

TOWN OF LA RONGE

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COVID -19 Public Statement – May 08, 2019

The COVID-19 situation we have experienced as a Province and as a community since early March is unprecedented. While some of our past emergency response experiences are of benefit, we could never have been prepared enough to deal with or respond to what we are experiencing today, despite our best efforts.

Since we first learned about COVID-19, Council has been proactive and diligent in focusing on providing essential municipal services to our residents in a safe manner and we have been in constant communication with our community via our webpage with weekly updates and the posting of relevant COVID-19 news from others. As well, we have ongoing dialogue with the Minister of Government Relations, her officials and others so that we are as current as we can be in a rapidly changing situation. In a timely manner and as best we can, we communicate what we know and are doing to the public. It has not been easy keeping up but we are doing our best.

Since April 01, 2020, we have been working and communicating with our Tri-Community Partners – the Northern Village of Air Ronge and Lac La Ronge Indian Band via our Emergency Operations Centre Plan and our weekly meetings have been a source of inter-organization communications and information sharing which will be ongoing until the Province lifts all restrictions and public health orders and we can return to some level of post COVID-19 normalization.

Our position as Council today is that we have formally asked the Minister of Government Relations that our exemption surrounding travel restrictions, dated April 30th 2020 be removed, so that the Town of La Ronge will be included in future travel restrictions into the north. And they have heard us and our community with the revised Public Health Order issued on May 06, 2020.

Also, we have been advised by the Province that future public health orders will be reviewed on a bi weekly basis and will modified to suit the circumstances of that time. We will do our best to communicate any updates to the public via our webpage.

Council will continue to monitor the rapidly changing COVID-19 situation under the direction of Provincial and Saskatchewan Health Authority officials and in sync with our Tri-Community Partners.

We honestly understand these times are trying, on all of us, as we adapt to our new norm. Council would sincerely like to thank all community members for respecting physical distancing, practicing healthy hand hygiene, and adapting to a new way of life.

Council would also encourage all residents to continue following the Saskatchewan Health Authority's recommendations in order to prevent transmission of the virus in our community, and reduce the impact a pandemic could have on our existing health care facilities.

We are in this together and will see it through to the end.

Sincerely,

Mayor and Council
Town of La Ronge

- May 06, 2020 Public Health Order is in our website
- Covid-19 Healthline – call 811
- Questions on travels restriction – call 1(855) 559-5502 or e-mail at COVID19@health.gov.sk.ca