

## Summer Village of White Sands Spring 2020 Newsletter

Just a short blurb to keep you updated and to let you know what your council is doing to assist with slowing the spread of the Covid-19 virus.

What a difference a few months can make. We are now at war with an invisible foe. The fact that it can't be seen and that thankfully few of us have yet to suffer first hand tragedy as a result of this virus makes it difficult to accept the reality and gravity of the situation. Many are still in denial but as we watch the numbers grow day by day, most understand that it is vital that we all do what we can to slow this pandemic down. What is being asked of us – physical distancing, self-isolation, extra hygiene – are small sacrifices to make to protect ourselves, our friends, our families and loved ones. Let's avoid the coulda, woulda, shouldas.

Though most White Sands residents appear to be complying, we have witnessed instances where these practices are being ignored and you know who you are. Without a test, the only way you can know for certain that you are virus free is if you have not left your house or had contact with anyone or anything from the outside for two weeks. That may not be practical to maintain. However, everything you do to lessen outside contact, lessens your risk and subsequently your family's risk of becoming infected and helps to slow this virus down. We do not want to become another Italy.

Those of us who have returned from traveling outside of Canada have been asked to remain inside our property for two weeks. I want to thank those of you who have been picking up supplies to drop on our decks and running errands for those of us who cannot. Everyone should remember to ensure you properly clean those supplies when they come into your house and then clean your hands.

This is what your council has done to assist with reducing the opportunities for this virus to spread within our Village:

- Removed the door from the dumpster compound (high touch item).
- Closed the "Give and Take" and bottle depot (Some highly intelligent (?) person subsequently broke into the Give and Take).
- Closed all recreational areas such as the tennis court, playgrounds and Jack's pond.
- Cancelled all Hall activities and closed the hall and storage shed.
- Asked you to sanitize the key pad and the hose at the water fill station before and after use. Our maintenance man, Allen, is also sanitizing this area.
- Ordered more hand sanitizer to have on hand if we can get it.

We are prepared to cancel our summer festivities and close the beaches and outhouses if that becomes mandated.

If you have any other ideas on how we can be more effective in this fight, please contact me at 403-742-0210 or email [thurston.lorne@gmail.com](mailto:thurston.lorne@gmail.com). You can also contact the Town and County of Stettler Emergency Control Centre at 403-742-7300 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm for further information.

Despite the doom and gloom, life goes on so here is what council is planning:

- Widening Front Street on the hill
- Developing an area at Jack's Pond to accommodate the curling tent and to provide a flat area to be used for storm water management.
- More hall parking
- Providing a parking area at the bottom of Gazebo Hill for beach access #8
- Mooring and Docking is again in limbo with Provincial Regulations as they try to get rid of a bunch of red tape. We are awaiting direction.

In closing, I will try my best to keep you updated on the Covid-19 fight as it pertains to the Village. Our best to you all and to your families and loved ones. Please stay safe.

The Ol' Gray Councillor Lorne Thurston  
For the Summer Village of White Sands Council