

Policy on Infection Control and Management of Communicable Diseases

1. Introduction:

1.1 Blackstrap Youth Camp is committed to maintaining a safe and healthy environment for all campers, staff members, and visitors. This policy outlines our approach to infection control and the management of communicable diseases, incorporating recommendations provided by the Saskatchewan Camping Association (SCA) and aligning with regulatory standards.

2. Scope:

2.1 This policy applies to all activities, programs, and facilities operated by Blackstrap Youth Camp.

2.2 It encompasses measures for preventing, identifying, and managing communicable diseases to ensure the health and safety of all individuals involved in camp operations.

3. Infection Prevention and Control:

3.1 Blackstrap Youth Camp implements comprehensive infection prevention and control measures, including:

- a) Regular cleaning and disinfection of facilities, equipment, and frequently touched surfaces using approved sanitizing agents.
- b) Promotion of effective hand hygiene practices, including proper handwashing techniques and the use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers.
- c) Implementation of respiratory hygiene measures, such as covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue or elbow and wearing face masks when appropriate.
- d) Procedures for isolating individuals with symptoms of communicable diseases and providing appropriate medical care and support.

4. Management of Communicable Diseases:

4.1 Blackstrap Youth Camp has developed a documented policy and procedure for the management of communicable diseases, which includes:

- a) Protocols for identifying and reporting suspected cases of communicable diseases to designated camp staff members.
- b) Methods of isolation and management of individuals with communicable diseases, in coordination with Communicable Disease Control (Saskatchewan Health Authority).
- c) Communication strategies to inform parents/guardians, camp staff, and public health authorities about suspected or confirmed cases of communicable diseases and preventive measures.
- d) Guidelines for the effective use and disposal of personal protective equipment (PPE), such as gloves, and the cleaning and disinfection of contaminated items and surfaces.

5. Training and Education:

5.1 All staff members and volunteers at Blackstrap Youth Camp shall receive training on infection control practices and the management of communicable diseases.

5.2 Educational materials and resources shall be provided to campers, staff members, and parents/guardians to promote awareness of communicable disease prevention and control measures.

6. Documentation and Record-Keeping:

6.1 Accurate and up-to-date records shall be maintained regarding incidents, outbreaks, and actions taken in response to communicable diseases.

6.2 Records shall be stored securely and in compliance with applicable privacy laws and regulations.

7. Review and Revision:

7.1 This policy shall be reviewed annually and updated as necessary to reflect changes in regulatory requirements, emerging infectious diseases, and best practices in infection control.

7.2 Any revisions to the policy shall be communicated to all staff members, volunteers, campers, parents/guardians, and relevant stakeholders.

8. Compliance:

8.1 Blackstrap Youth Camp is committed to complying with this policy and all applicable laws, regulations, and guidelines related to infection control and the management of communicable diseases.

8.2 Failure to comply with this policy may result in disciplinary action, legal consequences, and/or exclusion from participation in camp activities, as deemed appropriate.

9. Implementation:

9.1 This policy shall be implemented immediately upon approval by the SYDC, and communicated to all staff members, volunteers, contractors, parents/guardians, and relevant stakeholders of Blackstrap Youth Camp.

This policy underscores Blackstrap Youth Camp's commitment to implementing effective infection control measures and promptly managing communicable diseases to safeguard the health and well-being of all individuals participating in camp activities.