

TOWN OF WILLOW BUNCH COVID-19 INFORMATION

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In an order to lessen the impact of COVID-19 and to support the well-being of our staff and customers with whom we interact please be advised the Municipal Offices will remain open for business however closed to the public.

Payments can be made via cheque (deposited in the drop box outside the front door, mailed), via etransfer or online banking.

It is important to us to support our members in taking the necessary steps to prevent the spread of this virus in the public spaces within our care and responsibility. As such, we continue to urge our members to follow the recommendations of the [Public Health Agency of Canada](https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health) (<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health>) and the [Government of Saskatchewan](https://www.saskatchewan.ca/coronavirus) (<https://www.saskatchewan.ca/coronavirus>) and to work with your local public health officials to review your emergency plans.

These measures are being put in place to assist in reducing Canada's peak number of cases and the related demands on hospitals and healthcare professionals.

At this time, the Public Health Agency of Canada has assessed the public health risk associated with COVID-19 as low for the general population, but this could change quickly.

We understand that residents have questions about COVID-19 in Saskatchewan.

- * **Public Health Assessment and advice is accessible in Saskatchewan through HealthLine dial 8-1-1 anytime.**

In light of recent developments please note the status of business for the following businesses and organizations in the town of Willow Bunch.

BUSINESSES and PUBLIC SPACES:

Willow Bunch Clinic open 306-473-2310

- The clinic is open regular hours, however if you experience flu like symptoms please refrain from entering the clinic and call HealthLine 811

Municipal Offices open/closed to the public 306-473-2450

Floyd's Variety Store open 306-473-2460

Canada Post Office open 306-473-2344

Willow Bunch Fine Foods open 306-473-3333

Bengough Credit Union open 306-473-1000

Jolly Giant Pub & Motel open 306-473-2345

The Break.ery Café open 306-473-3330 for take out and delivery ONLY

Highway 36 Gas Station open 306-473-2379

Blacktop Industries(car wash) open

Skating rink closed for the season

Curling rink closed for the season

Second Hand Store closed until further notice

Western Financial closed until further notice

Willow Bunch Library closed until further notice

- This includes onsite book drops. Please hold on to any items you have, no fines will be charged during this time and current due dates have been extended.

Businesses or organizations not listed please phone.

Council and Staff of the Town of Willow Bunch are here to help provide accurate and informed information from reliable sources. We are here to offer our support to those who may require assistance in accessing the basic essentials from within the municipality.

The following pages offer information that is also accessible on

www.saskatchewan.ca/coronavirus

and www.canada.ca/en/public-health

COVID-19 Guidance: Mass Gatherings, Risk of Elderly Populations

As of March 13, 2020, the Minister of Health has made the following order pursuant to Section 45 of The Public Health Act:

- No public events of more than 250 people take place. This does not include school, university, religious gatherings, work, or grocery shopping.
- No events of more than 50 people with speakers or attendees who have travelled internationally in the last 14 days take place.

If your event is less than 250 people, or you are considering attending events:

- Event organizers and institutions should sanitize frequently multi-touch surfaces such as handrails as well as provide tissues and hand sanitizer.
- Persons who have been in close contact with a confirmed case should self-isolate at home for 14 days. This means not attending mass gatherings and postponing travel plans.
- Anyone who develops respiratory symptoms should leave any event that they are attending, stay at home and avoid visiting elderly relatives and friends until they have fully recovered.

Additional information: Public Health Agency of Canada, [Risk-informed decision making for mass gatherings during COVID-19](#)

At this time, the Public Health Agency of Canada has assessed the public health risk associated with COVID-19 as low for the general population, but this could change quickly. There is an increased risk of more severe outcomes for Canadians 65 and over, and those with compromised immune systems or underlying medical conditions.

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- No one should attend visit an assisted living, long-term care or health care facility if ill, with the exception of seeking medical attention.
- Everyone should model social distancing (i.e. no handshakes, hugs, kisses).
- Everyone should follow proper hand/cough hygiene.
- Persons at higher risk, for example those over 65 or anyone with underlying medical conditions, should reconsider attending mass gatherings and international travel at this time.
- Publish health assessment and advice is accessible in Saskatchewan through HealthLine 811.

Protecting Yourself

Q: How do I protect myself against COVID-19?

A: Currently, there is no approved vaccine that protects people against coronaviruses.

As a respiratory illness, the best method to protect yourself against **COVID-19** is to practice everyday preventive actions, including:

- Practice proper cough and sneezing etiquette (into the bend of your elbow);
- Wash your hands often with soap and water; if soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands;
- Maintain safe food practices; and
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Avoid unnecessary travel to affected areas.
- Avoid large crowds and practice social distancing (do not shake hands, hug or kiss)

Updated March 16, 2020

saskatchewan.ca/coronavirus

Saskatchewan! 

Self-Monitoring Information Sheet

Canada Border Services Agency is providing information to returning travelers to either self-isolate or self-monitor.

What is self-monitoring?

Self-monitoring is an important way of preventing COVID-19 from spreading in Saskatchewan. It means that you pay attention to new symptoms and temperature on the chart of the reverse of this sheet. You do not have restrictions on attending work or school but should avoid crowded public spaces and vulnerable people. However, you should have a plan on how to quickly self-isolate if you develop fever, cough, or difficulty breathing when not at home.

How long is self-monitoring recommended for COVID-19?

All travelers—including those to the United States—need to monitor their health for 14 days upon return to Canada and be prepared to stay home if you have a fever or cough.

In addition, any visitors who have travelled outside of Canada in the previous 14 days or have acute respiratory or flu-like symptoms should avoid visiting long-term care homes and hospitals.

It has been recommended that I self-monitor. What are my next steps?

1. Ensure the home is supplied with basic needs, including food, medications (acetaminophen or ibuprofen and prescriptions), personal hygiene products, pet supplies, etc. to support a stay at home of up to 14 days if symptoms develop.
2. Have a plan for whom to contact if you develop fever, cough, or difficulty breathing during the self-monitoring period who can help access medical assessment if needed.
3. Carefully monitor your symptoms twice a day. Be alert for cough or difficulty breathing and document on a worksheet for tracking.

What if I need medical care?

- Pay attention to your health and how you are feeling. You can call HealthLine 811 anytime to get advice about how you are feeling and what to do next.
- If you require urgent medical care (if become harder to breathe, you can't drink anything or you feel very unwell), go to an urgent care clinic or emergency department. Tell the receptionist that you are self-monitoring because of COVID-19.
- If you develop symptoms of COVID-19, get tested, even if symptoms are mild. Symptoms of COVID-19 are fever, cough, sore throat, difficulty breathing and generally feeling unwell. Call HealthLine 811 for directions for testing.
- Call ahead before you get medical care. If leaving your home for medical care, call ahead and tell the clinic you are coming in and that you are self-monitoring due to the risk of COVID-19. By calling ahead, you help the clinic, hospital, lab, urgent care or doctor's office prepare for your visit and stop the spread of germs.

March 14, 2020

saskatchewan.ca/coronavirus

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How do I stop the spread of respiratory illness?

- **Cover your coughs and sneezes.** When you feel a cough or sneeze coming on, cover your mouth and nose with your hands. Wash your hands right away after you sneeze, cough or touch used tissues or masks. Throw used tissues into a lined trash can in your room and tie up that trash bag before adding it with other household waste.
- **Wash your hands.** Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. It is best to dry your hands with a paper towel and throw away after use. If you can't wash your hands, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- **Flush the toilet with the lid down.** COVID-19 virus may also be present in poop (stool or feces). Always wash your hands with soap and water after using the toilet.
- **Clean and disinfect common areas once a day.** Clean surfaces in the room(s) that you are staying in with regular cleaning products. Then, disinfect (kill germs) by mixing one part bleach with nine parts water and applying it to areas that are touched often such as counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, keyboards, tablets, and bedside tables. It is especially important to use bleach to disinfect if you are sharing any common areas (such as a bathroom) with others or if other will be entering the room(s) where you are staying.
- **Avoid crowded public spaces** and places where rapid self-isolation upon onset of symptoms may not be feasible. Examples of these settings include mass gatherings such as concerts or sporting events.
- **Avoid contact with vulnerable people.** COVID-19 is more serious among the elderly and those with underlying medical conditions. Avoid contact with these individuals while self-monitoring.

COVID-19 Guidance: Residents Returning to Saskatchewan

The Federal Government and Saskatchewan's Chief Medical Health Officer recommend returning to Canada and avoiding non-essential international travel until further notice.

If you are currently outside of Canada, commercial transportation options may be more limited. You should identify commercial or personal options still available, and consider returning to Canada earlier than planned.

When you return to the province after a period of time in another country, including the United States, you are strongly advised to take the following measures:

- Self-isolate for 14 days.
- Self-monitor for respiratory or flu-like symptoms for 14 days.
- Consider preparations you can make in advance to ensure your comfort during this 14-day period.
- Avoid visiting a long-term care facility or hospital.
- Call HealthLine 811 if you develop respiratory or flu-like symptoms.
- For general questions on travel recommendations and prevention measures, email COVID19@health.gov.sk.ca.

Self-Isolation Guidelines

Avoid situations where there is potential to spread infection to others (work, school, sporting events, public places and social, cultural or religious gatherings).

If you have a pressing need and must leave your home, wear a surgical mask.

SELF ISOLATION

How do I avoid contact with others?

We know this is hard, but for the health of your family, friends and community:

- DO NOT go to work or school.
- DO NOT go to public areas, including places of worship, stores, shopping malls and restaurants.
- LIMIT visitors to your home.
- CANCEL or reschedule non-urgent appointments; let them know you are on self-isolation.
- DO NOT take buses, taxis or ride-sharing where you would be in contact with others.
- ASK family/friends to drop off food or USE delivery/pick-up services for errands such as grocery shopping.