

All

MEMORANDUM

Alberta and Northwest Territories Branch	Date:	June 9, 2020
	То:	Members of the Alberta and Northwest Territories Branch
	From:	Kelly Carter, CEO
	Subject:	COVID-19 one-time extension of Lifesaving Society certifications in Alberta

The Province of Alberta has indicated that Swimming Pools will be permitted to reopen with restrictions as of Friday June 12, 2020. Any pool reopening will be required to follow all current public health guidance. The guidance from the province can be found on the Alberta Bizz connect website which can be accessed from <u>www.alberta.ca/covid19</u> and guidance from the Lifesaving Society can be accessed at <u>www.lifesaving.org/covid-19</u>.

In March I announced that Lifesaving Society certifications would be extended as a result of COVID-19 and the closure of swimming pools. The Society will support the extension of Lifesaving Society Certifications for individuals who would have been due to recertify after March 1, 2020. Implementing this policy means that certifications issued between March 1, 2018 and June 12, 2018 will have their currency extended until September 12, 2020. In addition, we will extend certification's issued between June 13, 2018 and August 31, 2018 to October 31, 2020 as we understand it may take some time for programming to resume as facilities relauch operations.

This extension does not require you to obtain a new certification card as our certification cards only indicate the date of certification. This is a one-time policy extension that was granted due to extenuating circumstances. All individuals with certification's that were extended should begin planning to recertify as facilities relaunch operations and start to schedule courses.

You should also note that your next recertification may look a little different from ones you may have taken in the past as physical distancing will continue to be required in all certification courses and there will be more activities and skills performed on manikins.

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