



## Message from the Mayor

### Stop the Spread of COVID-19 - -Stay at Home

Lake Cowichan – April 8th, 2020

As the weather warms up, we begin to have thoughts of summer leisure activities, something we may just have to forego this year so we may live and enjoy the years to come. It is critical more than ever that we take stock of the horrible tragedy that COVID-19 is inflicting on the lives of thousands of Canadians as they find themselves infected with the disease or the hundreds who have died or are still fighting for their lives in ICU's. The prognosis is that thousands may die if we let our guard down and not continue to maintain the measures that have been put in place to limit the spread of a disease that is very contagious and deadly. The numbers of those who have lost their lives across the globe should be enough for us to take this pandemic very seriously. We must do everything we can by following common-sense rules to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

With the approach of the Easter weekend I must implore you to not make unnecessary trips outside your home for diversion. Stay put in your home and avoid going to your second home or cottage or visiting family and friends. We need to be all in sync on this issue so we can contain this disease that is wreaking havoc here at home and the world at large. The public health measures put in place by the Province's Health Officer are having a positive impact on seeing our COVID-19 cases not spike as is occurring in the other provinces. Let us stay close to home this summer so we may not unwittingly or unknowingly transmit the disease to others. Individuals may be asymptomatic and show no symptoms of COVID-19 but can still transmit the disease to others through a simple cough or sneeze. Let us do our level best to reduce the transmission of the disease to people in this community or other communities.

This brings me to the subject of another summer pastime – tubing, something both visitors and residents enjoy on our Cowichan River. Summertime tubing may be in jeopardy for this year as large gatherings are prohibited by the Provincial Health Officer and we have been advised by Emergency Management BC that the order to prohibit large gatherings would be in force for this type of scenario and should be enforced by the Compliance and Enforcement officers.

Let's together contain the spread of COVID-19 so we may go back to normal living.

Rod Peters  
Mayor

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