

**Proposed Bylaw 46-2020 Temporary Mandatory Face Covering Bylaw****Report Purpose**

To seek Council approval on three readings of a proposed Bylaw 46-2020 Temporary Mandatory Face Covering Bylaw

**Recommendation**

1. THAT Bylaw 46-2020, a bylaw to temporarily mandate the wearing of face coverings, be given first reading.
2. THAT Bylaw 46-2020 be given second reading.
3. THAT Bylaw 46-2020 be considered for third reading.
4. THAT Bylaw 46-2020 be given third reading.

**Our Prioritized Strategic Goals**

Goal 8 - Foster an environment for safe communities

**Report**

As Administration continues to work with Council to support the County's response and recovery to the COVID-19 pandemic, the issue of mandating non-medical face coverings has become more of a focal point since health officials are strongly encouraging all Alberta residents to wear face coverings whenever it is difficult to maintain two metres of physical distance from others.

To date, the Chief Medical Officer of Health has not issued a province-wide order under the Public Health Act requiring the use of face coverings, but Alberta Health is carefully reviewing the evidence and may update guidance when that review is complete (Dr. Hinshaw, July 30, 2020). Face coverings are one action individuals can take to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. When combined with measures such as physical distancing, proper hand hygiene and staying home when sick, face coverings are effective in preventing the transmission of COVID-19.

At the July 28, 2020 Emergency Advisory Committee was briefed of Administration's intent to implement the requirement for face coverings in Strathcona County owned buildings and transit vehicles. Administration has solicited input from the County's business community and public. Administration has monitored similar bylaws in surrounding jurisdictions and used this information to inform the proposed bylaw presented as part of this report.

**Council and Committee History**

July 28, 2020                      Emergency Advisory Committee received an update on County's response to COVID-19 related to mandating face coverings in County owned facilities and services.

**Other Impacts**

**Policy:** n/a

**Legislative/Legal:** The *Municipal Government Act* sets out the provisions that define a municipality's jurisdiction for establishing bylaws as well as the requirements for passing bylaws.

**Interdepartmental:** Legislative and Legal Services has worked with Emergency Services, Communications, and other departments as required to develop this bylaw.

**Master Plan/Framework:** n/a

**Communication Plan**

Strathcona County will be providing comprehensive communication on this bylaw. Communication efforts will target all residents and community stakeholders.

**Enclosures**

- 1 Proposed Bylaw 46-2020 Temporary Mandatory Face Covering Bylaw
- 2 Public Engagement Results Related to face coverings/masks – to be distributed at meeting
- 3 Survey Results – Sherwood Park Chamber of Commerce – to be distributed at meeting (SEE RELATED MATTERS)
- 4 Presentation – Temporary Mandatory Face Coverings – to be distributed at meeting