



PORT COLBORNE

MEDIA RELEASE

Port Colborne's beaches restricted to Port Colborne residents

Port Colborne, ON (Aug. 26, 2020) – Effective Friday, Aug. 28, access to all beaches in Port Colborne will be restricted to Port Colborne residents only.

In a unanimous vote at their Council Meeting on Monday, Aug. 24, Council Members decided to restrict access to all Port Colborne beaches to Port Colborne residents only and their guests. This operational change comes in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the influx of non-resident beachgoers this summer.

“This is about protecting our residents, our staff, and our beaches,” said Mayor Bill Steele, City of Port Colborne. “Council and staff reviewed all concerns and options, and we feel in order to ensure public safety during this pandemic, we need to limit beach access to residents only.”

Adult beachgoers will be required to provide proof of Port Colborne residency when accessing beaches. Acceptable forms of identification include:

- Any government-issued identification that includes the individual's address;
- Vehicle registration; or
- Non-addressed government identification alongside proof of residency such as a piece of official mail with name and address.

“This is just another way we can help keep everyone healthy and safe,” said Mayor Steele. “As we navigate operational changes this year due to COVID-19, we are hopeful to welcome visitors to our beautiful beaches again next year.”

The following operational changes are effective as of Friday, Aug. 28, 2020:

Nickel Beach

Restricted to Port Colborne residents only and their guests.

Guests include, two non-resident adults per one Port Colborne resident, unlimited guests under the age of 15 years old and/or, one Port Colborne resident per carload.

Lake Road parking and/or walking onto Nickel Beach will remain free for Port Colborne residents. Beachfront parking, for those residents who do not have a season pass, is \$15 Monday – Friday and \$20 per day on Saturdays, Sundays, and holiday Mondays. Nickel Beach is open daily until Labour Day, Monday, Sept. 7 and on weekends only from Labour Day until Thanksgiving, Sunday, Oct. 11, weather permitting.

Hours of operation:

Monday – Thursday: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Friday – Sunday: 9:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Centennial-Cedar Bay Beach

Restricted to Port Colborne residents only and their guests.

Guests include, two non-resident adults per one Port Colborne resident, unlimited guests under the age of 15 years old and/or, one Port Colborne resident per carload.

Centennial-Cedar Bay Beach is open from dawn until dusk. Security will be present for the majority of the day checking identification. Fencing will be installed to create one point of entry to the beach. Free parking for Port Colborne residents is available in the parking lot on the north side of Vimy Ridge Road, across the street from the beach. Beachgoers are reminded to be aware of new signage that will be displayed for both parking and beach access. Parking restrictions will be enforced until Sept. 30, 2020.

Daily capacity limits will be in effect for both Nickel Beach and Centennial-Cedar Bay Beach to ensure the safety of all beachgoers. As natural factors, such as lake levels, affect the beachfront's total usable space on a daily basis, staff will be monitoring beach use and overall spacing available to beachgoers. Therefore, it is likely that total capacity may vary. If/when beaches reach capacity, updates will be shared on the City's social media accounts. Like and follow for up-to-date information.

For more information about Nickel Beach and Centennial-Cedar Bay Beach, visit www.portcolborne.ca/page/beaches.

About City of Port Colborne

Located on the south coast of the scenic Niagara Region, Niagara's Port of Call has found the perfect balance – successful industrial and commercial sectors, comfortable and scenic residential areas, white sand beaches, unique culinary choices, the world class Sugarloaf Marina, fishing, golfing, trails, shopping districts along the historic Welland Canal and an energized festival and entertainment scene that includes live theatre – truly a community that adds to the overall Niagara Experience.

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