

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Town of Kindersley



EMAIL: mayorperkins@kindersley.ca

WEBSITE: www.kindersley.ca

18 March 2020

Town of Kindersley Message from the Mayor and CAO Regarding COVID-19

The Town of Kindersley has been busy the last few days with its own continuity plans in response to the COVID-19 outbreak. That may look like business as usual, but Council and Administration have been diligently monitoring releases from the provincial government, federal government, and the World Health Organization to support their decision making. Council and CAO Hebert met early morning on March 16 and have continued planning since that time.

As with every other business, the Town is reviewing what we will do as an organization if the time comes when we need to work remotely from home or work short-staffed. We are discussing plans to keep our staff and their families, and our residents safe while adhering to health directives and assuring that essential service operations are not too adversely affected.

The following preliminary measures have been taken to ensure this is achieved:

1. The West Central Events Centre, the Kindersley Aquatic Centre, Elks Hall and the NRCC have been closed to the public. Staff continue with regular maintenance and deep cleaning of the facilities in anticipation of the time when they will reopen. Parks will remain open to the public for general use, but precautions as set out by health organizations must be adhered to.
2. In order to ensure the health and safety of our residents and staff, the Town of Kindersley administration office will continue with daily operations during regular business hours but is now closed to the general public until at least March 31, 2020. If you need to report a concern, need to stop or start utility service, or require immediate assistance please reach out to office staff at office@kindersley.ca or by dialing 306-463-2675. Payments for services can be made through online payments, EFTS, mail, or by using the drop off box located beside the south west door (the front door closest to main street). I can be reached directly at 306-463-8137 or CAO Hebert directly at 306 460-5578 if necessary.
3. The Town has a developed and tested Emergency Response Plan that has the functionality to be adapted to any weather, fire, or health crisis whenever one arises, this remains available should it be required.
4. Town staff at all facilities are being briefed about appropriate cleaning, hygiene and social distancing measures. All public gatherings of more than 50 people have been prohibited, and all non-essential meetings and gatherings will be rescheduled or cancelled. Council will maintain their regular meeting schedule, but all delegations will be entertained via conference calls or other electronic means.
5. The Town has instituted an enhancement to current HR Policies regarding sick leave and leave of absence to safeguard staff and their families by addressing several possible scenarios arising from the impact of measures put in place to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Residents and business owners are strongly urged to continue to immediately implement the recommendations or orders provided by provincial and federal health organizations, and to continue "business as usual" wherever possible while ensuring the health of staff and patrons alike. Continuing to implement common-sense practices to reduce or eliminate the spread of the virus is the best course of action for all concerned. Residents are encouraged to avoid "panic buying" and to be most cautious in the protection and care of our vulnerable community members, the elderly and those with compromised immune systems.

We thank you for your understanding and continue to wish the best to all during this uncertain time.

For up to date COVID-19 information please visit www.kindersley.ca for a list of links.

Mayor Rod Perkins

For Immediate Release