

Mayor's Update - April 3rd, 2020

During these difficult times the Town of Lake Cowichan is attempting to have some semblance of normalcy. I must thank our small crew of employees for maintaining municipal services that we must all rely on. I must commend the administrative and public works employees for maintaining physical distances and which includes the use of separate vehicles. Constant washing of hands with soap and water or hand sanitizers is stressed. Provincial guidelines and orders are being complied with by our employees.

We were fortunate to secure supplies of hand sanitizer cleaners for use by our employees, including for the Fire Department volunteers.

All our public facilities are closed to the public and will remain so for the foreseeable future. The Fire Department will provide its services under very trying circumstances. Public Works will continue to maintain our roads, water and sewer services and parks. Administration will continue to process applications and payments and will receive general enquiries. Building inspections for new construction and bylaw enforcement services will be maintained. For the safety of employees all members of the public must maintain 2 meters distance from our employees. I must also thank our residents for their understanding during this difficult period.

We must also thank the suppliers who have re-tooled their production lines to include production of hand sanitizers and all the service providers who are recognizing that in the wake of this unanticipated disease outbreak we are all in this together. Our senior governments have rallied to alleviate the needs of the public and for that a big thank you. Until the Province issues further orders respecting the adoption of the Town's Financial Plan and measures to deal with tax payments, the Town is unable to provide any update on these.

Our health care professionals and workers, our fire fighters, police and first responders are doing an amazing job in fighting this disease often at the risk of their own lives. Let us do our part in stopping the spread of Covid-19 by following the rules and orders that have been laid out by the Chief Provincial Health Officer. You should avoid unnecessary trips outside your home. If you are unwell stay home.

Council met on April 1st, 2020 to complete some unfinished and new business. Physical and social distancing was maintained. Council will explore the option of doing its legislative duties electronically, as is now permitted by the Province through a Provincial Order that issued on March 26th, 2020.

For the very latest information on available services or directives or guidelines, please always refer to the <u>Town's website</u> where there is a link to Covid-19 Info or go directly to:

Covid-19

We must get through this Covid-19 nightmare as one. All of us must remain vigilant and safe and do that which is required of us.

Practice good hygiene, as a first step.

Rod Peters Mayor