



Admission and Supervision Standards for Public Swimming

Public swimming pools in Ontario operate under legislation developed and administered by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. The Lifesaving Society, Canada's lifeguarding expert, works with the Ministry in developing, reviewing, and revising legislation to enhance safety for patrons using public swimming pools. The Society has been working with aquatic professionals across the province to develop a standard for admission to public swimming. The standard has been prepared, tested, and evaluated in a variety of aquatic facilities and is in the final steps of being passed into legislation.

In the interest of providing the most enjoyable aquatic experience under the safest conditions, the City of Niagara Falls has chosen to follow the recommendations of the Lifesaving Society and implement the following admission standard.

Patrons **6 years and under** must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or designate who is at least 16 years of age and is responsible for their direct supervision, within arms reach and must remain in the shallow end. There is a maximum of two children for each parent, guardian or designate (2:1). Patrons who pass the facility swim test may swim in the deep end accompanied and directly supervised by an adult.

Patrons **ages of 7, 8 and 9, who cannot pass the facility swim test** must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or designate who is at least 16 years of age and is responsible for their direct supervision, and must remain in the shallow end. There is a maximum of four children for each parent, guardian or designate (4:1).

Patrons **ages of 7, 8 and 9 years who pass the facility swim test** may be admitted without caregiver supervision.

Patrons **10 years of age or older** may enter the pool without caregiver supervision. Patrons who can pass the facility swim test may swim in the deep end. Patrons who cannot pass the facility swim test must remain in the shallow end. **These same standards are required of all pool groups entering the facilities.**

The City of Niagara Falls defines direct supervision as, in the water within arms reach and able to render immediate assistance.

Facility Swim Test Large Pool

- Swim a minimum of 3 widths of the pool of front crawl (2 @ F.H. Leslie) continuously and comfortably.