

Hi everyone,

It's that time of the year and it appears we are going to finish it in red. Red is a prominent Christmas color but it certainly isn't the atmosphere we were hoping to celebrate from. Our numbers locally are presently trending in the right direction and remain fairly low and under control. That is due to every single one of you. I want to personally thank you all for doing your part in keeping all of us safe.

Heading into this Holiday Season we were hoping that some of the restrictions may be relaxed by Christmas. Such has not been the case and this situation has been extended into early January.

In light of this, I fully expect our community to continue to adhere to the rules while still embracing the spirit of the season and continuing to be creative in how our celebrations are going to be held.

Watching the kids and grandkids open their gifts on xmas morning and the large family breakfast following may be a virtual event this year with ipads or phones capturing these special moments. Christmas supper may end up being shared by delivery rather than across the table. The tradition of drive around to enjoy the lights will continue but will involve more vehicles as families maintain their separation but try and enjoy the same events.

Regardless of the challenges, my belief is that this Christmas will be a special one. And yes, it may get talked about for years to come for the challenges that we are facing but we are an innovative and resourceful community and I know we can make this work.

I am excited to hear and experience these innovations over the holidays. I look forward to the ringing of the bells just to name one.

In closing, today, I want you all to reflect on your own circumstances. I would like to ask you to consider your neighbor, your friend, your family and your community and look for opportunity to, from a distance make things better.

Christmas, at the best of times, can be a stressful part of the year so I will ask everyone again to be patient, to be kind and understanding and to be forgiving.

Follow the guidelines and stay safe Flin Flon