**NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**2020 EVENT CANCELLED DUE TO COVID-19**

**Edmonton, April 27, 2020** — The organizers of the Servus Edmonton Marathon announce that this year’s event, scheduled for August 14, 15, and 16, 2020, is cancelled due to the COVID-19 health situation.

Last week, all mass events for the summer of 2020 were cancelled under authority of the Chief Medical Officer of Alberta Health Services (AHS) which necessarily includes the Servus Edmonton Marathon. We know how important the event is to our city and the running community, with participants from near and far. Keep aspiring to your training goals and aim for August 20-22, 2021, because we are already making plans to see you then.

*“As runners ourselves, we held out hope that the event could go ahead, because we tend to be an optimistic group and we love putting it on for the community. However, it is best that we protect our runners, volunteers and staff, and support our courageous healthcare professionals by being part of the solution in our battle against COVID-19.”* – Tom Keogh, Director

*“I look forward to seeing everyone at the Service Edmonton Marathon 2021. For now, I encourage you to continue to run and enjoy the mental, physical and spiritual benefits . In your training practice physical distancing and use social media and runningroom.com to stay socially connect and for all your training resources. Stay safe, stay health and stay physically fit”* – John Stanton, Running Room Founder

All registered 2020 participants will have the right to rollover their registration fee to either 2021 or 2022. More information will be published in fall of 2020.

Taking care of our physical and mental health is as important as ever in these challenging times. In alignment with the City of Edmonton Live Active Strategy (#liveactiveyeg), we encourage participants of all abilities to do regular physical activity while maintaining physical distance (2m/6.5 feet). We are all in this together.

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**About the Servus Edmonton Marathon and Family Festival Weekend:**

* The 29th edition was scheduled to take place August 14, 15, 16, and is a signature event on the City of Edmonton sporting events calendar.
* The Servus Edmonton Marathon is connected with the City of Edmonton Live Active Strategy, an initiative to promote healthy and active citizens. Tweet #liveactiveyeg
* The marathon is known as “The Friendly Marathon,” because of its fast course, excellent organization, amenities, and volunteer and community participation.
* The marathon is a certified Boston qualifier. The course is flat and fast and offers stunning views of the River Valley as well as routes through beautiful historic neighbourhoods.
* Events include a pre-race party as well as walk/runs at 3 km, 5 km, 10km, half marathon and marathon distances. Kids and families can enjoy the ABC Activities and 1 km run/walk.
* About 5,000 runners took part in 2019.

Schedule of events, interactive map and more: <http://www.edmontonmarathon.ca>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ServusEdmontonMarathon/>

Twitter: [@Edm\_Marathon](https://twitter.com/Edm_Marathon)

Hashtag: #YEGMarathon

Instagram: [@edmontonmarathon](https://www.instagram.com/edmontonmarathon/)

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