

Hi everyone,

It's been relatively quiet over the past number of days with no new indicators to be alarmed about. If I could be so bold, I would suggest, at this point in time no news is good news. While it's certainly no excuse to become less cautious, rest assured our COVID-19 situation here in Flin Flon is stable as we remain constantly vigilant.

With the change in seasons and as the temperature begins to dip, there's always the potential for a spike in cases. Council and I will continue to monitor the situation on a day to day basis and if indicators change we will adjust municipal services accordingly. At this time, we believe, under the present COVID guidelines, that it is safe to continue running the Whitney Forum, public transit and our other facilities. The Flin Flon Curling Club is presently reaching out and to determine the level of interest for curling this year. It's very important for all interested to let them know as this will determine whether curling takes place in the upcoming year. So, if you're interested in signing up for curling this year, be sure to contact the organizers Sue at 204-687-5560 or Della at 306-688-6663.

With sports in mind, I can't stress enough how important of a role recreation will play in keeping all of us healthy this winter. We all know how to properly protect ourselves from physical illness but there is less discussion on how to combat mental illness. The winter blues are real and when you magnify that with the presence of COVID and the restrictions associated especially travel and isolation, we all will need to be very conscious of our state of mind. These factors will certainly challenge our mental health and the best way to combat this is to stay active and keep busy. This is why we will continue to run as many programs, services, and events as possible this winter so long as it is deemed safe by the provincial and federal government. If we have to wear masks in the Whitney Forum, or limit the amount of people who can attend a fundraiser then so be it, it's still better then cancelling activities all together. Just remember, we will all get through this together. For some, at times, it may seem too much and I really recommend that you don't try and hide this but seek to discuss it with friends, family or professionals if need be. There is no shame in feeling a bit overwhelmed during these challenging times and asking for some help.

On another note, I'd like to wish Councillor Colleen Mckee a happy return to Council. She has been greatly missed by all of us on Council and I couldn't happier to have her back!

Until next week, stay safe, stay strong & stay healthy Flin Flon.