

# CAO's REPORT

May 26, 2020

## 1. Clearwater County COVID-19 Update:

- Effective May 25, Clearwater County facilities reopened for public access, in accordance with the [Provincial Relaunch Strategy](#) and workplace recommendations. Please refer to the County's phased Relaunch Strategy (attached) to help protect staff and members of the public while on County premises. Please note that Rocky Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority Reuse Centre, Transfer Scale and Landfill Offices remain closed to public access.
- Although County facilities are reopened, the public is encouraged to continue using phone, email or online for County business. For easy and convenient payment of services, property taxes and other transactions, please refer to Payment Options bulletin (attached).
- The County's Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) will be deactivated; however, evaluation of Provincial updates to confirm any additional restrictions that may be required or those that can be lifted, along with other operational considerations, will continue.
- Regular Council meetings continue as scheduled, staff and public are encouraged to watch meetings via livestream.
- Health order requirements for physical distancing (2 metres) and mass gathering restrictions (15 people or less) remain in effect in all circumstances.
- Resources:
  - [COVID-19 info for Albertans](#)
  - [County's website with various government links](#)

## 2. The Government of Alberta recently announced rescission of 'A Coal Development Policy for Alberta (Coal Policy)', effective June 1: [Information about the rescinded Coal Policy](#).

The following CBC News article: [Alberta rescinds decades-old policy that banned open-pit coal mines in Rockies and Foothills](#), references proposed coal mining projects within the Foothills region that are located in Clearwater County, near Rocky Mountain House.

It is anticipated that with this change to coal regulations, there may be potential impacts on future development in the County. Administration has contacted Ram River Coal Corporation to inquire on the status of the proposed [Aries Project](#) for mining coking coal, the impact of these regulation changes on the project and, invite delegates to update Council at a future regular meeting.

### Upcoming Events:

June 15 – Strategic Planning Committee Meeting  
June 21 – National Indigenous Peoples Day  
June 24 – CAEP Annual General Meeting (Zoom)

# MUNICIPAL RELAUNCH STRATEGY



## Current

County facilities **closed** to public access (open by appointment only).

Transfer station and recycle drop off open.

Non-essential meetings, events and staff travel restrictions.

Contractor, visitor and new hire screening.

No in person Council meetings or public hearings.

## County Phase 1 (May 25)

County facilities **open** to in person transactions.

Limited number of public in building(s).

Phone & online transactions encouraged.

Staff travel limited to essential service requirements only.

Meetings up to 15 people as space allows.

## County Phase 2 TBD

Timing and conditions will be determined by the Province.

Limited number of public in building(s).

Phone & online transactions encouraged.

Public events limited to mass gathering restrictions.

## County Phase 3 TBD

Timing and conditions will be determined by the Province.

Restriction for public events lifted.

Council meetings and public hearings open to in person attendance.

## ONGOING

- Share and encourage the public to follow AHS recommendations
- Enhanced sanitization of County facilities
- Continue monitoring Provincial recommendations / restrictions



# PAYMENT OPTIONS

## EASY AND CONVENIENT



### \*NEW PaySimply.ca

PaySimply is a convenient way to pay through a third party using your **credit card**. User convenience fees apply to cover payment handling and processing charges and are submitted to the third party at the same time. This method is being accepted for property taxes or accounts receivable invoices. Please allow 3 business days for processing.



### Drop Box

A drop box is located at the main Clearwater County building for your convenience to deliver your payment.



### By Mail

Cheques can be sent by mail to:  
Clearwater County  
PO Box 550, 4340 - 47 Avenue  
Rocky Mountain House, AB, T4T 1A4



### Online Banking

Make payments online through your financial institution (bank). Applicable fees may apply.



### Electronic Funds Transfer

Payments can be made online with your financial institution using your financial software. Please contact us for more details and allow 2-3 business days for processing.



### In Person

You may also come in person during regular business hours to pay by cash, cheque, or debit.



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