps. We thank you for your continued patience during these times and look forward to delivering a fun experience for your children.

Kind Regards,

John Ansara

Director, Recreation and Community Development

Village of New Minas