

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR, COUNCIL & STAFF

31 March 2020,

Dear Ryley Community Member,

This is a very critical time in this Pandemic. As we are all watching in the news, COVID-19 remains without a vaccine and has spread worldwide very quickly. This level of world pandemic has not been seen since the 1918 H1N1 Influenza which infected 1/3 of the world's population and saw 50 million deaths. Some countries are experiencing unprecedented situations now and have already lost control of COVID-19 spread. Loss of control means that the virus has overcome a nation's health system to deal with the number of cases. Quite literally, there are not enough ventilators, staff or beds to treat the number of people who are sick at the same time and other normally treatable patients cannot access medical or pharmaceutical resources as a result and will also tragically die. Italy and Iran are two such case and an extraordinary number of countries are quickly succumbing to this same scenario, including the USA.

South Korea was on par with Italy and Iran. Like China, South Korea took extremely swift national action to declare a "State of Emergency", imposed severe restrictions and has remained well ahead of the spread. China and South Korea are two nations to successfully "flatten the curve", which means they slowed the virus spread to a rate that their national health system could manage the number of victims who are sick at the same time. These nations may end up with just as many cases in the long run, but by flattening the curve, they have enabled their health systems to remain on top of the problem. The good news is that Canada is taking swift action and has a good chance of flattening the curve at this point. However, results for any nation depend exclusively on the citizens of a nation following the rules for the crisis, whether that be voluntarily or as imposed by authority like police or military forces. The only risk to success in flattening the curve is citizens not following proper health protocols and not slowing the spread. Success is completely in the hands of citizens.

Canada is a nation that believes that individual human rights are supreme, and Canada does not like to invoke physical enforcement, preferring to plea to our citizens to follow protocols voluntarily and to allow the Provinces to manage the pandemic regionally. Therefore, we have seen a gradual response by our government to impose restrictions just enough to stay ahead of the curve. Alberta has been generally more aggressive in relation to other Provinces but is also trying very hard not to impose any more rules than necessary, which would remove your voluntary freedom under our provincial "State of Health Emergency".

All Beaver County communities are doing well. Ryley is doing extremely well so far. We have had one single reported case in the "Tofield Health Area", an area in which Ryley and Holden are a part. It is

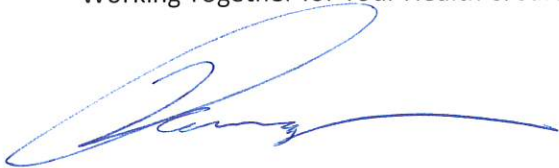
statistically impossible for COVID-19 to avoid our community – it will happen. In fact, it may already be here, and we just haven't had anyone test positive for it yet. Some people carry it without showing symptoms so they would not be tested. It is crucial that we all understand that this is very likely, and that we need to work together as a community to support each other. To help our community slow the spread: through strict social distancing; through learning about the virus and how it can spread; through strict cleaning protocols. The sooner we act as if we already have it and don't want to pass it along, the quicker we will stop COVID-19 in its tracks. We need to flatten the curve. We must be very aggressive in slowing the spread so the virus will eventually die quicker than it can spread.

The Village Staff are keeping our Village website (www.ryley.ca) up to date and we have created a special INFO PAGE ON COVID-19 that you can access from our main WELCOME page. We feel that there is so much information out there that you can become tired and confused with all the changes and the sheer volume of posters, emails, messages and notices that are out there. The RYLEY INFO PAGE ON COVID-19 is designed to keep the basic facts and latest information up front for you while keeping the volume of information to a manageable level and in a simple format. We intend to keep the webpage limited mostly to links and valuable and helpful information. However, acknowledging that many of you do not surf the internet, we will be mailing regular information packages like this one to all residents.

Our Village Staff remain on the job by working from home. They check daily for mail so you can drop off mail or messages in the mail slot on the front door of the Village Office. The staff are also checking telephone voice mail numerous times daily so please leave a message if you need to telephone in at 780.663.3653.

We recognize that you are likely suffering from "cabin fever" without the freedom to go places and with so many services shut down. We all need to remind ourselves that this sacrifice is to stop the spread and to keep our community safe. It really is a life and death situation. We wish we could provide you with some idea of how long this crisis will last, but that depends on our greater national community and how successful we are in our battle against flattening the curve on COVID-19. Council and Staff are working on ideas to try to ease the frustration that you might be suffering by being isolated and stuck at home. We feel that this letter of communication will help somewhat by connecting you with us. Please contact the Village Staff if you have any question or issue that we can help you with, or any suggestions or ideas that you can help us with.

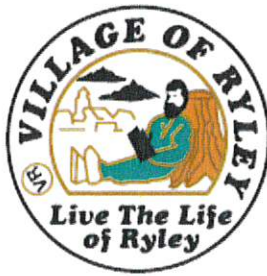
Working Together for Your Health & Safety,



Mayor Terry Magneson

Deputy Mayor Cyndy Heslin Councillor Brian Ducherer
Councillor Mathew Kowalski Councillor Nik Lee

CAO Glen Hamilton-Brown & All Staff



COMMUNITY TOGETHER

| April 2020,

Dear Ryley Community Member,

We are all adjusting to a new reality as a result of this pandemic and we are all struggling with communication, contact, networking and how to support each other. Many of us have simple needs that are suddenly very complex with stores being closed and social distancing protocols in place. Many of us have medical conditions or demographics that place us in a higher risk category. The Village of Ryley is working toward a plan to “Community Together” to help each other through these times.

The protection of personal privacy has become increasingly important in the last few decades and Village records do not hold names and civic addresses as a result. That is because we do not normally have a need for this. The Privacy Act says that we can collect, hold and use your personal information only for the purpose of doing the job we need to do. The information we are about to ask you for will not be stored with our tax records. It will be collected, stored and used solely for this “Community Together” program and it will not be shared for any purpose other than the “Community Together” program.

So; What is “Community Together”? The Village of Ryley will coordinate regular communication through the best form of communication that serves you: whether that be by telephone, internet email, door knocking, postal mail, or any other idea you might come up with... (well, we don't have carrier pigeons so that's off the table).

Through this communication network, we will keep you informed, provide you a method to keep us informed on your health and well-being, and arrange for anything that you might need. We want to develop a network that will make it easy for us as a community to look after each other.

Unfortunately, we do not have your name and civic address on record – we do not hold any information on who lives where. We have not had a formal business need for this so we could not previously hold this information. With this program, we have a need and we would like to collect it through a voluntary sign up plan: if you want to be in the “Community Together” program, then you simply need to provide us your information so we can add you to our list

Acknowledging that you might not use the internet, we are offering numerous ways for you to sign-up: website, email, form drop-off at the office, mail, or telephone message. The information is minimal and is in a simple format. Attached is a form for that purpose.

Remember, we are legally bound under the Privacy Act to collect, store and use your information only for the purpose that it is collected for. This information will only be shared as and when it is needed by the members of the team that would be communicating with you or providing a service for you. Anyone on our team who will be provided with any of your private information will be cautioned and will sign a privacy agreement, acknowledging that they understand their duty to protect private information.

During this time of isolation and reduced services, many of us are getting "cabin fever". This is the time to lean on each other – don't be afraid to ask for help. Some of us need help and all of us want to help our community and neighbours in any way we can. We feel helpless without a network to understand what is needed and how each other are doing. We are very excited about this idea and we hope you are too.

Let's get our "Community Together"!



Mayor Terry Magneson

Deputy Mayor Cyndy Heslin Councillor Brian Ducherer
Councillor Mathew Kowalski Councillor Nik Lee

CAO Glen Hamilton-Brown & All Staff

**The form on the other side can be filled out.
Information can be delivered in any of these ways:**

1. Hand delivered by slipping through the mail slot at the Village Office.
2. Postage/Mail to: P.O. Box 230 (5005 50 St), Ryley, Alberta, T0B 4A0.
3. Email to: Info@Ryley.ca
4. Telephone: call the village office at 780.663.3653 and leave a voice mail.
 - a. You could say: *"Hello this is <Glen Hamilton-Brown> and I wish to register for the Community Together program. Please call me back at 780.663.3653 for my information."*
 - Or
 - b. You could say: *"This is my information for the Community Together program: "A1 is Glen Hamilton-Brown; A2 is Mary Hamilton-Brown; B1 is 5005 50 Street, Ryley, T0B 4A0; and B2 is Box 230, Ryley, T0B4A0. Thank you"*

Please use the below space for additional information as needed

COMMUNITY TOGETHER

A1. First Name, Last Name (of primary resident)

A2. First Name, Last Name of all additional people you want to register

B1. Civic Address (eg. 5005 50 St, Ryley, T0B 4A0)

B2. Postal Address (eg. Box 230, Ryley, T0B 4A0)

C. Any Immediate/Emergency Needs (optional)

D. Suggestions/Recommendations (optional)