



*Serving Our Community*

April 3, 2020

## Emergency Management Update

### Current Situation

The Town of Black Diamond renewed its State of Local Emergency (SOLE) on April 1, 2020, and continues to support provincial efforts to curb the COVID 19 pandemic. The Emergency Coordination Centre continues to work with the province and Alberta Health Services to secure resources and coordinate with the province. This planning is underway, to assist as needed, should the number of confirmed cases grow beyond the estimated ability of the health care system to manage.

As of April 2 there were 968 confirmed cases of COVID- 19 within Alberta. 174 recoveries have also been reported, which is great news. Our condolences go out to the families of the 13 people who have died of COVID-19.

You can all do your part by being active and diligent participants in the front line against this disease – you can prevent the spread. By remaining vigilant; isolating if you are ill, washing your hands often, not touching your face and maintaining 2 meters of separation if you must leave your home you are not only obeying the Orders issued by the Chief Medical Officer, you are helping yourself and others to stay safe and healthy.

Many of our residents, while taking their own safety precautions, are helping others to isolate, making sure they have everything they need to do so. The Town sincerely thanks everyone for helping to flatten the curve, and for helping others to isolate in safety. We are a great community, and we'll make it through this extraordinary time together.

### Information

The Town of Black Diamond's [COVID-19 information](#) webpages are full of links to:

- federal and provincial government financial assistance programs,
- services and assistance offered by the Town of Black Diamond,
- local businesses and services that are available,
- restrictions for gatherings, etc.,
- and other general information as we all navigate life with COVID-19.

Please visit the site regularly to stay well informed before you make decisions that affect your family and your community.

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## Care Facilities

Hospitals, nursing homes, seniors lodges, long-term care facilities and many residential shelters have limitations in place regarding visitation. If you have a loved one in one of these care facilities, please confirm your ability to visit before going to the facility. Many of these residences are fully closed to all visitors, including family members. Recognizing that this is difficult for everyone and that families need to stay in touch despite restrictions, many of them have tried to create ways for virtual visits to happen.

## Emergency Services

First Responders are not immune to the impact of a pandemic, especially if they are not able to isolate or socially distance themselves. All agencies have robust plans in place to provide the care and response as required.

### Community Peace Officers

The province has implemented penalties for those who fail to adhere to the Orders of the Chief Medical Officer. Community Peace Officers' authorities have been expanded during the public health emergency to assist in flattening the curve. Among other things, CPOs can prohibit mass gatherings (now maxed at 15), attendance at recreational facilities, ensure closure of bars/nightclubs, ensure that newly returned travellers, those who are confirmed to be infected with COVID-19 and those who are exhibiting symptoms are isolating as required.

### Fire Department

The Fire Department has enhanced its response model to ensure that they are able to continue to provide uninterrupted service during the pandemic.

## Municipal Office

Our top priority is to assure the health, safety and well being of our residents and to maintain essential services.

The Black Diamond Municipal Office will be restricting access to the general public as of Monday April 06, 2020, in support of flattening the curve. Access will be by appointment only and for regularly scheduled deliveries (health checks will apply).

In order to support physical distancing, we encourage residents to use alternative means to contact us.

For payments, please:

- Use online banking options; add the Town of Black Diamond as a payee;
- Pay by cheque and use the drop box located outside the municipal office upper level entrance, 301 Centre Ave, Black Diamond AB T0L 0H0;

For all other enquiries please contact us at 403-933-4348, email us at [info@town.blackdiamond.ab.ca](mailto:info@town.blackdiamond.ab.ca), or visit our website at [www.town.blackdiamond.ab.ca](http://www.town.blackdiamond.ab.ca).



## **Utility Bills**

Information on Utility bill options, including payment deferral, is available on the Town website. If you require assistance please contact the office by phone or email.

## **Public Works**

The Public Works department is functioning as normal, with no expected changes to the provision of water, sewer and garbage collection services. The Recycling Depot in Turner Valley has been temporarily closed due to COVID-19. Some vendors provide curbside recycling services for those that wish to investigate alternative options.