



News Release

For Immediate Release

ALTONA'S FACILITY CLOSURES AND CANCELLATIONS

Altona, MB. April 16, 2020:

In light of provincial recommendations for physical distancing, all Town of Altona recreation facilities are closed. It was announced in mid-March that the Millennium Exhibition Centre would be closed to the public, and the outdoor playgrounds followed suit as it began to get warmer outside. To further discourage gathering as spring arrives, all municipally-owned outdoor recreation facilities are closed until further notice. This includes the Bridge Skate Park, basketball courts, tennis courts, baseball diamonds, public washroom facilities, and picnic shelters.

The Altona Aquatic Centre, the Gallery in the Park, and the Altona Community Garden remain closed, as their seasons have not yet begun. At this time, opening dates have not been announced for these facilities, and will be contingent on public health orders.

"Town Council struggled with the potential impact of closing Altona's recreational and community facilities, but felt strongly that it was important to make this decision with overall health and safety at the forefront, and in collaboration with the recommendations from both our administration, and the public health authorities," said Mayor Friesen. "We've also heard from residents that this is the correct path, and hope that by making these decisions to protect our community NOW, we can all enjoy these facilities together later. It's our plan to continue to review all closure decisions on an ongoing basis, and we welcome input from our community."

Residents are encouraged to continue to enjoy the trails and green spaces in municipal parks, but to do so responsibly. This means following all public health orders and maintaining a physical distance of at least 2 metres from others. If you pass someone on the trails, please move to the side and maintain physical distance. Please, do not gather in groups at these locations.

The Altona Campground has been deemed a non-essential service, and is closed until further notice. If you are an essential, front-line worker who is looking to use the campground to physically distance from others in your household, please contact the Town of Altona Recreation Office.

The Town of Altona's Canada Day Celebration in the Park scheduled for July 1, 2020 has been cancelled, and the planned music and street festival at the end of June celebrating Altona's 125th anniversary and Manitoba's 150th has been postponed. The Altona Recreation Department and the Altona 125 Committee all look forward to a time when it is safe to come together again as a community to celebrate.

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