

Second Manluk Centre employee tests positive for COVID-19

For immediate release
August 31, 2020

(Wetaskiwin, Alberta) – The City of Wetaskiwin was notified on the evening of August 30, 2020 that a second *Manluk Centre: Wetaskiwin Regional Aquatics & Fitness* staff member has tested positive for the COVID-19 virus. This staff member had been in close contact with [the first City employee who tested positive for the virus](#) and has been isolating at home since August 21—as was legally required by the province.

All appropriate infection prevention and control measures have been taken by the City, including keeping the Manluk Centre closed to the public until further notice. The City is in the process of notifying employees of the second positive test and continues to work closely with Alberta Health Services to determine next steps. These measures reflect the City's steadfast commitment to transparency and reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in the community.

"We wish this second team member a quick and full recovery, and continue to take every necessary precaution to prevent further transmission of the virus," said Robert Osmond, Director of Emergency Management for the City of Wetaskiwin. *"The City has been working closely with Alberta Health Services since closing the Manluk Centre to reduce the risk of spreading the virus. This situation is a timely reminder of how important our individual efforts can be in stopping the spread of COVID-19 in our community."*

The City will continue to provide updates—including when the Manluk Centre will reopen to the public—on its COVID portal at [covidwetaskiwin.ca](https://www.wetaskiwin.ca/covidwetaskiwin). There is no additional risk to the public at this time. Anyone with flu-like symptoms such as cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose or sore throat is advised to complete the Alberta Health Services online self-assessment—and get tested for COVID-19 if directed to do so. Do not go to a medical clinic or the emergency room. If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

Please continue to maintain physical distancing, abide by mass gathering restrictions, practice frequent hand washing, and avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. The health and well-being of the community remains the City's number one priority.

Additional information will be published as it becomes available on the [City's website](#) and [COVID portal](#).

Quick facts

- The City of Wetaskiwin closed the Manluk Centre: Wetaskiwin Regional Aquatics & Fitness on August 21, 2020 immediately after receiving notification from Alberta Health Services that a facility employee had tested positive for the COVID-19 virus.
- All employees who were in close contact with the affected staff member were already in isolation at home from the first positive case and have also been tested for COVID-19 (with results pending).
- According to the [provincial website](#), Outbreaks at facilities or in the community are reported publicly when there are five or more cases (except for acute/continuing care facilities where the outbreak threshold remains at two or more cases).

- Alberta Health Services defines 'close contact' as a person who provided care for the individual, including healthcare workers, family members or other caregivers, or who had other similar close physical contact with the person without consistent and appropriate use of personal protective equipment OR who lived with or otherwise had close prolonged contact (within two metres) with the person while they were infectious OR had direct contact with infectious bodily fluids of the person (e.g. was coughed or sneezed on) while not wearing recommended personal protective equipment.
- Anyone interested in receiving email notifications about local COVID-19-related news and updates can sign up at covidwetaskiwin.ca.

About the City of Wetaskiwin

Wetaskiwin is a secure, connected, and inclusive community home to a diverse population of nearly 13,000 people. Located only 30 minutes south of the Edmonton International Airport, the City of Wetaskiwin provides a high quality of life through ample recreation opportunities, diverse cultural activities, and a modernized, business-friendly downtown.

-30-

For more information please contact:

Ren Goode

Communications Manager

City of Wetaskiwin

780.361.4417 | ren.goode@wetaskiwin.ca