



UPDATE #5

For the latest updates on COVID-19, please refer to www.alberta.ca/covid

March 20, 2020

Open Letter to the Community,

In the past 10 days, many of us have had our lives turned upside down. Today we face a world where things appear less certain than they did just a week or two ago. Family celebrations, religious worship, and school events, just to name a few, have been postponed or cancelled. Given the unfortunate circumstances that we find ourselves in, I am glad that I live in the town of Raymond. My personal belief is that Raymond is the best place to live in this hour of crisis.

Raymond is great town, with kind people, and a wonderful medical staff. We have food in our grocery store, fuel at pumps, and helping hands that are ready to serve.

This has been a long week and they may be more long weeks to come. The COVID-19 virus has become a reality to all of us. I ask each of you to enlist in the provinces efforts to help flatten the curve. Hopefully, our joint efforts will result in less infections, less impact on our medical facilities, and of course, less lives lost.

The Town has enlisted Ken Steed as our Emergency Leader. He comes with a resume and is prepared. The Emergency Committee has met and reviewed the towns infrastructure priorities. When or if this crisis escalates, we will be ready.

I have sat in on Alberta Health Services webinars and I have had conversations with our MLA Grant Hunter. The unified message across the province and nation is social distancing, stay at home when possible, wash your hands, and don't touch your face. If you have been around someone who has symptoms, or if you have symptoms, please, quarantine for 14 days. Current estimates suggest that 30-70% will become infected, 90% of those will show no signs of illness. Even if you are not showing symptoms, please stay away from the elderly. Phone them, skype with them and protect them by staying away.

We are all in this together. And together, we will all see it through. The warm spring weather coming will help brighten our spirits.

Sincerely,

Mayor Jim Depew

