



March 13, 2020

**MANITOBA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
ADOPTS MEASURES TO REDUCE COVID-19 TRANSMISSION**

The Manitoba Legislative Assembly, in response to the emerging situation regarding COVID-19, has implemented preventative measures to protect the health and safety of visitors, staff and Members of the Legislative Assembly while maintaining the ability of the Assembly to perform its legislative function. These measures are to take effect within areas of the Legislative Building that have significant public traffic.

The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and House leadership have agreed to implement proactive and precautionary measures consistent with medical information available at this time.

Hon. Myrna Driedger, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, is now advising on behalf of House leadership that effective immediately and until further notice, the Public Galleries of the Legislative Assembly Chamber and Committee rooms are closed. In addition, tours offered by the Legislative Assembly Visitor Tour Program and programming offered by the Legislative Assembly Education and Outreach Services are also postponed until further notice.

“These are not measures that the Legislative Assembly takes lightly” advises Driedger. “However the Assembly is committed to doing its part to slow the spread of COVID-19 while keeping the safety of Members of the Legislative Assembly, building staff and the general public in mind.”

As part of our commitment to maintaining an open Legislature despite these necessary public health precautions, effective Monday, March 16th the Assembly will be expanding video broadcasting of our proceedings to cover the entire sitting day. This expanded video broadcast of all sittings of the Legislature can be accessed through live streaming on the Legislative Assembly website at: https://www.gov.mb.ca/legislature/business/house_broadcasts.html

A communication will be released in the future once the closures are lifted.

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