



March 18, 2020
Public Service Announcement
For Immediate Release

Update – Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)

SACKVILLE, N.B. — The Town of Sackville wished to advise residents that we are continuing to monitor the COVID-19 situation very closely and following the instructions given by the Public Health Agency of Canada and the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health for New Brunswick.

In an effort to protect our employee and residents, and to continue to provide essential services to our community and help reduce the spread of the virus, the following measures have been implemented and are based on the information we currently have. Given the manner in which the COVID-19 situation is progressing, we will look to provide further updates as this situation continues to develop.

FACILITIES, ACTIVITIES AND OTHER EVENTS

Effective March 19, 2020, Town Hall will be closed to the public until further notice.

All recreational programs and facilities (except our parks and trails) are closed to the public until further notice. A full list of recreation program cancellations and events/workshops is provided below.

The Sackville Public Library is closed until further notice.

The Public Works Facility, Civic Centre and Bill Johnstone Activity Centre are closed to the public.

The Fire Station operational areas are available to active members only and required town staff.

Access to the secure area of Town Hall will be limited to the Mayor and Town employees only, and other authorized visitors will be restricted as much as possible.

Water bill and property tax payments can be made online. Dog tags and By-law ticket payments are being suspended until further notice.

All deliveries, courier pick-ups, etc., will continue at Town facilities with minimal interaction.

Staff are prioritizing essential services and a business continuity plan is being implemented.

We will work with our community stakeholders to encourage cancellation and/or postponement for non-Town facilitated events and programs.

The May 2020 Municipal Elections have been delayed until on or before May 2021.

These measures are intended to reduce the spread of the virus to protect the health of our employees and community. In all other respects, it is business as usual for our organization, including Office Hours at Town Hall, snow clearing, garbage collection, police and fire protection, water and wastewater utilities, etc.

OTHER TOWN CANCELLATIONS

Recreation Programs:

Aquasize
50+ and Primetime Aerobics
Adult Basketball
Pickleball
Trailblazers Afterschool Program
4 on 4 Youth Hockey Challenge
Ukulele
Granny's Playground
Women's Shinny Hockey
Recreation and Sports Fair - April 9

Events/Workshops:

Mountie Day Flag Raising – March 26
Anti-Inflammatory Eating Workshop – April 1
Tourism Strategic Plan Public Input Meetings – March 31 and April 2
Municipal Open House – March 24
Web Presence Bootcamp for Businesses - April 15

Other upcoming events that are pending:

Poetry Month Open Mic late April
Operation Beautification May 7
VIC/Craft Gallery Opening May 1
Bordertown May 27 - 31
Sports Wall of Fame Induction June 11
Volunteer Night June 25

CLEANING OF TOWN FACILITIES

The municipality has already taken measures in its facilities to try to reduce the risks of contamination, such as:

- The frequency of cleaning in high traffic areas has been increased.
- Additional cleaning has been introduced in public areas.
- New automatic hand sanitizing stations have been installed throughout Town Hall.

- Posting of COVID-19 information posters, websites and other information as produced by the provincial government.
- Monitoring of soap dispensers in order to ensure that they are always filled.

TRAVEL FOR TRAINING AND MEETINGS OUTSIDE THE PROVINCE

For prevention reasons, work-related travel for training and meetings that is to take place outside the province is suspended for our employees, with the exception of the Amherst area which is permitted with management authorization.

INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

The Town is following the Federal and Provincial Government's travel advice, including:

- All employees have been encouraged to avoid all non-essential travel outside of Canada until further notice.
- All travellers arriving in Canada from international points as of March 13, 2020 must [self-isolate](#) for 14 days. Self-isolation means staying at home and avoiding contact with other people to help prevent the spread of disease to others in your home and your community.
- All international travellers must self-monitor for [symptoms](#) of COVID-19 for 14 days after returning to Canada. If you start having symptoms, immediately call Tele-care 8-1-1. Describe your symptoms and travel history. They will provide advice on what you should do.

REDUCING THE POSSIBILITIES OF TRANSMISSION

Here are the measures suggested by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health for New Brunswick to reduce the possibility of spreading the virus as presented on the website of Health New Brunswick:

https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/ocmoh/cdc/content/respiratory_diseases/corona_virus/protect-yourself-and-others.html

Key messages include:

- Wash your hands often.
- Cough and sneeze into the elbow.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with your hands.
- Cough into a tissue and throw it away.
- Stay at home if you are sick.
- Avoid contact with a sick person.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if there is no soap and water.
- Avoid shaking hands.
- Practice Social distancing, (maintain at least 2 metres (6 feet) distance between yourself and others)
- If a person experiences symptoms, call Tele-care 8-1-1

Employees are strongly encouraged to be mindful of good health practices and strict adherence to the measures as outlined by the Province of NB to help reduce the delay and spread of COVID-19.

We are in contact with the Province's Emergency Measures Organization and are currently reviewing Town operations to ensure business continuity and service delivery (especially essential services) in the event of an emergency activation.

Additional measures may be added as directed by the New Brunswick Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health. We will keep you informed through our social media sites and website.

For more information, please visit the following websites:

https://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/ocmoh/cdc/content/respiratory_diseases/corona_virus.html

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

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