

## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



July 30, 2020

### **Cowichan ice arenas to reopen for recreation programming and rentals in August**

**DUNCAN, BC** – The Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD) will be welcoming skaters back to its three ice arenas next month, with restrictions that align with facility safety plans and guidance from governing bodies.

Ice is planned to be installed in CVRD arenas and ready for use:

- at the Cowichan Lake Sports Arena, for August 4, 2020
- at the Cowichan Community Centre, for August 10, 2020
- at the Kerry Park Recreation Centre, for August 17, 2020

Patrons will have to follow a number of safety protocols for ice arena activities, which will be in place for the arenas through September 7, 2020, and will be posted at each facility.

For hockey, a maximum of 20 skaters will be allowed on one ice surface at one time, including coaches, volunteers and instructors. Participants will need to arrive no earlier than 15 minutes prior to start of ice time and will be required to leave the facility within 10 minutes of their ice time ending. Skaters will be required to come to the arena dressed in hockey gear as dressing rooms will not be open. No competitive play will be allowed at this time; activities and drills involving player-to-player contact or checking will not be permitted.

Public skate sessions will be offered as leisure skates with a maximum of 50 people per session, including both patrons and staff, with no shinny hockey at this time. Dropping into sessions will be discouraged, and patrons are encouraged to log into [www.reccowichan.ca](http://www.reccowichan.ca) and pre-purchase spots online prior to attending. This will minimize line ups and guarantee a space with reduced numbers. Registration will be open 72 hours prior to each public skate session.

Additionally, the following safety measures will be in place at all CVRD arenas:

- Visitors must adhere to physical distancing (6 feet or 2 metres) in the facility at all times
- No more than 50 people will be permitted in the arena at any one time, including participants, spectators, and staff
- Concessions will not be open
- Participants will be asked to stay at home if they are sick
- Visitors should sanitize their hands when entering the facility

For more information on the CVRD's response to the COVID-19 pandemic for recreation facilities, visit: <https://www.cvrld.bc.ca/3303/COVID-19-Recreation>

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*For more information, please contact:*

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