



City of Revelstoke

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revelstoke.ca

May 14, 2020

Mayors Address to the Community

Good Morning Everyone,

On Tuesday May 12th, Council returned to our regular meeting schedule. Please join us online every second and fourth Tuesday of the month, at 3 pm to watch your Council in action. Tuesday afternoon Council met to a full agenda, which highlights how business at city hall continues without missing a beat. Some highlights from this meeting include:

- The City's Community Economic Development staff are working on establishing an Economic Recovery Task Force in collaboration with the Economic Development Commission and the Columbia Shuswap Regional District. The task force will guide the recovery process for local and area businesses. While we are excited to see businesses and residents get back to work, we still need to remain vigilant in following the guidance of the Provincial Health Officer.
- Council approved a series of Development Permits and Development Variance Permits related to several projects around town. The Development Services Department is working hard to ensure applications for development are being processed in a timely fashion.

I am happy to announce recovery initiatives coming out of the Emergency Operations Centre. The use of kitchen facilities at the Rec Centre have been provided in-kind to Community Connections to use 4 – 5 days a week to prepare meals for the food bank.

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Additional signage is being prepared for installation in City parks, hard court surface areas and green spaces as well as in the downtown core to remind residents and visitors of the physical distancing recommendations as we move into the recovery phase.

The Province has asked that all municipalities move in unison and work with them to implement all measures with their Go-Forward Strategy in a coordinated province-wide approach. There is a need and benefit of a collaborative re-opening approach so that we do not open too fast, hindering health and safety and so that each local government will have the decision-making tools to decide on what and when it will re-start services.

The Public Health Officer supports activating fields and courts as long as the following stipulations are followed:

- 2m physical distancing;
- No shared equipment;
- Hand hygiene;
- Don't touch your face; and
- Stay home if you are sick or symptomatic.

The following tentative schedule for the City's outdoor space has been provided pending appropriate signage:

OUTDOOR SPACE	REOPENING DATE
Playing Fields (Centennial Park fields, running track & QE Field)	May 19, 2020
All parks green space	May 19, 2020
Public Washrooms (Downtown)	May 15, 2020
Public Washrooms (Parks)	May 19, 2020
Tennis Courts	May 22, 2020

Parks, Recreation & Culture staff have also been working with other BC Recreation groups to determine best practices on how to maintain safety in the playgrounds and skateparks and hope to provide access in the coming weeks. I can confirm that at this time, there is to be no organized activities until we receive further guidance and approvals. In addition to outside recreation areas, staff has been performing annual

maintenance at the Aquatic Centre now instead of the usual September shut-down.

Engineering staff have worked diligently on ensuring safety and improving the flow of traffic in the roundabout construction area. We've added a new commercial vehicle detour to reroute large trucks away from as many residential neighbourhoods as possible and have installed additional signage along each of the detour routes as well as the construction site. Remember to give yourself some extra time to get to your destination, slow down and obey all signage and traffic rules.

Last week the Province announced the BC Restart Plan which uses modelling and planning in the decision-making process to determine how to expand our interactions while still flattening the curve. The Province urges us to adapt to the "new normal" and keep doing your part - stay home when you have cold or flu symptoms; don't shake hands or hug outside of your family, continue to practice good hygiene through regular hand washing, not touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes, and frequently disinfect surfaces. Continue to keep physical distancing, as much as possible when in the community and where not possible, consider using a non-medical mask or face covering. We know that all of us have been affected by this pandemic so I continue to encourage you to self-police, take the required precautions and please be kind to one another.

We invited the public to submit questions for my address to the City's communication team at communications@revelstoke.ca again this week and I have addressed comments and inquiries throughout this announcement. Again, please keep the questions coming.

As we go into this long weekend, the best vacation is a staycation, staying home in our own region. It allows communities such as ours to continue to put measures in place to ensure the safety of us all as we start to re-open.

Today, I give each of you a virtual hug and big thank you for supporting individuals and families as well as our local businesses.

I am so proud to have the opportunity to help lead this unique and compassionate community.

Take Care, be safe and be kind.