

Notice of Motion Board of Health

Request for amendments to Ontario Regulation 565 (Public Pools) and Ontario Regulation 428/05 (Public Spas) made under the authority of the Health Protection and Promotion Act; and increase public awareness and access to public pool and public spa inspection reports

Recommendations:

1. That the Toronto Board of Health request the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care to:
 - a. Establish set fines and short form wording for offences under O. Regulation 565 (Public Pools) and O. Regulation 428/05 (Public Spas) made under the authority of the Health Protection and Promotion Act.
 - b. Amend O. Regulation 565 ((Public Pools) and O. Regulation 428/05 (Public Spas) to require public pool and public spa operators to post, and keep posted, public pool and public spa inspection reports issued by a Medical Officer of Health, in a clearly visible place, at or near the entrance to the facility.
 - c. Amend O. Regulation 565 (Public Pools) and O. Regulation 428/05 (Public Spas) to require standardized training for public pools and public spa operators with respect to water chemistry analyses and promoting health and safety and injury prevention.
2. That the Toronto Board of Health direct the Medical Office of Health to:
 - a. Enhance public awareness and access to pool and spa inspection reports by developing a web based public pool and public spa inspection disclosure system.
 - b. Report to the Board of Health in no later than six months on progress.

Summary:

Public Health Inspectors conduct routine inspections of public swimming pools and public spas to ensure compliance with the public pool and public spa regulations made under the authority of the Health Protection and Promotion Act. Toronto Public Health Inspectors have issued numerous closure orders and infraction notices on operators of public pools and public spas over the last two years. These recommendations are intended to enhance existing enforcement options to enable public health inspectors to take more effective action in situations where there are repeated regulatory infractions at public pools and public spas.