



## Indigenous Sport & Wellness Ontario - Updated Statement on COVID-19

**Toronto, ON – July 14, 2021** — ISWO continues to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic situation in the province of Ontario and bases its decisions on the recommendations provided by public health authorities. As we approach a Stage 3 reopening in most regions of the province, ISWO is developing a 'Return to Programming' framework, utilizing the guidelines provided by the Government of Ontario, and best practices from other Provincial Sport Bodies. ISWO's approach will be 'community specific' and 'community driven,' meaning that staff will be working with communities directly who are interested in programming, to ensure that it is safe to do so, as individual communities are facing various circumstances in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. ISWO will provide further information on its 'Return to Programming' framework, including safety protocols, guidelines and procedures, in the coming weeks.

As ISWO works to develop a comprehensive and community-based framework to ensure a safe return to programming for all participants and community members, its current in-person program closures will stay in effect until **July 30, 2021**. In the meantime, youth, families and communities are encouraged to continue accessing the wide variety of online sport, wellness and leadership programs ISWO has to offer, for all ages and abilities.

ISWO encourages all members of the public to access the following verified Public Health websites for the most up-to-date and accurate information about the COVID-19 pandemic, or alternatively, to check-in with local public health authorities:

- [Ontario Public Health](#)
- [Canada Public Health](#)

These verified public health websites provide information on how to continue to keep yourself and your family members safe, what to do in case you develop symptoms, and details about accessing the COVID-19 vaccine. We encourage you to get tested if you think you may have been exposed or are experiencing symptoms. For more information about COVID-19 testing, please visit: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/>.

For the most up-to-date information regarding the status of upcoming online/virtual ISWO events, follow us on [social media](#), visit our [website](#), or subscribe to our newsletter and e-blasts.

Stay safe, stay positive and support those who may be more vulnerable during this time.

Sincerely,

Marc Laliberte  
President, Indigenous Sport & Wellness Ontario