



## Community Update – April 15, 2020

The Territorial Public Health Emergency and State of Emergency have been extended in the Northwest Territories. Both extensions takes effect as of April 15, 2020 and expires April 28, 2020.

These extensions are due to the continued need for response to the COVID-19 global pandemic to protect public health in the Northwest Territories. Extending the State of Emergency does not indicate a significant change in circumstances or an increased risk to the people of the NWT.

The declaration of a Public Health Emergency allows the Chief Public Health Officer to take strong, binding actions to protect all Northwest Territories residents, and swiftly respond to the daily evolving needs of the healthcare system as it tackles a pandemic.

Dr. Kandola has instituted a ban on indoor gatherings, limited outside get-togethers to less than 10 people with strict social distancing of two metres maintained, ordered the closure of certain businesses and issued strict guidance to those wishing to remain open, and ordered processes and procedures for continued operation at remote work camps in the NWT.

So far, the Northwest Territories has only imported cases related to travel with no evidence of community spread. Keeping ahead of the spread is the best way to stay as close to this trajectory as possible and is one way to limit the length of time that strict measures are required for NWT residents.

Dr. Kandola has indicated she will continue to recommend extensions to the Public Health Emergency until the situation has changed considerably across Canada. Nationwide spread is the biggest risk of expanding spread within the Northwest Territories.

We ask all community members to continue physical distancing and to follow the orders put in place by the Chief Public Health Officer.

For further information visit [www.normanwells.com](http://www.normanwells.com) or call the Town Office at 587-3700 during our business hours of 8:30AM – 5:00PM. You may also email us at [towninformation@normanwells.com](mailto:towninformation@normanwells.com).