Hi everyone,

A little different tact and conversation for this blog; I want to focus firstly on the Vaccination Plan for the North and in particular Flin Flon and then I would like to comment on the present gradual loosening of restrictions and in particular the behavior associated with this change.

Firstly, even though the timing hasn't been solidified, the strategy has changed and for Flin Flon in particular the Vaccines will be available locally thus eliminating the need to charter planes or buses.

I believe this is a very positive sign that bodes very well for our citizens. The City has already indicated that, if needed, the Community Hall will be available as a venue to provide the vaccinations. It has been noted by the province that, if the product is available, all Manitobans could be vaccinated, first dose, by the end of May.

As we enter March with the temperatures beginning to rise and restrictions starting to loosen, there will be a natural tendency to push the envelope. Please adhere to current rules and please respect our local businesses when it comes to them asking you to follow the rules in their establishments. It is critical given these stressful times, that we be respectful of those important people that are welcoming you into their businesses or their place of work. Whether it's a waitress asking you about the makeup of your group coming for lunch, a hair dresser or esthetician trying to accommodate the huge backlog in front of them or a sales clerk trying to manage the amount of people they are able to presently serve, I ask you to practice patience and understanding. I understand the upset and stress that is out there but many people who are trying to get us back to a sense of normalcy shouldn't be the brunt of our anger or upset.

We have a beautiful weekend ahead of us and we are so lucky to be where we are, to enjoy it. Slightly larger outdoor gatherings are now allowed so I'm sure there will be some visiting, within the rules, taking place.

I don't want to jinx us by saying spring is in the air but here's hoping.

Please, stay safe, stay strong and stay healthy Flin Flon.

Thank you.

Mayor Cal Huntley