

Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health 10025 Jasper Avenue NW PO Box 1360, Stn. Main Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2N3 Canada

## Memorandum

May 26, 2020

Subject: Municipal Council and Committee Meetings

Thank you to those who participated in the municipal telephone town hall last week and, most importantly, thank you for taking the necessary steps to keep your community members healthy as we work together to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Since our last meeting, I have received a few questions about whether or not the restrictions on indoor gatherings also apply to municipal council and committee meetings. I would like to clarify that, similar to the provincial government, municipal council and committee meetings can take place in-person with more than 15 people in one indoor location, as long as physical distancing of two metres can be maintained between participants. In addition, high-touch surfaces must be cleaned and disinfected regularly, good hand hygiene should be encouraged and hand sanitizer should be available for participants. It is also important that there is a mechanism in place for ensuring anyone who is ill does not attend in-person.

At this time, public attendance at council meetings should continue to be facilitated through virtual means.

All workplaces, including municipal governments, are expected to develop and implement policies and procedures to address COVID-19. <u>General workplace guidance</u> for business owners re-opening or continuing operations are available on Alberta Biz Connect: <u>www.alberta.ca/biz-connect.aspx</u>.

Thank you for your continued efforts as we work to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Yours truly,

Dr. Deena Hinshaw, BSc, MD, MPH, CCFP, FRCP

Chief Medical Officer of Health