

## Membership Bulletin - August 31, 2021

## 2021 BC SWIMMING CONGRESS CANCELLED

Swim BC is profoundly disappointed to announce the cancellation of the 2021 BC Swimming Congress. Over the last week or so the incredible shift in COVID-19 daily transmission rates, hospitalizations, and deaths, coupled with the Government of BC's formal announcement to delay moving to Step 4 of the BC Restart Plan has left us no option. This was an incredibly difficult and challenging decision to make, however knowing our moral and fiduciary obligation is to ensure our membership's physical, mental, and financial well-being are of utmost importance, we are comfortable it is the appropriate decision.

Any member or guest having made a reservation at the host hotel, please note that your reservation will be cancelled automatically, and any fees collected will be reimbursed. In our dialogue with the hotel, we had ensured that the 30-day cancellation deadline was frozen, so that is not an issue.

Swim BC staff have communicated with EventBrite, the event management and ticketing website Swim BC used to coordinate conference and banquet ticket sales, and we can confirm that all collected fees will be refunded shortly.

Moving forward, we will work over the next few weeks to envision rescheduling and reprogramming. We'll likely look to online delivery options for the Coaches Conference and Officials Symposium content. Similarly, we'll investigate mechanisms to bring the information we had intended to deliver in the Club Development Seminars to you electronically.

For our Provincial Award recipients, we'll announce and celebrate your achievements to the membership in the coming weeks. Similarly with our esteemed Hall of Fame inductees, your moment will be celebrated, sadly not this year – we'll work to get information to you shortly.

The Swim BC AGM will be re-scheduled and held as a virtual AGM, as in 2020. Once the Swim BC Board has had a chance to review the options, official notices will be sent to the membership.

In due course we'll look to this news as a simple setback and move on. For now, it's imperative we do everything we can to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 and work to get our sport back in the water, competing, excelling, and enjoying the experience it affords all of us, no matter what our role.

Ken Radford Executive Director