

## **NEWS RELEASE**

www.parksville.ca March 16, 2020

## Message from Parksville Mayor Mayne

At the request of Mayor Ed Mayne, the following information is being distributed on behalf of Council:

The City is taking COVID-19 seriously and is making significant changes to protect the health and wellbeing of our community. We have closed City offices to the public and all meetings are closed to attendance by the public.

We encourage our residents to be vigilant as they go about their day-to-day lives here in Parksville. Please monitor closely the information from agencies responsible for monitoring COVID-19. Refer to trusted sources for your information and do stay informed:

- BC Centre for Disease Control
- Public Health Agency of Canada
- Island Health
- HealthLink BC
- City of Parksville and Let's Talk Parksville websites

Local businesses are experiencing a dramatic drop in business so it crucially important for our residents to support local and small businesses whenever possible. By supporting local businesses, you will help them to survive these challenging times and at the same time, will reduce unnecessary travel.

Please also be aware of your neighbours, especially those living alone and who may feel isolated. If you are able, please consider providing assistance while maintaining the precautionary measures recommended by health authorities. Social distancing is a good practice; however, communication is important to maintain our community and we encourage residents to stay in touch by phone and email.

Finally, it is important to note these measures are being undertaken out of an abundance of caution. By taking pre-emptive measures, it is hoped we can protect our most vulnerable citizens from this illness and support our health care system and the invaluable workers who provide care to our ill and injured.

We will continue to provide ongoing updates to our residents as necessary.

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## For more information:

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