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CRNB

ST. CRETIEN’S COLLEGE

**WORKS AND MAINTENANCE DEPT.**

Re: H&S Directive 55902:19 (g) – Health and Safety Working Committee (HSWC)

Advance notice is hereby given regarding the implementation of H&S Directive 55902:19(g) in accordance with EU Regulations 442 & 453(h) of 1992 Commission Report pertaining to the safety of school and other institutional areas dedicated to leisure and activity-based events within the framework of organised structures, such as games and sports lessons.

It has been brought to the attention of the HSWC by recent investigation undertaken by Brian that the latent potential of serious injury or even fatalities in the St. Cretien’s Swimming Pool constitutes a considerable health and safety risk. This stems mainly from the lack of sufficient barriers around the pool. What does exist is insufficient and not even fire-proof; many members of the public erroneously consider a swimming pool to be relatively free of fire risk, but should be disabused of this, as swimming pools constitute one of the most hazardous fire risks of all!

However, the most pressing issue of all is the risk of drowning, which requires immediate action at all levels. The HSWC has resolved to initiate a number of urgent committees to look into how we can reduce the risk of drowning when swimming, and hope to be able to offer some constructive proposals early next year.

Up to and until then, as a gesture to the members of staff and pupils of the school, who have insisted that the pool should remain in use, we have decided not to close the facility for the foreseeable future, so that school life can go on as normal. However, we have also decided to add sufficient salt to the water that there should be a noticeable buoyancy from now on. We have added 75 tonnes of salt and increased the temperature somewhat to assist in the process of dissolution, and Brian tested the new, safer waters yesterday, and assured me that he felt “one hundred and twelve percent safer” than before, although the local burns unit has suggested the temperature should be returned to normal. Brian will be back with us next month.

Please be sure not to imbibe any of the water, however, as this concentration of salt could result in severe poisoning.

Thank-you for your understanding in this. We hope you appreciate the importance of aiming to protect all the members of our community from the avoidable accidents that can happen.

Bernard Soddum, GWTO, c/o HSWC