

**MARKHAM'S
SWIM TO SURVIVE PROGRAM
Recreation Department**

**General Committee
December 12, 2011**



Swim to Survive Information

Purpose of Presentation

To provide Council on information regarding Markham's involvement in the Swim to Survive Program.



Swim to Survive

About Swim to Survive

- Swim to Survive is a Lifesaving Society survival training program.
- The Society has defined the minimum skills needed by all Canadians to survive an unexpected fall into deep water.
- ROLL into Deep water – TREAD water (1 min) – SWIM 50 metres
- Swim to Survive is different than swimming lessons – and not a replacement for them
- Swim to Survive teaches just the essentials needed to survive an unexpected fall into deep water – an important first step to being safe around water.

Swim to Survive – Markham’s Response to Swim to Survive

Partnership with Board(s) of Education

- The Swim to Survive program is offered on an ongoing basis in Markham through the school year to grade 3 students.
- The funding support for this is through the Barbara Underhill’s Stephanie Gaetz KEEPSAFE Foundation who is the Founding Sponsor of the Swim to Survive Program.
- The Ontario Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Health Promotion have provided substantial funding.
- The Jays Care Foundation, the Lifesaving Foundation, individual donors and the Lifesaving Society itself have provided additional funding.

Swim to Survive – Markham's Response to Swim to Survive

Swim to Survive School Program 2011/12

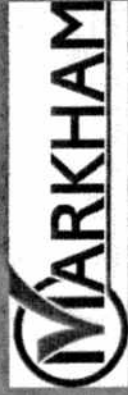
- For the **2011/12 school year** the Town of Markham has been approved for funding of **\$61,731.60 which will support 2,439 Grade 3** students attending the Swim to Survive program as part of the curriculum.
- Through this partnership Markham will work with 38 different elementary schools to provide the Grade 3 Swim to Survive Program in the 2011/12 school year



Swim to Survive – Markham’s Response to Swim to Survive

Swim to Survive School Program 2011/12

- This is a partnership program with the Board(s) of Education and Markham staff.
- The Board(s) coordinate the timing and logistics of getting the students from the school to the pool.
- Markham makes the pool time available free of charge and provides the Swim to Survive Staff who are funded through the grant received.



Markham's Swim to Survive Program

Enhancing the Program:

- In the summer of 2010 and 2011, Markham offered free Swim to Survive Courses on Friday evenings at various swimming pools to all ages.
- This was in response to a report published by the Lifesaving Society, a charitable organization working to prevent drowning, showed that “new Canadians” – particularly those who have been living in Canada for less than five years – are at risk for drowning when boating and swimming.
- This program will continue in 2012.



Swim to Survive

QUESTIONS?



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