



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 4, 2020

Lethbridge County Implements Temporary Mandatory Face Coverings Bylaw

LETHBRIDGE COUNTY– Lethbridge County Council approved a Temporary Mandatory Face Coverings Bylaw today in response to the growing number of COVID-19 cases in the area.

Bylaw 20-024 - Temporary Mandatory Face Coverings is effective immediately and requires that masks or face coverings be worn in all indoor, enclosed, or substantially enclosed public places and public vehicles within Lethbridge County. Exceptions include children under 10 or people with a medical condition or disability which inhibits their ability to safely wear a mask.

Violations of the bylaw are subject to a \$100 fine. Lethbridge County's intent is to encourage mask use and rely on public cooperation rather than enforcement.

"We are concerned with the continuing rise in cases in and around Lethbridge County," says Reeve Lorne Hickey. "Council feels that by enacting this temporary face coverings bylaw we can enhance our efforts to help slow the spread of COVID-19 in our communities. Regardless of your personal opinions about masking, please let's treat each other with respect and kindness. Have patience with businesses and workers as they adjust to the bylaw and be courteous to each other. This is a difficult time for everyone, and we must remember that we are all in this fight together against COVID-19."

Lethbridge County has more information on the bylaw on our website at <https://lethcounty.ca/p/covid-19-information>. Resources are also available for businesses, including printable posters and social media graphics.

Lethbridge County also reminds citizens to continue following mandatory Provincial regulations to slow the spread of the virus, including:

- No indoor social gatherings
- Limiting outdoor gatherings to a maximum of 10 people
- Limiting wedding and funeral services to a maximum of 10 people (receptions are not permitted)
- Limiting attendance at places of worship to 1/3 of fire code occupancy
- Following all restrictions on businesses, including limits on capacity

For a full list of Provincial restrictions, please visit <https://www.alberta.ca/enhanced-public-health-measures.aspx>