



Cypress County

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR REEVE

March 28, 2020

Dear Neighbors, Family and Friends,

Thank you all for supporting each other, together we can flatten the curve. I want to reassure you that Cypress County is taking the COVID-19 situation very seriously and are following all actions recommended by provincial and federal authorities.

On March 24, 2020 we held our regularly scheduled Council meeting. This meeting had its challenges as we had to practice "social distancing" and some Councillors attended via electronic means from home. A couple of decisions were made relating to utility deferrals and property tax deferrals.

As a short-term measure, Council motioned that utility payments may be deferred for the months of April, May, June and July without penalties or interest. Utility bills will still be sent, and we encourage residents to keep your accounts up to date if you are able to do so.

In relation to property tax deferrals, we are still ironing out all of the details as the provincial government has announced a freeze on the education property tax and other financial measures. Council is aware of the difficulties many residents and business are facing and are committed to deferring tax penalties from July 1, 2020 to a future date. More details will be announced in the coming months.

The Alberta Government is providing \$30 million to charities, non-profits and civil society organizations that support individuals, seniors, families and other vulnerable Albertans who are isolated or impacted by measures taken to contain COVID-19. Organizations (grassroots included) are encouraged to download and submit the Social Services Support for COVID-19 application form that can be found on the County's COVID-19 website page.

Due to this evolving situation it is imperative that everyone keep themselves informed by regularly visiting the following links:

<https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>. <http://www.cypress.ab.ca/p/covid-19-updates-information->. <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html>.

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting all of us and has changed our community, province, and world. We are fortunate to live in a strong vibrant country; where we always look after neighbors, family, and friends, please continue to support them. A strong community cannot exist without clear communication.

Lets all take care of each other during these extraordinary times.

Please stay safe, be well.

Reeve Dan Hamilton
Cypress County

