

## **Public Notice**

## **Closure of Municipal Premises to the Public**

The Town of Lake Cowichan will continue to provide essential services despite the COVID-19 pandemic. However, to ensure that our employees are sufficiently protected while at the same time ensuring a measure of protection to our residents, the Municipal Hall, Public Works, the Fire Hall, the Cowichan Education Centre and Lakeview campsite and all public washrooms will be closed to the public, as of the end of today, March 18, 2020.

The situation remains fluid. In the meantime, inquiries regarding Town services can be made by phone at 250-749-6681, email at general@lakecowichan.ca or by email to the contacts listed on www.lakecowichan.ca. The drop box at the Town Hall is available for receipt of cheque payments or mail. Payments may also be made on-line through your financial institution.

We will continue to maintain our essential services, including fire protection, water and sewer utilities, garbage collection, building inspections, bylaw enforcement, emergency management, communications, finance and administration, and governance, in the meantime. Land use services and development planning will continue to be provided on a limited basis.

In accordance with the latest recommendations from the Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, public gatherings must be limited to 50 people and "social distancing" must be practiced. **Council has announced the cancellation of all public meetings and will hold meetings as it deems necessary**.

We apologize for the inconvenience caused by the closures and the reduction in meetings. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we face a difficult period. We will do our best to adjust our services so we may continue to provide you the best services we can during this pandemic.

If you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, or have been exposed to the virus, please call HealthLink at 8-1-1. Questions about "social distancing", and provincial and federal support, resources and assistance can be directed to the COVID-19 information hotline at 1-888-COVID19 or 1-888-268-4319.

Useful Links to follow:

- Island Health
- BC Centre for Disease Control
- <u>Canadian travel recommendations</u>
- World Health Organization
- Self-Screening Tool
- National coronavirus information line: 1-833-784-4397