



# City of Revelstoke

P.O. Box 170, Revelstoke, British Columbia V0E 2S0  
revelstoke.ca

March 31, 2020

Mayors Address to the Community

Good Morning Everyone,

I would like to provide the community with another update from Mayor and Council and City Staff about the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic situation.

Council and City Staff continue to work with the Province and Interior Health to put measures in place that will protect and provide comfort to the residents of Revelstoke. Council recognized Emergency Planning as one of their top priorities.

The Province declared a Provincial State of Emergency on March 18, 2020. The City activated a Level One Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) on that same day. On March 22, the Chief Administrative Officer escalated our Emergency Operations Centre to Level Two in an effort to moderate the event and create a complete list of external agencies involved. An emergency operation centre involves all senior staff trained in Emergency Operations and will allow the City to support Interior Health and our residents if the system becomes overwhelmed.

The City is currently working with the Province on a plan to offer facilities to meet the needs our community if required. The response goals in an Emergency Operation Centre are to:

1. Provide for the safety and health of all responders
2. Save lives
3. Reduce suffering
4. Protect public health
5. Protect government infrastructure
6. Protect property
7. Protect the environment
8. Reduce economic and social losses

At this point, the EOC is active from 8 am to 4 pm Monday – Friday and is staffed by a team of four who are responsible for overall emergency policy and coordination, agency liaison, and proper risk management procedures, through the joint efforts of local government agencies and private organizations.

Our community is working together to protect the health and safety of our residents and I am really proud of all our efforts. The attitude that **we are all in this together** is really shining through. It is everyone's responsibly to continue to follow government regulations.

DEVELOPMENT  
SERVICES

(250) 837-3637  
development@revelstoke.ca

PUBLIC WORKS

(250) 837-2001  
works@revelstoke.ca

FINANCE

(250) 837-2161  
finance@revelstoke.ca

FIRE RESCUE  
SERVICES

(250) 837-2884  
fire@revelstoke.ca

PARKS, RECREATION  
& CULTURE

(250) 837-9351  
prc@revelstoke.ca

CORPORATE  
ADMINISTRATION

(250) 837-2911  
admin@revelstoke.ca

COMMUNITY  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

(250) 837-5345  
ced@revelstoke.ca

I repeat:

- practice social distancing always (which means physical distancing, 2 meters or 6 ft plus away from each other)
- stay home as much as possible
- wash our hands and keep our homes wiped clean
- practice self-isolation if you are unwell or have traveled outside of the Country

On March 26, 2020 an order was issued under the Emergency Program Act that addresses local governments' immediate procedural concerns. Under this order, local governments will be able to:

- Hold council meetings to make necessary essential decisions for their community in this state of emergency, without the public present, with the expectation that decisions made on the order will focus on emergency and time restricted decisions related to finances;
- Allow elected officials to meet through electronic mediums while allowing local governments to conduct their day-to-day business as they follow physical distancing guidelines;
- Allow local governments give three readings of a bylaw and adopt a bylaw in the same day; and
- Provides By-law Enforcement officers with the regulatory powers to support the Public Health Officer's orders of social distancing and no mass gatherings.

Enforcement Officers will be in the community ensuring the orders are adhered to and gathering evidence if there is a violation of the orders.

At the March 26, 2020 Special Council Meeting, Council adopted a Loan Authorization Bylaw that will allow the municipality to borrow money for operations of the City, if required. The Financial Plan Bylaw was also adopted with the understanding that, if required, amendments could be made throughout the year. Council also adopted a Bylaw to offer some financial relief to the business community by changing the second quarter utility due date from April 30<sup>th</sup> to two equal payments due on July 31 and October 31, 2020.

The City continues to request the Province consider amending the legislation to push forward the property tax due date and consider waiving of penalties.

I continue to recognize all the non-essential businesses that have closed their doors and recognize that this is not an easy time. Know that you are all saving lives and helping to slow the spread of the virus.

You may notice that some public works staff are cleaning streets and sidewalks. Staff are adhering to strict protocols for safety and are attempting to ensure that the air quality remains healthy for or residents.

Revelstoke is doing such an amazing job following the public health officers' orders to stay safe and protect each other, we are setting the standards that other municipalities are following keep up the good work Revelstoke!