



Special Mayor's Message

Coronavirus update #9 – November 25, 2020

Information & Resources:	New public health restrictions	www.alberta.ca/enhanced-public-health-measures.aspx
	Other Provincial information, income and business supports	www.alberta.ca/covid19
	Federal information, income and business supports	www.canada.ca/coronavirus

The Government of Alberta declared a State of Public Health Emergency and announced a series of new public health restrictions yesterday to help slow the spread of the coronavirus.

Orders issued by Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health Act are now in effect for all areas under "enhanced measures status" including the County of Warner and the urban communities such as Stirling contained therein. These orders require changes to the operation of Village facilities and services.

Please be advised of the following changes now in effect:

1. **Village Office & ATB Agency** – Working from home is encouraged for all Albertans where possible. The Village Office & ATB Agency will remain **open** but use of phone, email and electronic service options is preferred to help protect our staff. The current limit of 1 customer in the office or agency at any given time will continue to be in place.
2. **Community Centre** – The Province has banned all indoor social gatherings across the province. Consequently, the Stirling Community Centre (including the Senior's centre) is closed and all bookings are **cancelled** for as long as the restrictions remain in place. Please contact the Village office for information on refunds and future rebooking.
3. **Library** – The use of curbside pick-up is encouraged. The library will remain open, but visitors will be restricted to drop off and pick up activities by appointment. (This continues the recent practice of the last few months so no real change.)
4. **Firehall** – Our volunteer firefighters continue to act as medical first responders and standby by for other emergency response requirements. Our fire department follows Alberta Health recommendations for masking and personal protective equipment. Training activities will be adjusted to reflect the new 25% capacity limit of our training room. The fire hall will be closed to the general public until such time as the State of Public Health Emergency is lifted.



5. **Post Office** – Canada Post has imposed a requirement for masks to enter any of its facilities including our local Post Office. Please recognize that these are the requirements of Canada Post when accessing your mailbox or retail services rather than something implemented by local staff.
6. **Store front & Home based businesses** – Most businesses can continue to operate but with limitations based on 25% of Fire Code rated occupancy. Please contact local store front and home-based businesses to find out what other measures they have in place or what requirements may be in place for certain activities. Supporting local at this time is critical to keeping these businesses in our community as they navigate challenging times.
7. **Stirling School** – Students in Grades 7 to 12 will move to at home learning from November 30th to January 8th. In person classes will resume on January 11th. Students from Kindergarten to Grade 6 will continue at school until the Christmas break with in-person classes to resume January 11th. Please check social media from Stirling School and Westwind School Division for more information.
8. **Places of Worship** – Have a capacity limit of 1/3 of normal attendance. Both the use of masks and physical distancing is required at all times. Wedding and funeral services are limited to a maximum of 10 persons and no receptions are permitted.

What else you should do...

Albertans are strongly encouraged to follow existing public health measures keep everyone safe:

- Stay 2 metres apart when you can, wear a mask when you can't
- Practice good hygiene: wash your hands often and be sure to cover coughs and sneezes
- Monitor your symptoms every day
- If sick, stay home, get tested, and follow mandatory isolation requirements while waiting for results: if positive, isolate from others for 10 days or until symptoms are gone, whichever is longer; if negative, stay home until you're better
- Avoid non-essential travel
- Get the flu shot to keep influenza cases low so health workers can focus on the COVID-19 pandemic
- Download and use the ABTraceTogether contact tracing app when out in public

Thank you as always for your continued cooperation in this evolving situation. Stirling continues to be a place where we look out for each other and take care of community.

Trevor Lewington