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For immediate release

Swimming pools safe in Edmonton - Union

EDMONTON - The union representing employee's at most City-owned swimming pools says it is unlikely Edmonton will see the same kind of problems faced by Montreal.

The City of Montreal has had to close many of its public swimming pools down after an outbreak of e-coli.

Dennis Mol, President of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 30, says procedures in place, along with the dedication of staff make a similar situation in Edmonton unlikely.

"Our staff handle it very well," said Mol. "They do regular tests of the water, they monitor water quality very closely, samples are sent twice a week to a lab for analysis and they are not afraid to evacuate pools or drain the water if necessary to keep the public safe."

Mol said civic employees take their responsibility for public safety and services 'very seriously.'

"Our members do great work and take a lot of pride in serving the citizens of Edmonton."