



# County of Lethbridge Policy Handbook

**EFFECTIVE:** August 7, 2003

**SECTION:** 200 NO. 206

**APPROVED BY:** County Council

**SUBJECT:** County of Lethbridge  
Response to Naturally Occurring  
Pathogens that may be a Public  
Health Concern

**REVISED DATE:**

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## **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to outline the formal County response to enquiries received regarding naturally occurring pathogens that may be a public health concern.

## **Policy Statement**

In the course of providing services, County employees may receive enquiries or requests for assistance in areas that relate to the spread of pathogens that may be a public health concern. This policy shall be applied when the pathogen in question **does not** impact or affect services or systems for which the County of Lethbridge has direct responsibility. Examples may include but not be limited to pathogens that are transmitted via plants, insects, animals, or human carriers such as; West Nile Virus, E-coli, Pandemic Influenza, Hanta Virus, HIV, SARS, Monkey Pox, B.S.E., Anthrax, T.B., Hepatitis C, Rabies, reportable communicable diseases as noted in legislation, etc.

## **Application of Policy**

The County of Lethbridge budget process allocates limited revenues to provide the resources and support systems required for the operation and maintenance of municipally managed infrastructure and the enforcement of provincial statutes that have been designated a municipal responsibility.

For reasons of budgetary control, unless otherwise directed by County Council, Provincial or Federal order, directive, statute, regulation, etc., the County's response to enquiries received regarding pathogens covered by this policy will be limited to assessing the request and attempting to redirect the contact to an appropriate agency.

County Administration will not initiate new or enhanced measures, or take actions that may alter or modify the delivery of services for the purpose of controlling pathogens or carrier agents that are a public health concern and beyond the direct legislated responsibility of the County of Lethbridge.

County residents, the general public, business owners and operators, etc., who initiate contact with the County and request information, assistance, action taken, or enquire about measures that could be taken, will be referred to Public Health Officials or other appropriate information source.