



LIFESAVING SOCIETY®

The Lifeguarding Experts

MEMORANDUM

Alberta and Northwest
Territories Branch

Date: November 19, 2020
To: NWT Affiliate Delivery Partners & NWT Members
From: Kelly Carter, Chief Executive Officer
Subject: NWT Certification Extensions

The Government of Northwest Territories has started to issue exemptions allowing specific swimming pools, who have been granted this exemption, to re-open with restrictions on a case-by-case basis.

Any pool reopening is required to follow all current public health guidance. The guidance from the territory can be found on the territorial website, which can be accessed from <https://www.gov.nt.ca/covid-19/>. Guidance from the Lifesaving Society can be accessed at www.lifesaving.org/covid-19.

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 reside in the Northwest Territories who would have been due to recertify after March 1, 2020.

Implementing this policy means that Lifesaving Society certifications (with the exception of First Aid) issued between March 1, 2018 and November 31, 2018 will have their currency extended until February 28, 2021. In addition, we will extend Lifesaving Society certifications (with the exception of First Aid) issued between December 1, 2018 to March 1, 2019 to June 1, 2021 as we understand it may take some time for programming to resume as facilities relaunch 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 certifications that were

[Reg. Charity No. 11912 9021 RR0001](#)
13123 – 156 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T5V 1V2 Canada

T: 780-415-1755
F: 780-427-9334
experts@lifesaving.org
www.lifesaving.org

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 different from those you may have taken in the past, as physical distancing will continue to be a requirement in all certification courses and more activities and skills will be performed on manikins.

The Chief Safety Officer with the Government of Northwest Territories has issued an extension for First Aid Certifications provided by approved training agencies in the Territory as follows:

- First Aid certifications that were to expire between January 1 to August 31, 2020 have been granted an extension in currency to November 30, 2020.

Affiliate Delivery Partners who have concerns regarding the impact on staffing as it relates to the first aid certification currency are encouraged to contact the Society in writing at experts@lifesaving.org, as we are monitoring the impact of this extension and staffing accessibility for northern communities that are in the process of re-opening facilities.

Contact the Society at 780-415-1755 or experts@lifesaving.org if you have questions related to this update.