

Draft Regulation

Building Act
(chapter B-1.1)

Safety Code — Amendment

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (chapter R-18.1), that the Regulation to amend the Safety Code, appearing below, may be made by the Government, with or without amendment, on the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

The object of the draft Regulation is to amend the Safety Code (chapter B-1.1, r. 3) to add a new Chapter IX, Bathing Places. The new chapter will replace the Regulation respecting safety in public baths (chapter B-1.1, r. 11), which is repealed by the draft Regulation.

The draft Regulation establishes the safety requirements for the bathing places subject to regulation. More specifically, it includes safety requirements for indoor and outdoor pools at private seniors' residences and introduces safety requirements for wave pools.

The draft Regulation also introduces a requirement concerning a supervision and life-saving plan for certain bathing places. Similarly, a supervision audit report must be produced for wave pools and swimming pools if their irregular shape raises safety issues. Lastly, the draft Regulation drops the minimum age for acting as a lifeguard to 16.

The proposed measures will generate extra costs for the owners of bathing places, estimated at \$19,500,000 for the period from 2025 to 2029.

Further information on the draft Regulation may be obtained by contacting Sophie Bédard, Engineer, Régie du bâtiment du Québec, 800, place D'Youville, 15^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5S3; email: projet.reglement@rbq.gouv.qc.ca.

Any person wishing to comment on the draft Regulation is requested to submit written comments within the 45-day period to Caroline Hardy, Secretary General and Director of Institutional Affairs, Régie du bâtiment du Québec, 800, place D'Youville, 16^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5S3; email: projet.reglement.commentaires@rbq.gouv.qc.ca.

JEAN BOULET
Minister of Labour

Regulation to amend the Safety Code

Building Act
(chapter B-1.1, s. 175, 1st par., 2nd par., 3rd par., subpars. 1 to 4, ss. 176, 176.1, 178 and 179, s. 185, pars. 0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 37 and 38, and s. 192).

1. The Safety Code (chapter B-1.1, r. 3) is amended by inserting the following after Chapter VIII:

“CHAPTER IX BATHING PLACES

DIVISION I GENERAL

421. In this Chapter, the terms “accessory”, “deck”, “diving platform”, “pool lift”, “swimming pool”, “wading pool”, “water safety supervisor” and “wave pool” have the meaning given to them by section 10.01 of the Construction Code (chapter B-1.1, r. 2), as made by section 1 of the Regulation to amend the Construction Code, published as a draft in Part 2 of the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of 20 November 2024.

In addition, unless the context indicates otherwise,

“beach” means the waterfront area of a body of water and the adjacent area used for bathing;

“competent body” means a body that pursues activities in the area of water safety, including supervision and life-saving, is recognized by an international organization in the field such as the International Life Saving Federation, and possesses a document attesting to that recognition.

For the purposes of this Chapter, the terms “dwelling unit” and “private seniors' residence” have the meaning given to them by the National Building Code as adopted by Chapter I of the Construction Code. The term “residential board and care occupancy” has the meaning given to it by Chapter VIII of this Code.

422. The provisions of this Chapter apply to the following bathing places:

(1) a swimming pool or wading pool located in a building to which Chapter VIII of this Code applies;

(2) the following facilities, which are designated as facilities intended for use by the public in accordance with section 10 of the Building Act (chapter B-1.1):

(a) a beach or an outdoor swimming pool or wading pool operated as a bathing place for the general public or for a defined public group;

(b) an outdoor swimming pool or wading pool at a building used for dwelling purposes that has more than 8 dwelling units, a rooming house with more than 9 rooms, a residential board and care occupancy that accommodates more than 9 persons, or a private seniors' residence, where one of the following criteria is met:

- i. the water surface area of the pool exceeds 100 m²;
- ii. the pool is equipped with a springboard or diving platform.

The provisions also apply to a pool lift for a swimming pool, which is also designated as a facility intended for use by the public.

423. Despite section 422, the provisions of this Chapter do not apply to

- (1) a whirlpool bath;
- (2) a therapeutic bath or the parts of a body of water used for thermotherapy;
- (3) a receptacle basin not more than 600 mm in depth used solely for a water slide;
- (4) the parts of a natural body of water laid out for open water swimming.-

In addition, subdivision 1 of Divisions III and IV of this Chapter, governing supervision, do not apply to

(1) a swimming pool or wading pool located in a building used for dwelling purposes that has more than 8 dwelling units or a rooming house with more than 9 rooms; or

(2) an outdoor swimming pool or wading pool located at a building used for dwelling purposes that has more than 8 dwelling units or a rooming house with more than 9 rooms.

424. A reference in this Chapter to a standard or code is a reference to the standard or code as adopted by the chapter of the Construction Code (chapter B-1.1, r. 2), the Safety Code or another regulation made under the Building Act (chapter B-1.1) that refers to it.

425. A bathing place must be kept in safe, sanitary and proper working condition.

426. The owner of a bathing place must inform the Régie du bâtiment du Québec, within 24 hours, of any fatal or non-fatal drowning incident requiring the intervention of the emergency services.

DIVISION II
REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE BY DATE OF
CONSTRUCTION OR MODIFICATION

427. A bathing place must comply with the regulatory requirements applicable at the date of its construction or modification.

Depending on the date of construction or modification of the bathing place, the regulatory requirements applicable are those indicated in the following table:

Date of construction or modification of the bathing place	Regulatory requirements applicable
Before 23 July 1986:	Regulation respecting safety in public baths (R.R.Q., 1981, c. S-3, r. 3), sections 3 to 25, 42 and 43.
Between 23 July 1986 and 13 March 2013:	Regulation respecting safety in public baths (R.R.Q., 1981, c. S-3, r. 3; O.C. 999-86, 86-07-02), sections 3 to 25, 42 and 43. The Regulation, again amended by orders in council 369-90 dated 21 March 1990 and 749-91 dated 29 May 1991, was renumbered as “Chapter B-1.1, r. 11” on 1 December 2011.
Between 14 March 2013 and <i>(insert the date preceding the date of coming into force of the Regulation to amend the Construction Code published as a draft in Part 2 of the Gazette officielle du Québec of 20 November 2024)</i> :	Construction Code (chapter B-1.1, r. 2) (O.C. 115-2013, 2013-02-13) For a bathing place constructed or modified as of 14 March 2013, the preceding regulatory requirements could be applied for a period of 18 months following that date.

Date of construction or modification of the bathing place	Regulatory requirements applicable
As of <i>(insert the date of coming into force of the Regulation to amend the Construction Code published as a draft in Part 2 of the Gazette officielle du Québec of 20 November 2024)</i> :	<p>Construction Code (chapter B-1.1, r. 2) <i>(insert the number of the order in council concerning the Regulation to amend the Construction Code published as a draft in Part 2 of the Gazette officielle du Québec of 20 November 2024)</i></p> <p>For a bathing place constructed or modified as of <i>(insert the date of coming into force of the Regulation to amend the Construction Code published as a draft in Part 2 of the Gazette officielle du Québec of 20 November 2024)</i>, the preceding regulatory requirements may be applied for a period of 6 months following that date.</p>

However, the regulatory requirements apply taking into account the fact that a regulatory requirement in force when a bathing place is constructed or modified may be covered by a measure that is equivalent or different as provided for in sections 127 and 128 of the Building Act (chapter B-1.1).

Despite the first paragraph and except for wave pools covered by an equivalent or different measure as provided for in sections 127 and 128 of the Building Act, wave pools must comply with the Regulation to amend the Construction Code, approved by Order in Council *(insert the number of the Order in Council concerning the Regulation to amend the Construction Code published as a draft in Part 2 of the Gazette officielle du Québec of 20 November 2024)*, regardless of their date of construction or modification.

DIVISION III
SWIMMING POOLS

§1. Supervision

428. A swimming pool with a water surface area greater than 150 m² must be provided with control stations

- (1) equipped with chairs at least 1.8 m above the water surface;
- (2) representing a minimum of
 - (a) 1 control station if the water surface area is 150 m² to 350 m²;
 - (b) 2 control stations if the water surface area is 351 m² to 600 m²;
 - (c) 3 control stations if the water surface area is 601 m² to 900 m²;

(d) 4 control stations if the water surface area is 901 m² or more;

(3) located sufficiently close to the walls of the swimming pool to provide an unobstructed view of the bottom of the swimming pool in the supervised area;

(4) designed and installed in a way that ensures that the water safety supervisor is not blinded by the sun and has access to shade;

(5) is reserved for the exclusive use of water safety supervisors.

429. A water safety supervisor must have access to a means of communication that is functional at all times and located in the enclosure of the swimming pool in order to contact the emergency services.

430. The procedure to be followed in the event of an emergency must be posted in a conspicuous place and the owner must ensure that water safety supervisors are capable of implementing its contents.

431. The owner must ensure that the minimum number of water safety supervisors respects the ratio applicable specified in Table I, 2 or 3 in Schedule IV. For a wave pool, the applicable ratio is specified in Table 4 of the Schedule.

When a swimming pool is used exclusively for classes, swim meets or supervised training, the owner must ensure that the minimum number of water safety supervisors meets the requirements of Schedule V.

However, when an accessory in or projecting into the swimming pool obstructs the water safety supervisor's view, the number of water safety supervisors must be increased so that the entire swimming pool remains under constant supervision.

432. Despite the first paragraph of section 431, the owner of an indoor swimming pool with a water surface area of no more than 100 m² that is located in a residential board and care occupancy that accommodates more than 9 persons or in a private seniors' residence is not required to ensure supervision by a water safety supervisor if

(1) the owner allows only independent and semi-independent residents, and their guests, to have access to the pool;

(2) a person of at least 16 years of age, who holds a valid life-saving certificate, obtained following at least 16 hours of training, in particular concerning cardio-pulmonary resuscitation on people of all ages and first aid, is present on the premises and may be contacted quickly using a functional and clearly identified means of communication that is accessible to bathers, such as an emergency button;

(3) the swimming pool is no more than 1400 mm deep;

(4) the swimming pool is not equipped with accessories;

(5) the swimming pool is equipped with stairs;

(6) a person may not bathe if alone in the swimming pool enclosure, unless remote supervision is possible;

(7) no bather under the age of 12 is admitted to the swimming pool enclosure unless accompanied by a responsible person of at least 16 years of age and, in the case of a bather aged 7 or under, the bather remains at all times within arm's reach of that person;

(8) the accompaniment ratio is of one person of at least 16 years of age for every 2 children aged 7 or under;

(9) the total number of bathers on the deck and in the water is no more than 15;

(10) a notice stating the requirements of subparagraphs 6 to 9 in characters at least 25 mm high and in a contrasting colour is posted in a conspicuous place at the entrance to the swimming pool;

(11) the procedure to be followed in the event of an emergency and the resuscitation manoeuvres to be applied in the event of a drowning are posted in a conspicuous place, in characters at least 25 mm high; and

(12) a means of communicating with the emergency services that is functional at all times and readily accessible to bathers is installed.

However, where the swimming pool referred to in the first paragraph is more than 1400 mm deep, the requirements set out in the second paragraph of section 433 also apply.

433. Despite the first paragraph of section 431, the owner of a swimming pool with a water surface area of no more than 100 m² is not required to ensure supervision by a water safety supervisor if

(1) the swimming pool is reserved for the use of the clients of a tourist accommodation establishment, except a vacation camp, in which at least one dwelling unit is offered for rent in return for payment, or of an establishment providing restaurant services;

(2) a person of at least 16 years of age, who holds a valid first aid certificate, obtained following at least 16 hours of training, in particular concerning cardio-pulmonary resuscitation on people of all ages and first aid, is present on the premises and may be contacted quickly using an identified functional means of communication that is readily accessible to bathers, such as an emergency button;

(3) the swimming pool is no more than 1400 mm deep;

(4) the swimming pool is not equipped with accessories;

(5) a system to automatically prevent access to the swimming pool enclosure, of a height at least 1500 mm above floor height, is installed;

(6) a person may not bathe if alone in the swimming pool enclosure, unless remote supervision is possible;

(7) no bather under the age of 12 is admitted to the swimming pool enclosure, unless accompanied by a responsible person of at least 16 years of age and, in the case of a bather aged 7 or under, the bather remains at all times within arm's reach of that person;

(8) the accompaniment ratio is of one person of at least 16 years of age for every 2 children aged 7 or under;

(9) the total number of bathers on the deck and in the water is no more than 15;

(10) a notice stating the requirements of subparagraphs 6 to 9 in characters at least 25 mm high and in a contrasting colour is posted in a conspicuous place at the entrance to the swimming pool;

(11) the procedure to be followed in the event of an emergency and the resuscitation manoeuvres to be applied in the event of a drowning are posted in a conspicuous place; and

(12) a means of communicating with the emergency services that is functional at all times and readily accessible to bathers is installed.

However, where the swimming pool referred to in the first paragraph is more than 1400 mm deep, the following requirements also apply:

(1) the person referred to in subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph must hold a valid aquatic life-saving certificate issued by a competent body;

(2) the deep area of the swimming pool must be identified by

(a) a cable held up by floats, which must be installed in the swimming pool to indicate the boundary between the deep area and the shallow area; and

(b) clear markings for bathers to indicate the deep area of the swimming pool;

(3) personal floatation devices must be made available to all bathers.

434. Despite the second paragraph of section 431, when a swimming pool is used only for classes provided by a physical education teacher, the owner must ensure that the minimum number of water safety supervisors meets the requirements of the following table:

Number of bathers	Number of physical education teachers	Minimum number of:	
		Lifeguards	Assistant lifeguards
0-30	1	0	0
31-60	2	0	0
	or		
	1	1	0
61 and more	3	0	0
	or		
	2	1	0
	or		
	1	1	1

For the purposes of this section, a “physical education teacher” is a person who holds a physical education degree issued by a university in Québec or an equivalent degree issued by another university that is recognized by the Minister of Higher Education, and who has completed a minimum of 90 hours training in swimming as part of the university course. The 90 hours must include a minimum of 30 hours to qualify the person in life-saving, supervision, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and first aid. The person must hold an attestation to this effect.

The owner must ensure that the life-saving, supervision, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and first aid skills of a physical education teacher have been updated.

435. Despite the second paragraph of section 431, an owner is not required to ensure supervision by a water safety supervisor when the swimming pool is used only for underwater diving classes under the direct supervision of an instructor holding a valid certificate recognized under the By-law respecting qualifications for recreational underwater diving (chapter S-3.1, r. 8).

The owner must ensure that underwater diving instructors are capable of implementing the procedure to be followed in the event of an emergency.

436. Except for swimming pools where the owner is not required to ensure supervision by a water safety supervisor, the owner must establish a supervision and lifesaving plan taking the particularities of the swimming pool into account.

The plan must cover

- (1) the physical characteristics of the pool;
- (2) the maximum number of bathers allowed on the deck and in the water;
- (3) the number of water safety supervisors by type of activity, in accordance with Schedules IV and V;
- (4) the types of activities allowed in the swimming pool and the additional number of water safety supervisors they require, where applicable;
- (5) the areas supervised by each water safety supervisor; and
- (6) the procedure to be followed in the event of an emergency.

The supervision and lifesaving plan must be available for consultation on-site.

437. The owner of a wave pool or a swimming pool the irregular shape of which raises safety issues must hold a supervision audit report that covers at least

(1) the swimming pool's compliance with the supervision requirements of this Chapter;

(2) the verification of the supervision and lifesaving plan;

(3) the identification, for each control station, of the particularities of the areas that may obstruct the view of the pool bottom because of the pool's design and the reflections caused by natural or artificial light;

(4) a determination of the pool areas requiring special attention because of surface turbulence, an obstructed view of the pool bottom, or the presence of accessories or low walls;

(5) a determination of the area supervised from each control station depending on the type of activity scheduled for each timetable slot; and

(6) a determination of the position of each water safety supervisor to ensure constant and complete supervision of the pool, including the pool bottom.

The supervision audit must be produced by a competent body. It may also be produced by the owner after completing training in the production of such an audit, provided by such a body.

The owner must, without delay, obtain a new supervision audit after a change is made to the configuration of a pool referred to in the first paragraph.

438. A swimming pool lifeguard must meet the following conditions:

(1) be at least 16 years of age;

(2) hold a valid swimming pool lifeguard certificate issued by a competent body.

439. A wave pool lifeguard must meet the following conditions:

(1) be at least 16 years of age;

(2) hold a valid wave pool lifeguard certificate issued by a competent body.

440. Despite section 438, a person of at least 16 years of age who qualifies in accordance with paragraph 2 of section 441 may act as a swimming pool lifeguard at a pool with a water surface area of less than 150 m² provided that use of the pool is reserved for use by one of the following clientele:

(1) the clients of a tourist accommodation establishment, except a vacation camp, in which at least one dwelling unit is offered for rent in return for payment, or of an establishment providing restaurant services;

(2) the residents of a residential board and care occupancy that accommodates no more than 9 persons and their guests;

(3) the residents of a private seniors' residence and their guests.

441. An assistant lifeguard must meet the following conditions:

(1) be at least 15 years of age;

(2) hold a valid assistant lifeguard certificate issued by a competent body.

442. Water safety supervisors must be identified in a way that allows them to be located by bathers. They must carry a pocket mask and a pair of protective gloves.

443. A water safety supervisor may leave the area temporarily provided that

(1) the water safety supervisor remains within calling distance;

(2) the other water safety supervisors, including at least one lifeguard, remain on duty.

444. The swimming pool must be cleared of bathers and access to the pool must be prevented as soon as one of the following situations occurs:

(1) a safety check is necessary;

(2) there is a hazard because of

(a) a lack of water clarity, as provided for in section 454;

(b) the presence of hazardous substances in the water or on the deck;

(3) the applicable supervision requirements are not met;

(4) a protective cover in the water treatment system breaks;

(5) the bathers' safety or health is compromised.

§2. Signs and safety equipment

445. The following rules must be posted in the swimming pool enclosure, in a conspicuous place, and be complied with by all swimming pool users, failing which they may be expelled from the pool:

(1) no glass container may be brought onto the deck or into the swimming pool;

(2) no pushing or shoving is allowed in the swimming pool or on the deck;

(3) bathing is prohibited for persons with diarrhoea or contagious skin lesions, or any other condition presenting a risk of contagion or water contamination;

(4) prolonged and repeated breath holding is prohibited;

(5) no person may bathe if alone in the swimming pool enclosure.

Where characters are used, they must be in a contrasting colour and at least 25 mm high.

446. Notices must be posted in conspicuous and appropriate places, with characters in a contrasting colour and at least 25 mm high, to inform bathers of

(1) the requirements concerning a spectator gallery, as set out in the second and third paragraphs of section 452;

(2) the safety rules for the accessories they use.

The maximum number of bathers that may be admitted to the deck and to the water, pursuant to sections 449 and 451, must be indicated on a notice using characters in a contrasting colour and at least 150 mm high.

447. A swimming pool must be equipped, in places that are accessible at all times, with the following safety equipment:

(1) an electrically insulated or non-conducting reaching pole at least 3.6 m long;

(2) two safety buoys, including at least one at each control station, that may be

(a) of a ring type with an inside diameter between 275 and 380 mm solidly attached by a cable that is 3 m plus half the width of the pool in length, placed on supports at the control station;

(b) of a torpedo type with a loop for the shoulders and at least 2 m of cable;

(c) of a tube type with a loop for the shoulders and at least 2 m of cable;

(3) a spine board with a head immobilizer;

(4) a first aid kit that meets the requirements of Schedule VI;

(5) a blanket;

(6) supplementary safety equipment for sites with several pools when it is difficult to install the safety equipment provided for in subparagraphs 1 to 5 in a place that is accessible from all the pools;

(7) a functional means of communication available to the water safety supervisor to contact the emergency services.

In addition to the equipment mentioned in the first paragraph, municipal swimming pools and swimming pools at educational establishments must be equipped with an automated external defibrillator (AED).

448. A water safety supervisor or a person responsible must be designated by the owner to ensure, each week, that the safety equipment provided for in section 447 is complete and in good working order. The person must record any pertinent remarks about the safety equipment in a register, sign the document, enter the date on which the equipment was checked and return the register to the owner.

The owner must also ensure that a person ensures, each week, the proper working order of

(1) the cut-off switch for the water treatment system;

(2) the cut-off switch for the metering pumps for disinfection and pH control if the water recirculation system is shut off.

§3. Access and use

449. A swimming pool must not be accessible to the public outside its opening times. Where a fence is used to prevent access to the swimming pool, the fence must

comply with the requirement provided for in paragraph 4 of section 10.35 of the Construction Code, as made by section 1 of the Regulation to amend the Construction Code, published as a draft in Part 2 of the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of 20 November 2024.

450. Except for a wave pool, the total number of bathers on the deck and in the water must not exceed

(1) for an indoor swimming pool, the number obtained by allocating each bather 1.4 m² of surface area in the shallow area and 2.2 m² in the deep area;

(2) for an outdoor swimming pool, the number obtained by allocating each bather 0.9 m² of surface area in the shallow area and 1.2 m² in the deep area.

For the purposes of the calculation, the deep area of the swimming pool is the area where the water is over 1400 mm deep.

451. For a wave pool, the total number of bathers on the deck and in the water must not exceed the number determined by the following formula:

$$D/1.2 + S/0.9$$

Where D is the area in square metres of the part of the swimming pool that is deeper than 1000 mm when the wave-producing mechanism is not in operation, and S is the area in square metres of the part of the swimming pool that is 1000 mm in depth or shallower when the wave-producing mechanism is not in operation.

452. Benches or seats for use by spectators during events may be placed temporarily on the deck, provided that

(1) the spectator area and the access to it are separated from the remainder of the deck by a barrier placed not less than 600 mm from the edge of the swimming pool;

(2) the benches or seats are stored outside the deck area immediately after use.

Where a spectator gallery is provided, spectators must be prohibited from walking on the deck within 1800 mm of the edge of the pool.

When the swimming pool is accessible via a barrier-free path of travel, the spectator gallery must include a sufficient number of places reserved for disabled persons.

453. Pool water must be kept free of any matter or object hazardous to the safety of bathers.

454. The pool water must be of a clarity allowing the water safety supervisor

(1) in a swimming pool, to see the black disc required by section 10.26 of the Construction Code, as made by section 1 of the Regulation to amend the Construction Code, published as a draft in Part 2 of the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of 20 November 2024, from any point on the deck 9 m away from the disc;

(2) in a wave pool, when the wave-producing mechanism is not in operation, to see the black disc required by section 10.26 of the Construction Code, as made by section 1 of the Regulation to amend the Construction Code, published as a draft in Part 2 of the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of 20 November 2024, from any point on the deck 9 m away from the disc.

DIVISION IV WADING POOLS

§1. Access

455. A wading pool must not be accessible to the public outside its opening times.

This section does not apply to a wading pool that is emptied before the departure of the person responsible for supervision.

§2. Supervision

456. A wading pool must be supervised by a person of at least 14 years of age.

457. The supervision of a wading pool that is deeper than 150 mm must be ensured by a person holding

(1) a valid first aid certificate, obtained following at least 16 hours of training, in particular concerning cardio-pulmonary resuscitation on people of all ages and first aid;

(2) a valid life-saving certificate or aquatic supervisor's certificate issued by a competent body;

(3) any other certificate in supervision or lifesaving provided for in this Chapter.

However, when an accessory in or projecting into the wading pool obstructs the water safety supervisor's view, the number of water safety supervisors must be increased so that the entire wading pool remains under constant supervision.

§3. *Safety equipment*

458. A wading pool must be equipped, at a place that is accessible at all times, with a first aid kit that meets the requirements of Schedule VI.

459. A functional means of communication must be available to the person responsible for supervision to contact the emergency services.

In addition, the procedure to be followed in the event of an emergency must be posted in a conspicuous place in characters at least 25 mm high.

DIVISION V BEACHES

§1. *Supervision*

460. When a beach is open to the public, the number of water safety supervisors must meet the requirements of Schedule VII.

However, when an accessory in or projecting into the supervised beach area obstructs the water safety supervisor's view, the number of water safety supervisors must be increased so that the entire supervised area remains under constant supervision.

461. The owner must establish a supervision and lifesaving plan taking the particularities of the beach into account. The plan must cover

- (1) the physical characteristics of the beach;
- (2) the number of water safety supervisors required by Schedule VII, depending on the length of the beach;
- (3) the location of the supervised areas allocated to each water safety supervisor;
- (4) the types of activity allowed on the beach and the additional number of water safety supervisors required, if applicable;
- (5) the procedure to be followed in the event of an emergency.

The supervision and lifesaving plan must be available for consultation on-site.

The owner is responsible for ensuring that the water safety supervisors are capable of implementing the procedure to be followed in the event of an emergency.

462. A beach lifeguard must meet the following conditions:

- (1) be at least 16 years of age;
- (2) hold a valid beach lifeguard certificate issued by a competent body.

However, one of the certificates mentioned in section 438 or 439 may be accepted for the purposes of this section if the beach is less than 15 m long or if it is shown that it is impossible to hire a lifeguard holding the certificate mentioned in subparagraph 2 of the first paragraph.

463. An assistant beach lifeguard must meet the following conditions:

- (1) be at least 16 years of age;
- (2) hold
 - (a) a swimming pool lifeguard certificate provided for in section 438;
 - (b) an assistant lifeguard certificate provided for in section 441.

464. Water safety supervisors must be identified in a way that allows them to be located by bathers. They must carry a pocket mask and a pair of protective gloves.

465. A water safety supervisor may leave the supervised area temporarily provided that

- (1) the water safety supervisor remains within calling distance;
- (2) the other water safety supervisors, including at least one lifeguard, remain on duty.

466. The beach must be cleared of bathers and access to the beach must be prevented as soon as one of the following situations occurs:

- (1) a safety check is necessary;
- (2) there is a hazard because of
 - (a) a lack of water clarity;
 - (b) the presence of hazardous substances in the water;

(3) the applicable supervision requirements are not met;

(4) the bathers' safety or health is compromised.

§2. Signs and safety equipment

467. When a beach is open to the public, the bathing area must be delimited by a line of white buoys. The water in the delimited area, and outside the delimited area over a distance of at least 1000 mm, must be no more than 1600 mm. The line of buoys must be anchored so as to resist movement by waves.

Depth markers must be installed in the bathing area to mark the depths of 500 mm and 1000 mm. The depth must be indicated in metres using characters at least 150 mm high in a contrasting colour so as to be visible from the beach.

In the case of an oceanfront beach, the supervised area must be delimited using flags on the beach. If the beach is tidal, the supervised area must be adjusted depending on the water depth.

468. A beach open to the public must be equipped with

(1) one non-motorized rescue boat or aquaplane containing the equipment prescribed in section 471 for each 250 linear metres of beach or fraction thereof;

(2) one control station, protected from the sun, of a minimum height of 2.4 m, for each 125 linear metres of beach or fraction thereof;

(3) in each control station,

(a) a safety buoy, that may be

i. of a torpedo type with a loop for the shoulders and at least 2 m of cable;

ii. of a tube type with a loop for the shoulders and at least 2 m of cable;

(b) fins, face masks and snorkels;

(4) a first aid kit that meets the requirements of Schedule VI;

(5) a blanket;

(6) a functional means of communication, within a 100 m radius of each supervision station, that is available to the water safety supervisor to contact the emergency

services. In addition, the procedure to be followed in the event of an emergency must be posted in a conspicuous place in characters at least 25 mm high;

(7) a functional means of communication allowing communications between the water safety supervisors;

(8) personal flotation devices for children when groups of children are admitted to the beach.

469. In the presence of an accessory in or projecting into the supervised area of a beach, the water depth must be indicated at the place where the accessory is located, in metres, using characters at least 150 mm high in a contrasting colour so as to be visible from the beach.

470. A water safety supervisor or a person responsible must be designated by the owner to ensure, each week, that the equipment provided for in section 468 is complete and in good working order. The person must record any pertinent remarks about the safety equipment in a register, sign the document, enter the date on which the equipment was checked and return the register to the owner.

The owner must also ensure that a person, each week, checks

(1) the proper working order of the accessories;

(2) the depth of the bathing area at the places where depth markers are installed in accordance with the second paragraph of section 467.

471. A rescue boat must contain

(1) 2 oars and rowlocks;

(2) 1 mooring-buoy or anchor;

(3) 3 lifejackets approved by Transport Canada;

(4) 1 ringbuoy with a maximum interior diameter of 380 mm attached to a cable having a minimum length of 15 m.

472. Except in a case of necessity, a rescue boat must not be used for patrolling bathers.

473. The following rules must be posted in at least two conspicuous places on the beach:

(1) glass containers are prohibited on the beach;

(2) pushing or shoving is prohibited;

- (3) diving is prohibited;
- (4) watercraft and fishing are prohibited in the bathing area;
- (5) bathing is prohibited for persons with diarrhoea or contagious skin lesions, or any other condition presenting a risk of contagion or water contamination;
- (6) prolonged and repeated breath holding is prohibited.

Where characters are used, they must be in a contrasting colour and at least 25 mm high.

474. Notices using characters at least 100 mm high must be installed at each end of the beach and on the boundary with adjacent land at a maximum interval of 60 m to inform bathers about

- (1) the hours of supervision;
- (2) the prohibition on bathing outside the hours of supervision;
- (3) the boundaries of the supervised beach;
- (4) the water quality;
- (5) the risk of rip currents, on oceanfront beaches and tidal beaches.

DIVISION VI
PENAL PROVISION

475. A contravention of any of the provisions of this Chapter constitutes an offence.”

2. The following is added after Schedule III:

SCHEDULE IV
(ss. 431 and 436)

SUPERVISION OF A SWIMMING POOL

Table 1 Water surface area below 150 m ²		
Number of bathers in the water and on the deck	Lifeguards	Assistant lifeguards
0-50	1	0
51 or more	1	1

Table 2 Indoor swimming pool Water surface area of 150 m ² or more		
Number of bathers in the water and on the deck	Minimum number of:	
	Lifeguards	Assistant lifeguards
0-30	1	0
31-100	1	1
101-200	1	2
201-300	2	2
301-400	2	3
401-500	3	3
501-600	3	4
601-700	4	4
701 or more	4 lifeguards, 4 assistant lifeguards and 1 additional water safety supervisor for each additional 100 bathers or fraction thereof over 700.	

Table 3 Outdoor swimming pool Water surface area of 150 m ² or more		
Number of bathers in the water and on the deck	Minimum number of:	
	Lifeguards	Assistant lifeguards
0-30	1	0
31-150	1	1
151-300	1	2
301-500	2	2
501-700	2	3
701 or more	2 lifeguards, 3 assistant lifeguards et 1 additional water safety supervisor for each additional 300 bathers or fraction thereof over 700.	

Table 4
Wave pool

Number of bathers	Number of lifeguards based on the surface area of a wave pool		
	No more than 1500 m ²	Between 1,501 and 2,500 m ²	More than 2,500 m ²
0-50	2	2	3
51-100	3	4	5
101-300	4	5	6
301-500	5	6	7
501-700	6	7	8
701-850	7	8	9
851-1 000	8	9	10

For more than 1,000 bathers, one additional lifeguard for each additional 150 bathers.

SCHEDULE V
(ss. 431 and 436)

ADDITIONAL SUPERVISION REQUIRED,
IN ADDITION TO THE AQUATIC INSTRUCTOR,
WHEN A SWIMMING POOL IS USED IS USED
EXCLUSIVELY FOR CLASSES, SWIM MEETS
OR SUPERVISED TRAINING

Number of bathers	Minimum number of:	
	Lifeguards	Assistant lifeguards
0-30	0*	0
31-50	1	0
51 or more	1	1

* A lifeguard is required if the aquatic instructor is not a qualified lifeguard.

SCHEDULE VI
(ss. 447, 458 and 468)

FIRST AID KIT

— 25 adhesive dressings, sterile, various sizes (standard, large, fingertip, joint, large patch);

— 1 roll stretch gauze bandage, unstretched length, individually wrapped, 5.1 cm x 1.8 m;

— 1 roll stretch gauze bandage, unstretched length, individually wrapped, 7.6 cm x 1.8 m;

— 1 pair bandage scissors, stainless steel (angled, blunted tip), minimum 14 cm;

— 2 compression bandages with ties, sterile, 10.2 cm x 10.2 cm;

— 2 triangular bandages, cotton, with 2 safety pins, 101.6 cm x 101.6 cm x 142.2 cm;

— 25 wound-cleansing wipes, antiseptic, individually wrapped;

— 1 splinter forceps/tweezers, fine point, stainless steel, minimum 11.4 cm;

— 2.3 m adhesive tape (diachylon), 2.5 cm;

— 1 barrier device for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), with one-way valve;

— 4 pairs examination gloves, disposable, medical grade, single-size, latex and powder free;

— 1 abdominal pad, sterile, individually wrapped, 12.7 cm x 22.9 cm;

— 12 sterile gauze swabs, individually wrapped, 7.6 cm x 7.6 cm;

— 1 emergency blanket, non-stretch aluminum and polyester, minimum 132 cm x 213 cm;

— 6 hand and skin cleansing wipes, individually wrapped (or equivalent);

— 6 doses antibiotic ointment, topical, single-use;

— 1 biomedical waste collection bag, single-use;

— List of contents.

SCHEDULE VII
(ss. 460 and 461)

SUPERVISION OF A BEACH

Beach length in metres	Minimum number of:	
	Lifeguards	Assistant lifeguards
Under 125	1	0
125 to 250	2	1
251 to 375	2	2
376 to 500	3	2
501 to 625	3	3

N.B. For each additional 125 linear metres of beach or fraction thereof over 625 metres, one additional water safety supervisor is required.

DIVISION VII
TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL

3. A physical education teacher holding the attestation required by section 26 of the Regulation respecting safety in public baths (chapter B-1.1, r. 11) when this Regulation comes into force is exempted from the application of the second paragraph of section 434 of this Regulation concerning the minimum number of hours of training qualifying the teacher in life-saving, supervision, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and first aid.

4. Despite section 20 of the Regulation respecting safety in public baths (chapter B-1.1) and section 10.18 of the Construction Code (chapter B-1.1), a swimming pool constructed with a slope towards the centre from the deck must comply with the requirement provided for in section 10.26 of the Construction Code, as made by section 1 of the Regulation to amend the Construction Code, published as a draft in Part 2 of the *Gazette officielle du Québec* of 20 November 2024, not later than 6 months following (insert the date of coming into force of this Regulation).

5. The Regulation respecting safety in public baths (chapter B-1.1, r. 11) is revoked.

6. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*, except section 438, as made by section 1 of this Regulation, which comes into force on (insert the date occurring one year after the date of coming into force of this Regulation).

107117

