



Monday, March 16

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## TOWN ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE RESPONDS TO COVID-19

Rocky Mountain House, Alta. – The Town of Rocky Mountain House has taken the precautionary step of activating its Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC). This means that we are meeting daily to proactively implement measures to try to slow the spread of COVID-19. The Town of Rocky Mountain House continues to follow guidelines from Alberta Health, and encourages all residents to do the same.

“The Town of Rocky Mountain House is taking steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19, in accordance with recommendations and directives from Alberta Health,” said Mayor Tammy Burke. Alberta Health is the lead agency coordinating Alberta’s response to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

The Town of Rocky Mountain House has increased the frequency of cleaning in our facilities and public spaces. While facilities stay open, all staff and members of the public are required to practice social distancing. We ask that any members of the public who are displaying symptoms or have travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days, to not attend at our facilities. This is in accordance with Alberta Health [protocol for returning travellers](#).

All Town-organized events and bookings will be evaluated against public health agency criteria to determine if they should proceed. Events and programming within our facilities that cannot meet Alberta Health recommendations on minimum social distances will be cancelled.

### Status of Town facilities and programs

Facility	Status	Details
Town Office 5116 50 Ave.	Open	Phone 403-845-2866 to find out if your business can be conducted remotely
Public Works 4607 48 St.	Open	Business as usual. Phone 403-845-3220 to speak with our Public Works department.
Christenson Sports and Wellness Centre 5332 50 St. 403-845-3720	Limited operations	The fitness centre will remain open with a maximum of 20 people at a time.  <b>All fitness classes and ice bookings are cancelled.</b>



Facility	Status	Details
Credit Union Co-op Aquatic Centre 5202 53 Ave. 403-845-6977	Limited operations – in accordance with <a href="#">recommendations from Canadian Lifesaving Society</a>	Lane swimming is available from 6 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. Monday to Friday (Maximum capacity 10 people) except during AquaFit. Lane Swimming Saturday and Sunday noon to 4 p.m. (Maximum Capacity 10 people.)  AquaFit will continue as scheduled (Maximum capacity 10 people). Monday 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday 9 to 10 a.m. Thursday 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.  <b>Swimming lessons, family and public swims are cancelled. The hot tub is closed.</b>

*Current to March 16, 2020 at 1600*

The Town of Rocky Mountain House is prepared to implement further protocols and/or closures if the risk to public and staff increases or at the direction of public health agencies.

**In the meantime, the Town of Rocky Mountain House is acting on provincial recommendations by:**

- Ensuring residents have access to the most up-to-date information from provincial and federal health authorities;
- Increasing hand sanitizer and disinfecting procedures in all public facilities;
- Implementing no-contact guidelines for staff;
- Developing a business-continuity plan to maintain town services;
- Restricting events with more than 250 expected attendees in our facilities; and
- Providing refunds or credits to organizations with existing Town facility bookings, whose events have been cancelled due to COVID-19.

The Town of Rocky Mountain House will maintain essential services and adapt normal operations as needed. Although the Town Office remains open, we encourage the public to call 403-845-2866 to determine if their business can be done by phone or online instead of coming in person.



The Town of Rocky Mountain House is also looking out for the well-being of our employees. Managers have been instructed to work with town staff whose families are affected by the school and childcare closures to implement remote or flexible working hours.

The Town of Rocky Mountain House will continue to follow Alberta Health guidelines and/or provincial directives as they evolve.

The Town of Rocky Mountain House wishes to reiterate the key messages of Alberta Health. To protect yourself and others:

- Use good hygiene practices, such as frequent handwashing;
- Cover coughs and sneezes;
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands;
- Stay at home and away from others if you are feeling ill;
- If you have symptoms, stay home and call [Health Link 811](#) for instructions.

For more information, please contact:

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Town of Rocky Mountain House

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