

Hi everyone,

I hope you all had a great long weekend and took full advantage of it! This week I wanted to discuss the slight uptick in new COVID-19 cases we have here in Manitoba. As restrictions loosen and people begin to venture outside more than before we naturally open ourselves up to the potential of another outbreak. Currently, public health officials across the province, and across the world are trying their absolute best to strike the balance between quarantine and a full return to normal.

While vaccines are still a ways away before becoming publicly available, we as a community must do our best to navigate these times with cautious optimism. While you've heard these phrases probably over 100 times now it still remains as important as ever to wash or sanitize your hands often, remain 6 feet apart in public spaces, and continue to practice proper cough etiquette (which we should all be doing regardless anyway.) As of right now this is what we absolutely know is our best defense against any further spread so be prepared for the potential of these three precautions being a part of our day to day lives for the foreseeable future. While small gatherings are still permitted, this certainly is still not the time to be hosting any major party.

With all that being said, I am extremely proud of how our community has been managing this outbreak. Businesses have remained open and have been following Public Health Guidelines and all of you have been patient and respectful in adhering to these guidelines. The Arts Council has found creative solutions to host public events with social distancing in mind, we were still able to have our annual Trout Festival Parade, and there have been numerous activities for kids to participate in this summer such as BizKids and Summer in the Parks. All and all, given the global circumstances we are very fortunate to be living in such a respectful and supportive community now more than ever.

Until next time, stay safe, stay strong and stay healthy Flin Flon.