

Bulletin # 2020-04

MUNICIPAL RELATIONS

Important Notice to All Elected Officials and Chief Administrative Officers

COVID-19 – Social Distancing Measures

All municipalities are asked to contribute to slowing the spread of the virus and ensuring the health and safety of Manitobans who are at the highest risk by considering the following measures:

- Limiting access to all municipally occupied spaces for essential business purposes only, and/or promoting and providing alternate forms of access to information
- Following public health advice related to self-monitoring and self-isolation if you have travelled or have been exposed to someone ill with the virus; health information can be found at <https://manitoba.ca/covid19/>
- Encouraging alternate options to reduce prolonged contact between individuals, including council deliberations, related hearings and public information sessions
- Postponing all non-essential gatherings and events
- Limiting or postponing interactions such as conferences, training, meetings and related travel
- Minimizing prolonged (more than 10 minutes) close, (less than two metres) contact between individuals
- Avoiding greetings that involve touching such as handshakes
- Disinfecting frequently used surfaces, instructing contracted cleaning staff to do the same and posting information on proper personal hygiene
- Communicating with relevant stakeholders if program decisions impact others in your facilities
- Avoiding travel, crowded places and events, especially if you are at higher risk

Recognizing that municipalities are actively preparing to file their 2020 Financial Plans, the Province is reviewing options that may be available to provide some flexibility in timelines and will provide an update as soon as possible.

Municipalities should also be reviewing their business continuity plans and identifying essential services or projects that may require delay if they are not required at this time.

Consideration should also be given to reviewing staff working arrangements and alternative work opportunities, where appropriate.

Manitoba Emergency Measures will be reaching out and engaging municipalities through the Manitoba Emergency Coordination Centre (MECC) as the situation evolves.

The Province of Manitoba appreciates your continued support and coordination in this critical time.

Should you require further information or advice on related municipal governance issues, please contact a Municipal Services Officer or connect through reception at mrmca@gov.mb.ca or 204-945-2572.

*Department of Municipal Relations
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