

PUBLIC NOTICE

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Date: 19 March 2020

Subject: Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Woodlands County is monitoring the evolving situation and is implementing necessary protocols when required. To ensure the safety of our residents and staff, **our offices will be closed effective noon, Friday, March 20, 2020.** We are committed to continuing operations for our residents and will remain working through this situation. Our Business Continuity Plan is in place to allow Woodlands County to service the needs of the municipality through this closure.

To support the needs of the County and our residents, Council held a special meeting where the following measures were put in place:

- **Water and sewer utility payment penalties will be suspended until June 30, 2020**
- All **Council meetings will be suspended through April 30, 2020** or until such time the Government of Alberta implements new measures to host meetings
- **Cancellation of scheduled public hearings** as access for the public will not be available (March 24 and April 7)

Main reception remains open to receive calls and answer questions during regular business hours (Monday – Friday, 8 am to 4:30 pm). 780-778-8400 or toll-free 1-888-870-6315.

Our residents can be assured that essential services including water and sewer will remain available and operations on our roadways will continue. Currently, the transfer stations are operating during their regular business hours.

The Government of Canada and Government of Alberta have put supports in place to help individuals and businesses through this uncertain time. Highlights of those changes include:

Provincial Supports <https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-supports-for-albertans.aspx>

- **Vehicle Registration** - Albertans with surnames or company names beginning with B, D, G, Y will now have until May 15, 2020 to renew their vehicle registrations
- **Driver's Licenses** Albertans who have birthdays between March 17 and May 15 and whose cards expire this year, now have until May 15, 2020 to renew

Federal Supports <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/economic-response-plan.html>

- Waiving the one-week waiting period for those individuals in imposed quarantine that claim Employment Insurance (EI) sickness benefits
- Introducing the Emergency Care Benefit providing up to \$900 bi-weekly, for up to 15 weeks
- Canada Revenue Agency will defer the filing due date for the 2019 tax returns of individuals until June 1, 2020

Check our website regularly for related updates <https://woodlands.ab.ca/covid19>.

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For further information, please contact:
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