



AB GOVERNMENT COVID 19

Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville
Constituency

Provincial response to COVID-19 outbreak

Health and emergency management

- Public health measures have been put in place to limit the spread of the virus, including restrictions on mass gatherings, prohibiting attendance and limiting visitation at many facilities and restricting capacity at restaurants and other food service locations (began March 12).
- Additional \$500 million for Budget 2020 has been provided to ensure Alberta's Healthcare.
- New billing code for pharmacists working to help Albertans assess and screen for COVID-19 (March 19).
- Institution of a state of public health emergency under the *Public Health Act* to better empower authorities to respond to the pandemic (March 17).
- Increase availability of child care spaces for workers providing core services during COVID-19 (March 22).
- \$60 million issued to help social services organizations respond to critical front-line services (March 17).



Economic

- Series of energy sector initiatives for Alberta's energy sector: funding the industry levy for the Alberta Energy Regulator for a period of six months, achieving \$113 million in industry relief; granting extensions for oil and gas tenures; the recent \$100-million loan to the Orphan Well Association (March 20).
- Economic Recovery Council to provide advice through the downturn that comes as a result of COVID-19 and the energy price crash (March 20).

Resources for Individuals

- \$50 million for Albertans who must self-isolate and do not have another source of pay or compensation while they are self-isolated (March 18).
- Six-month, interest-free moratorium on student loan payments for all individuals who are in the process of repaying these loans (March 18).
- 90-day utility payment deferral for residential, farm and small commercial customers who are expecting financial hardship as a direct result of COVID-19 (March 18).
- ATB Financial deferral for up to six months on loans, lines of credit, and mortgages for personal and small business customers impacted by COVID-19 (March 18).
- Upcoming expiry dates for Alberta drivers' licences, identification cards, vehicle registrations, other permits and certificates extended until May 15 (March 17).



Resources for Businesses

- Programs for individual and business Alberta credit union members to ease difficulties with loan payments and short-term cash flow (March 18).
- Deferred collection of corporate income tax balances and instalment payments for Alberta businesses (March 18).
- *Employment Standards Code* changes to provide job protection for Albertans who need to self-isolate (March 13).
- Licensed restaurants and bars can sell liquor without selling food as part of their take-out – with the exception of drive-thru windows – and delivery services to help keep businesses open, staff employed and additional options for Albertans self-isolating (March 17).



The most important measures that Albertans can take to prevent respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19, is to practice good hygiene.

This includes cleaning your hands regularly for at least 20 seconds, avoiding touching your face, coughing or sneezing into your elbow or sleeve, disposing of tissues appropriately, and staying home and away from others if you are sick.

Our constituency offices are prepared to support our constituents. We can provide information, social media exposure, and direction on how to access the various government benefits now available.

<https://www.alberta.ca/coronaviruses-info-for-albertans.aspx>

<https://myhealth.alberta.ca/Journey/COVID-19/Pages/COVID-Self-Assessment.aspx>

<https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-support-for-employers.aspx>

Please contact out office at fortsaskatchewan.vegreville@assembly.ab.ca or 780-208-0677