



INFORMATION BULLETIN

COVID-19

MARCH 15, 2020

The Town of Claresholm is committed to sharing information with our residents regarding COVID-19. On all matters of health, the Town of Claresholm follows protocols instituted by Alberta Health Services and Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Deena Hinshaw:

"I have repeatedly said that we will monitor developments, assess the emerging evidence, and take action accordingly. Based on what we've seen over the last two days, it is clear that now is the time for additional action. We need to put in place more restrictions to help slow the virus and protect public health.

"That is why, effective immediately, the Emergency Management Cabinet Committee has approved my recommendation that students no longer attend classes in schools or post-secondary institutions until further notice.

"All regularly scheduled classes are cancelled, regardless of class size. We are also asking all licenced childcare facilities and out-of-school care programs to close immediately. Approved day homes are exempt due to the small number of children they care for, but are encouraged to use enhanced sanitation practices.

Also effective today, we are recommending new restrictions for all long-term care and other continuing care facilities. I am advising that these facilities limit visitation to essential visitors only at this time.

Effective immediately, all places of worship are now being asked to follow the same restrictions being placed on other gatherings in the province.

"All mass gatherings of 250 people or more should be cancelled. 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 at this time, but risk mitigation must be in place, such as enforcing distancing of 1-to-2 metres between attendees, ensuring that ill attendees do not attend, and using sanitizer stations.

"The health of Albertans is, and always will be, our top priority."

As per new public health restrictions issued in Alberta, the Town of Claresholm wishes to inform residents that Town services may not be maintained at normal levels. **The Town Administration Office will remain open, however will operate on Friday hours daily: 8:30 a.m. to noon and 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.** Please have patience as we continue to serve residents of the Town of Claresholm during these troubled times. In addition to facilities noted as closed on Friday, the Claresholm Senior's Drop-in Centre is also closed. We appreciate your patience and understanding in this matter, and wish for all residents to remain healthy.

Latest updates from Alberta's Chief Medical Officer:

<https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>