

Dear Rapids,

The City of Richmond has announced that on July 13, the Steveston Outdoor Pool will be opening. [You can read the press release by clicking here.](#) The City has allotted significant space at the facility for public swim as well as some space for the Rapids & Kigoos. The space made available to our club will be severely limited, and unfortunately, we will not be able to offer programming for all members.

During our allotted rental time, we will have access to the entire Steveston Outdoor facility. However, due to restrictions set by the City and the various agencies (VCH, Via Sport, Swim BC, Swimming Canada, Lifesaving Society), we will be limited to 24 swimmers in the pool at any given time. Our practice times will be on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and will take place very early in the morning or late evening.

The senior coaching staff is putting together a "Summer Camp" schedule from July 13 to August 29. As stated in our [Return to Swimming plan](#), specific groups will be given priority over others due to space restrictions and other factors. During these seven weeks at Steveston pool, the groups invited will be the National, SRP, PAG, RD Blue & AGD 2/3 levels.

***Placement will be based on each athlete's group from the 2019-2020 season or projected group for the 2020-2021 season.***

Sign up information and a schedule will be provided shortly to swimmers whose groups have been selected for the summer program. If athletes choose not to participate, then swimmers from other groups may be invited by the coaching staff.

National, SRP, PAG groups will be offered training throughout these seven weeks. The AGD 2/3, RD Blue groups will be offered sessional summer camps that are 2 or 3 weeks in length. Swimmers in these groups may register for one or multiple sessions.

We recognize that this time away from the pool and regular routines has been difficult for many. The opening of the Steveston Outdoor pool is a small start for some of our athletes. We are disappointed that we will not have space to provide meaningful opportunities to practice this summer for all our groups. We appreciate everyone's continued patience during this time. We will continue to work with the City of Richmond throughout the summer to see if any new space may become available.

If the Province can continue along with its Recovery plan and Richmond can move to [Step 4](#), then we should be able to transition into Watermania and the new Minoru pool (MCAL) in the fall. We currently do not have any updated information regarding scheduling or registration for September at this time. In August, we should receive more information from Richmond Aquatics and will update the Rapids membership as information becomes available. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Dennis Silva  
SRP Coach & Registrar  
Richmond Rapids