



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**June 15, 2020 @ 8:00 p.m.**

A tough decision was made by council during their special meeting of June 15, 2020 where they assessed the pros and cons of operating the Bassano Outdoor Pool. It was decided unanimously that the Bassano Outdoor Pool will not open in 2020. The province announced late last week that the Alberta Relaunch Strategy would be accelerated to allow swimming pools to open in Stage 2 (originally slated for Stage 3).

In making the decision, council considered the financial implications, staffing limitations, operational time to set up the facility (earliest opening July 15), public health restrictions for facility operations, and the overall community/economic benefits.

Town council recognizes that this may not be the outcome many people were looking for. However, it is simply not feasible or practical to shift the entire municipal operation to open the pool for 6.5 weeks. We are living in unprecedented times. The health and safety of our staff and the community remain our top priority. We look forward to a successful season in 2021. Residents are strongly encouraged to take advantage of the programs and initiatives that are offered by the Town, FCSS, and community groups. Stay up to-date by following us on Facebook (Town of Bassano OR Bassano – Connect the Community).