

March 20, 2020

My fellow community members, we find ourselves at a very unique time preparing for when the COVID-19 pandemic reaches Norman Wells while watching it spread across our country and worldwide. While we have benefited with time to prepare the constant barrage of information we are receiving through social media and 24 hours news coverage is overwhelming. It is important at this time to ensure that the information you are receiving is coming from credible sources and reflects the current situation within our community.

The Town has been working very hard over the past several weeks to ensure that plans are in place to maintain the essential services the Town delivers are able to continue as we respond to the unfolding COVID-19 pandemic. We are following the directives set by the Federal and Territorial governments as well as those of our Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Kami Kandola. We are preparing our Emergency Measures Plan so that if and/or when it is required, we can act quickly to protect and support the community.

We have met with key partners in the community and continue to have ongoing communications with them. Today, we met with Imperial Oil to discuss their current operations in Norman Wells. We are confident in the procedures they have in place to ensure that both rotational, resident workers and the community remain healthy. Imperial Oil will be issuing a communication shortly to provide reassurance to the community of their commitment to the health and safety of the community and the local environment.

I ask all community members to do their part in helping to prevent the spread of the virus within our community. That means practicing social distancing, keeping 2 meters from those outside of your immediate family. If you are returning to the community, we request that you self-isolate for fourteen days. If you have any symptoms, self-monitor and self-isolate according to the processes outlined by Health and Social Services. If you have questions about the Town's response, please contact us directly at 587-3700 or email us at towninformation@normanwells.com.

We are of the opinion that common sense and safe practices will continue to be an ongoing goal of our residents as we work together to defeat this threat to all we hold dear.

Stay safe, stay healthy.



Mayor Frank Pope.