

VILLAGE OF FORESTBURG

PRESS RELEASE UPDATE – MARCH 17, 2020

COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

The Village of Forestburg advises residents that the following Village facilities will be impacted due to the COVID-19 virus:

- Multi-purpose arena – CLOSED until further notice
- Community Hall – will be available for private events only
- The Forestburg Public Library – CLOSED until further notice
- Curling Rink – CLOSED until further notice
- Big Knife Villa – effective March 17, 2020 all doors will be locked and ~~visitors will need permission to enter~~ **ONLY ESSENTIAL WORKERS WILL BE ALLOWED ENTRY**

In order to ensure that we have municipal staff available to continue to meet operational needs:

- Public Works Shop – access restricted to staff only
- Village Office – please restrict your access if at all possible, bill payments may be made by online banking, by drop box or by regular mail.

We will still be conducting business but request that you call 780-582-3668 or email cao@forestburg.ca for any business-related issues. Residents are advised that the Village of Forestburg has an emergency continuity plan in place to ensure essential services continue uninterrupted.

At this time, all schools and daycares have been closed by Provincial order. We understand the stress these closures place on families, but please **DO NOT** use this time to undertake any unnecessary travel.

PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE OF YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS, IF YOU HAVE A FEVER, COUGH OR TIREDNESS ISOLATE YOURSELF AND CALL 8-1-1. DO NOT VISIT AN EMERGENCY ROOM OR URGENT CARE CENTRE TO GET TESTED.

To slow the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) virus, Alberta's Chief Medical Officer has asked that:

- All gatherings of more than 250 people be cancelled. This includes large sporting events, conferences and community events. It does not extend to places of worship, grocery stores, airports or shopping centres.
- Any event that has more than 50 attendees and expects to have international participants, or involves critical infrastructure staff, seniors, or other high-risk populations should also be cancelled.
- Events that do not meet these criteria can proceed, but risk mitigation must be in place, such as sanitizer stations and distancing between attendees.
- All Albertans who are currently outside the country are to self-isolate for 14 days after they return from being outside Canada, and monitor their condition. If they experience symptoms of fever or cough, they should call Health Link at 8-1-1 for assessment and testing. The Government of Alberta also advised all Albertans against travelling outside Canada.

COVID-19 information and updates are publicly available on the Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services websites:

- www.alberta.ca/covid19
- www.ahs.ca/covid .