



## CPRA Confirms NLS as the Lifeguard Standard for Canada

### Rejects notion of multiple lifeguard standards

OTTAWA, October 23, 2006 – At its October 20, 2006 AGM in Saskatoon, the Canadian Parks and Recreation Association unanimously endorsed a single lifeguard standard for Canada. CPRA's membership and board of directors also unanimously reconfirmed its commitment to the National Lifeguard Service as that single standard.

"The rationale for a single lifeguard standard is compelling from the employers' point of view," says Clem Pelot, CPRA's Chief Executive Officer. "Our unanimous endorsement of National Lifeguard as that single standard is entirely consistent with CPRA's commitment to providing Canadians with the highest quality of recreation opportunities possible." CPRA, the authoritative national voice for parks and recreation in Canada, represents parks and recreation professionals in over 2,600 Canadian communities and works closely with 13 provincial and territorial parks and recreation associations.

The Lifesaving Society – Canada's lifeguarding expert – is a charitable organization working to prevent drowning and water-related injury through its training programs, Water Smart® public education and safety management services. Annually, over 500,000 Canadians participate in the Society's swimming, lifesaving, lifeguarding and leadership training programs.

### Annual Investiture

Our Annual Volunteer Investiture ceremony will be taking place at Government House in Regina on November 18th at 2:00pm. If you would like to attend, please contact the office (780-9255) to confirm your attendance.

### Moose Jaw in '07

We are very excited to be heading back to Moose Jaw for the 2007 Provincial Water Safety Conference on March 24th. The committee has been working diligently to ensure that the conference is informative, interactive and in typical Moose Jaw fashion...a ton of fun! Registration information will be made available early in the new year.

### Competition is Back!

Also taking place in Moose Jaw will be the return of the Provincial Lifeguarding and Lifesaving Competition. This will be a full day event taking place on Friday March 23rd in Moose Jaw. Get your teams ready!

### CPR Updates

CPR Updates for Lifesaving Instructors are due by December 1, 2006. All Lifesaving Instructors must be

teaching the new guidelines by January 1, 2007. Instructors who do not send in their updates will not be able to teach or examine Lifesaving Society awards as of January 1st. Remember – the update is to inform instructors how *Lifesaving Society awards* are affected by the CPR changes. It is *not* a skill recertification.

CPR Update Questions:

1. Do we still teach Rescue Breathing?

Answer: Yes. Continue to teach rescue breathing to Rookie and Ranger candidates. These two awards do not include CPR so rescue breathing is taught. As well, rescue breathing may be done in the water (all other awards) as long as complications such as vomiting can be dealt with. This has not changed from the previous revisions. Once a non-breathing victim in on land CPR should be initiated.

2. Do we teach AED (automated external defibrillation) now?

Answer: No. Teach your candidates that if an AED and an AED *trained responder* is

available they should recruit and assist the AED responder as directed. (In Saskatchewan, AED training certification is required to use an AED.)

### We want your Feedback

Based on the information you provided through the Needs Assessment we undertook this summer, Lifelines will now be a once a month publication sent out via email and fax to those who request it. It will also be made available as PDF on our website that can be accessed at any time.

We really want this to be an opportunity for you to update the province as well. If you have a course or anything else you would like to publicize, please feel free to email the office and we will do our best to ensure that your information is included.

We hope you like the new format and as mentioned previously, if you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to let us know.

### Dates to Remember

- Investiture - November 18th at 2:00pm
- Deadline for CPR Updates - Dec. 1st, 2006
- NLS Course - Prince Albert (Dunn) Dec. 8th - 10th & 15th - 17th