



4924 - 47 Street | Box 397 • Redwater, AB T0A 2W0
Phone: 780-942-3519 • Fax: 780-942-4321
www.redwater.ca

Press Release – Working from Home Policy

May 6, 2020

With the current COVID-19 pandemic, municipalities are enacting business continuity plans to ensure we can continue to provide effective service delivery to our businesses and residents.

As part of this plan, the Town has split our office staff into two teams. Each team is made up of different individuals within different departments to mitigate any concerns about providing services should an individual become sick and be required to isolate. Each Team works alternate days at the office, ensuring we respond quickly to resident inquiries. As you are aware, individuals who exhibit flu-like symptoms, must self-isolate for 10 days. If they test positive for Covid-19 they must self-isolate for 14 days. An individual who tests positive could in effect expose other staff like the current Cargill meat plant in High River. By dividing into teams, we are reducing the potential risk of exposure. Many other municipalities have adopted similar work from home practices.

While this has been in practice since April 6th, no one had a clear picture to how long the pandemic would impact our lives. The Province outlined in phase 1 of their relaunch strategy, which has a tentative start date of May 14th, that remote working is advised where possible, as such a policy was developed. It is apparent that social distancing measures and related impacts will be with us for some time. Council adopted the policy at the May 5th Council meeting. The Work from Home policy provides clarity to staff, managers, and the public as to the expectations of staff, and the obligations of the Town as an employer while staff work from home. Within the policy are provisions for OH&S and WCB as per Provincial regulation.

The Work from Home policy is but just one step in the Town's overall COVID-19 response to provide for the safety of our staff and ensuring effective service delivery to our residents.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry Davidson".

Larry Davidson
Town Manager
780-942-3519 ext. 230