

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF OKANAGAN-SIMILKAMEEN

INFORMATION RELEASE

April 30, 2020

Loose Bay Campground COVID-19 Safety Guidelines Established

The Loose Bay Campground, a seasonal facility catering to agricultural workers, is scheduled to open for the summer. The Loose Bay Campground Society, an agricultural industry group that managed the campground, recently voted to dissolve as a result of the complexities of meeting the safety guidelines required by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen (RDOS) is supporting the farming community to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 by jumping in to help. Safety protocols which follow provincial health directives, are scheduled to be in place by May 1, 2020 when the campground opens.

On April 28, 2020 the RDOS facilitated a conference call with stakeholders including the former chair of the Loose Bay Campground Society, BC Fruit Growers' Association, Town of Oliver, Interior Health, AgSafe BC, local elected officials, and staff from the RDOS and Oliver Emergency Operations Centres. Plans are being finalized to ensure staff and campers at the Loose Bay Campground follow provincial health directives including physical distancing. Interior Health is providing guidance on the plans.

Measures at Loose Bay Campground will include:

- Signage on site regarding COVID-19 protocols and compliance
- Contractors and bylaw officials will be available to ensure compliance and provide information
- Regular cleaning of campground washroom facilities as per provincial health directives to prevent the spread of COVID-19
- Kitchen and communal areas will be closed
- No campfires will be allowed to ensure physical distancing; Campers will cook using propane or gas stoves
- Measures are being discussed for campers who require self-isolation or quarantine

RDOS staff will continue working with industry representatives, provincial health agencies and local elected officials to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Agricultural workers are a designated essential service and providing seasonal accommodations at Loose Bay Campground are an important part of ensuring they remain available for service, and stay safe.

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For further information, please call 250-492-0237 or email: info@rdos.bc.ca



Karla Kozakevich, Chair
Regional District of Okanagan-Similkameen

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