

November 26, 2020

Town of Redwater adapts to new provincial restrictions

The Government of Alberta reinstated a State of Public Health Emergency November 24th, as well as a number of new restrictions in an effort to reduce the number of COVID-19 cases.

Redwater is committed to community safety and well-being and will continue to follow Government of Alberta measures to limit the spread of COVID-19.

New <u>restrictions announced on November 24, 2020</u> which affect Town residents, businesses and facilities will be in place for at least three weeks, beginning November 27, 2020:

- Masks are mandatory for all indoor workplaces
- Social gatherings in any indoor setting are prohibited
- Outdoor gatherings are limited to 10 people
- Wedding and funeral services are limited to 10 people, and no receptions are permitted
- Places of worship are restricted to 1/3 of normal capacity and masking is mandatory
- Festivals and events are prohibited, including concerts

Businesses permitted to remain open may have additional restrictions. Residents are encouraged to work from home if possible.

If you have COVID-19 symptoms or require testing, please visit <u>albertahealthservices.ca/testing</u>, or phone Alberta Health Services at 811 to book.

For more information, please visit <u>alberta.ca/covid19</u>.

Respectfully,

Larry Davidson Town Manager



Additional COVID-19 health measures

Mask requirements (Mandatory restriction - Calgary and <u>Edmonton areas</u> - effective Nov. 24) <u>** Including the Town of Redwater**</u>

- Masks are mandatory in all indoor workplaces, except when working alone in an office or a safely distanced cubicle or an appropriate barrier is in place
 - This applies to all employees, visitors, delivery personnel and contractors
 - This includes all locations where employees are present, and masks will not pose a safety risk
 - This does not change current student mask requirements in schools

Indoor and outdoor gatherings (mandatory restriction - Province wide - effective Nov. 24):

- No indoor social gatherings are permitted in any setting (private homes, public spaces, or workplaces)
 - Indoor close contacts must be limited to people in the same household
 - People who live alone can have up to the same 2 non-household contacts for the duration of the restriction
 - Work and mutual support group meetings are not social gatherings, but attendance should be limited, and public health measures followed
 - This does not apply to service visits from caregivers, health or childcare providers and co-parenting arrangements
- Outdoor social gatherings are limited to 10 people and must not have an indoor component
 - Backyard gatherings that require movement in/out of homes are not permitted
 - Attendees should remain distanced at all times and follow public health measures
- Festivals and events are prohibited (indoors and outdoors)

Weddings and Funerals (mandatory restriction - Province wide - effective Nov. 24):

- Maximum of 10 people for wedding ceremonies or funeral services
 - This includes the officiant, bride/groom, and witnesses
 - This does not include staff or organizers who are not considered an invited guest
 - This applies to any facility, including places of worship and funeral homes.
 - This includes services held indoors or outdoors, seated, or non-seated.
- Receptions are not permitted

Places of Worship (mandatory restriction - enhanced status areas - effective Nov. 24):

- Faith leaders must determine their normal congregant attendance (pre-COVID) and limit it to 1/3 attendance
- Must hold services at their normal location, including rental spaces like a community hall
- Physical distancing between households must be maintained
- Mask use is mandatory
- Online services are encouraged
- In-person faith group meetings and other religious gatherings are not permitted in private homes while these measures are in effect
- Faith leaders and others speaking in front of a congregation are permitted to remove their masks while speaking provided they maintain 2 metre distance from others while doing so. Once finished speaking, the speaker must put on their mask again.
- In-person faith group meetings conducted at a place of worship can continue but physical distancing and public health measures must be followed

Faith communities are often significant aspects of people's lives and include intimate and close contact between members. This measure will help limit exposure at these activities, reducing outbreaks and protecting vulnerable members who attend.

Business closed for in-person service (Mandatory restriction - enhanced status areas - effective Nov. 27)

Businesses that are **closed for in-person service** include:

- Banquet halls, conference centres, trade shows, auditoria and concert venues, non-approved/licensed markets, community centres
- Children's play places or indoor playgrounds
- All levels of sport (professional, semi-professional, junior, collegiate/universities and amateur). Exemptions may be considered.

Restaurants, bars, pubs, and lounges open with restrictions (mandatory restriction - enhanced status areas - effective Nov. 27)

Restaurants, bars, pubs, and lounges will be **open with restrictions** if they follow all public health guidance in place including:

- Maximum of 6 people from the same immediate household at a table and no movement between tables.
 - People who live alone can meet with up to 2 non-household contacts if they are the same two throughout the duration of these restrictions
- Only seated eating and drinking is permitted. No other services or entertainment will be allowed, including billiards, games, or darts.
- Liquor can be sold until 10 pm and food-serving establishments must close to in person-dining at 11 pm. Liquor sales apply to casinos, but casinos are not required to close at 11 pm.

Albertans are encouraged to use take out, delivery, drive-thru and curbside pick-up options.

Additional inspections will occur to verify that public health measures are being followed. Establishments that are noncompliant may face orders and fines.

Business and services open with restricted capacity (Mandatory restriction - enhanced status areas - effective Nov. 27)

Most retail businesses may remain open with capacity limited to 25% of the occupancy set under the Alberta Fire Code.

- Retail, including liquor and cannabis
- Grocery stores
- Pharmacies
- Clothing stores
- Computer and technology stores
- Hardware
- Automotive
- Alberta approved farmers' markets
- Unlicensed outdoor seasonal markets

Some entertainment and event services may remain open with capacity limited to 25% of the occupancy set under the Alberta Fire Code.

- Movie theatres
- Museums and galleries
- Libraries
- Casinos, offering slots only. Table games must be closed at this time.
- Indoor entertainment centres including amusement parks, water parks, bingo halls and racing centres.
- Indoor fitness, recreation, sports, and physical activity centres, including dance and yoga studios, martial arts, gymnastics and private or public swimming pools.
 - Facilities can be open for individual studio time, training, or exercise only.
 - There can be no group fitness, group classes, group training, team practices or games.
 - Instructors can use facility to broadcast virtual fitness classes from, but there can be no group class.

All public health guidance and physical distancing requirements must be followed. Albertans and businesses are encouraged to limit in-person visits and use curbside pick up, delivery and online services instead.

Businesses open by appointment only (Mandatory restriction - enhanced status areas - Effective Nov. 27)

Businesses **open by appointment only** are not permitted to offer walk-in services. Appointments should be limited to one-on-one services.

- Personal services such as hair salons and barbershops, esthetics, manicure, pedicure, body waxing and make-up, piercing and tattoo services,
- Wellness services including acupuncture, massage, and reflexology
- Professional services such as lawyers, mediators, accountants, and photographers
- Private one-on-one lessons (no private group lessons permitted)
- Hotels, motels, hunting and fishing lodges

These businesses must follow all current public health guidance for their sector and should consider virtual options where possible.

Home-based businesses should follow the restrictions for the type of service they provide.

Workplace masking:

- A mandatory mask requirement for indoor workplaces is in place. This would apply to all indoor workspaces and facilities outside the home and include visitors and employees.
- This restriction will apply to the Calgary and Edmonton regions, as defined in the material, effective November 27th.

K - 12 Schools (Mandatory restriction - Province wide - Starting Nov. 30):

Grades 7-12 students

- Move to at-home learning Nov. 30 to Jan. 8, except during winter break*
- Resume in-person classes Jan. 11
- Diploma exams are optional for rest of the school year. Students and families can choose to write an exam or receive an exemption for the January, April, June, and August 2021 exams.

Grades K-6 students (including Early Childhood Services)

- Continue in-person learning until their scheduled winter break (generally Dec. 18*)
- Move to at-home learning after the winter break until Jan. 8
- Resume in-person classes Jan. 11

*Schools have different winter break schedules, check with your school for details.

Exemption is available for students with disabilities or in outreach programs

Other:

- Employers and those who are self-employed are encouraged to work from home if they have the ability to do so.
- The Government of Alberta will reassess the situation by December 15 and advise Albertans on next steps.

The COVID-19 interactive status map is available at https://www.alberta.ca/maps/covid-19-status-map.htm#toc-1

For a detailed list of health measures visit: https://www.alberta.ca/enhanced-public-health-measures.aspx