

May 7/20 CAO Remarks

Good Morning Mayor and Council.

Emergency Operations Centre

As I mentioned at my last update we have now gone down to a Level 1 EOC along with other 12 Municipalities in the region who have done the same. We are checking in twice a week remotely to deal with emerging issues and provide updates.

Reopening of the Economy

Premier Horgan indicated yesterday there will be Four Phases to a reopening of the economy. BC has already been operating in Phase One guided by the Provincial Health Officer, which has allowed us to operate essential services.

Phase 2 will begin May 19th; will include:

Small gatherings, if you can socially distance of 2-6 people are allowed – e.g. visiting grandparents and child playdates. “Restrictions of large gatherings are here to stay” (that’s 50+ people).

Elective surgeries resume.

Dentistry, chiropractic, physiotherapy, in-person counselling resume.

Provincial parks will re-open for day use (as of May 14th).

More retail businesses to re-open (e.g. some pubs, hair salons, clothing stores, etc.). WorkplaceBC is developing industry-

specific guidance for different sectors to bring back workers and customers.

Expanded in-person schooling for K-12 (voluntary for now, working towards full resumption in September).

Legislature to resume sitting.

Reopening of City Hall

With a new focus on recovery and dealing with the “new normal” there have been conversations with other CAO’s regionally about how and when municipalities are going to reopen both from a staffing and a customer service perspective.

From a staffing perspective, most municipalities will be continuing to have staff work at home, where it is feasible to do so as social distancing is not achievable with the current office and cubicle configurations. Other considerations may include using staggered shifts or work hours and teams working together virtually.

From a customer service perspective, there seems to be a range of options going forward with some municipal halls having very limited opening hours and others opting to have service via outdoor kiosks so that management of the public is avoided within municipal halls.

Staff will be continuing to gather information and will be coming back to Council with updates in the coming weeks.