

March 22, 2020



Village Update

COVID-19 UPDATE

COVID-19: Update for the Village for Sunday, March 22nd

Dear Neighbours,

Council has received numerous calls and emails about crowded conditions on our beaches and trails over the weekend. It would appear that there are fewer visitors on our beaches today; however, we would like to update you with the some of the actions we have taken and are taking to address immediate needs and concerns.

1. The Village Manager has issued an Order under Lions Bay Parks Regulations Bylaw No. 448, 2012 closing the Lions Bay Beach Park, including all playground equipment and washrooms, effective Monday morning at 8 am. Public Works staff will be posting signage at the park in the morning and providing random checks for enforcement. Additional measures will be considered at the Special Council Meeting on Thursday, if not earlier.

2. Social Distancing signage will be posted at other parks, trailheads, beaches and open spaces as soon as possible.
3. A media release is being drafted for news outlets to advise the general public of these restrictions and requesting them to stay away.
4. We have contacted the RCMP in Squamish and will be working with them to assist us in enforcement of local and provincial restrictions.
5. The store has been fully cooperative in enforcing the “take out only” policy after it became apparent yesterday that patrons were not adhering to notices to this effect, and were gathering on the patio. They have assured Council that they are following all Provincial Health guidelines, have hand sanitizer on hand, and are frequently cleaning. They are not accepting cash and are asking people not to gather, and to keep a safe distance apart.
6. We are grateful and fully supportive of the new Facebook page started by Helen Waterson called Lions Bay Neighbours. If you are able to help collect supplies for those who are self-isolating or offer other forms of help, or are in need of assistance yourself, please sign up here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2809614205788434/>. This is not a Council initiative, but it is another fantastic example of how we are pulling together at this time.

Other emergency measures and actions will be considered in the days ahead and discussed at our meeting on Thursday, or sooner, and we will update you thereafter. We thank everyone who took the time to notify us of their concerns and welcome your suggestions and input, as always. Please address emails to council@lionsbay.ca and c.c. municipal@lionsbay.ca.

It is reassuring to see neighbours looking out for neighbours, and finding ways to support and connect with each other creatively while still following guidelines for social distancing. For example, we’ve heard of a cul-de- sac “gathering”, where neighbours brought their happy hour beverages into the street while remaining far apart! If you know of other uplifting activities which support social distancing, we’d love to hear about them.

Mayor and Council

The Village of Lions Bay | 400 Centre Road, P.O. Box 141, Lions Bay, BC V0N 2E0 Canada

