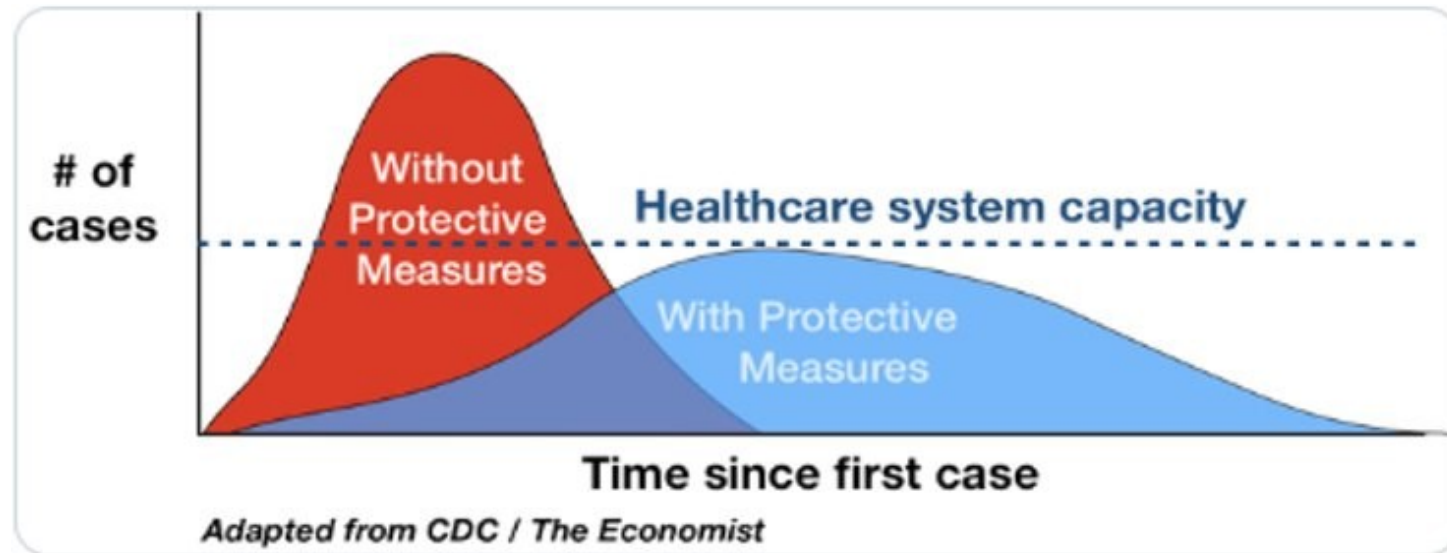# COVID-19 Update
February 5, 2021

Update to Emergency Advisory Committee

STRATHCONA COUNTY

Approach

Important to remember that COVID-19 epidemic control measures may only delay cases, not prevent.

However, this may limit surge and gives hospitals time to prepare and manage.
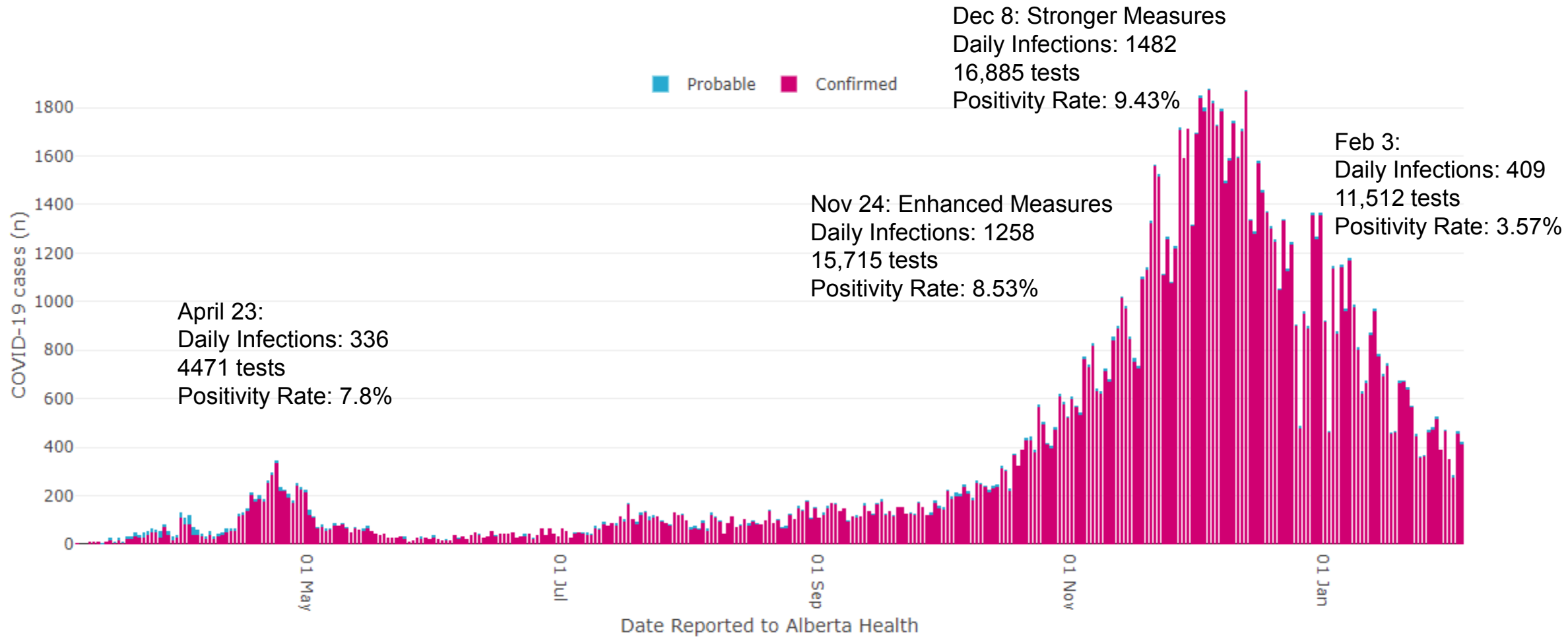
Alberta Health

- December 8 – Mandatory, provincewide restrictions in effect

February 3, 2021	Alberta
Confirmed cases	125,672
Active cases	6,588
Recovered Cases	117,400
Deaths	1,684

February 3, 2021	Sherwood Park*	Strathcona County*
Cases	1646	507
Active	70	22
Recovered	1550	481
Deaths	26	4

*As defined by Alberta Health

STRATHCONA COUNTY

Cumulative cases

UPDATE Alberta Health

- Key measures

February 3, 2021	Alberta	Edmonton Health Zone
Active hospital beds (COVID-19)	517	215
Hospital bed capacity	8,483	3,020
Active ICU beds (COVID-19)	93	32
ICU bed capacity	90	

Key measures and timing

Getting to each stage of relaunch depends on our ability to keep infection rates low, and well within the capacity of the healthcare system. Health measures we are watching include:

%	Percentage of tests that are positive
+	Hospitalization and intensive care unit (ICU) rates

Confirmed cases continue to be monitored in real-time to inform proactive responses in localized areas of the province.

We need to learn as we go and evaluate as we take careful, considered steps from one stage to the next. There may be times we need to take a step back, but in time, we will adjust and move forward together.

Continuous evaluation of health triggers could result in restrictions being removed or reapplied in some localized areas of the province.

STRATHCONA COUNTY

Easing Public Health Measures

STEP 1 <600 hospitalizations	STEP 2 <450 hospitalizations	STEP 3 <300 hospitalizations	STEP 4 <150 hospitalizations
Potential easing in these areas: • Restaurants • Indoor fitness • Indoor and outdoor children's sport and performance (school-related)	Potential easing in these areas: • Retail • Banquet halls • Community halls • Conference centres • Hotels • Futher easing of indoor fitness and children's sport and performance	Potential easing in these areas: • Adult team sports • Casinos, racing centres and bingo halls • Indoor social gatherings, with restrictions • Indoor seated events (movie theatres and auditoria) • Libraries • Museums, art galleries, zoos, interpretive centres • Places of worship	Potential easing in these areas: • Amusement parks • Concerts (indoor) • Festivals (indoor and outdoor) • Funeral receptions • Indoor entertainment centres and play centres • Performance activities (singing, dancing and wind instruments) • Sporting events (indoor and outdoor) • Tradeshows, conferences and exhibiting events • Wedding ceremonies and receptions • Workplaces (lift working from home)

- Hospitalizations
- Predictable
- Benchmarks
- Cautious approach
- 3 weeks apart

STRATHCONA COUNTY

RPC: activities currently available

***NEW* VIRTUAL recreation and culture programs:**

- Health-related, fitness, performing and visual arts open for registration

OUTDOOR activities (with Alberta Health restrictions):

- Outdoor skating (*NEW* skating capacity online map; regional campaign)
- Cross-country skiing (Wilderness Centre, Broadmoor)
  (Note: indoor areas CLOSED with exception of washrooms)
- Cross country ski lessons (Wilderness Centre)
- Physical activity kits (100) distributed through FCS Social Navigators
- Parks and trails for snowshoeing, playgrounds and tobogganing
- Off-leash dog parks with additional locations including Centennial Park
- NEW Crokicurl at Emerald Hills Sports Pavilion
- NEW Outdoor pop-up preschool (4 sessions filled instantly!)
- NEW Free activities (e.g. snowshoe, para-Nordic, Family Day)
- Schools, homeschool families and #healthyathome

INDOOR activities:

- All recreation facilities have been closed since December 13, 2020
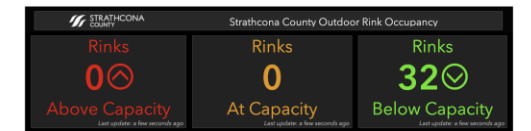
RPC: Step 1 plan for indoors

*Recreation facilities are NOT reopening to the general public as per Alberta Health guidelines:

- Ongoing communication with user groups throughout to determine demand

- Many groups are cancelling based on direction from their provincial/national associations

- Evaluating over a 2-3 week period and will scale up/down based on this demand and our ability to recall required trained staff resources. Health order will provide more clarification.

- Efficiency includes redeploying and using permanent staff before recalling where possible; and operating modified hours and minimizing locations based on demand.

Step 1 service

- Wellness centres remain closed to 1:1 training based on consistency with regional response
  - Health guideline changes also require many new procedures to be developed for a limited time
  - Allows us to get to Stage 2 quicker to be accessible to everyone

- Accommodate restricted limited access for 1:1 training with a certified trainer/coach in arenas, pools and indoor turf fields based on demand for ice/pool/field users

RPC response to provincial steps
Steps to easing of public health measures

INDOOR activities: *Target start date February 16 or earlier

Step 1 <600 hospitalizations
Note: Minimize staff recalls where possible for this 3-week period

- Pools for swim clubs only (Kinsmen Leisure Centre, Millennium Place)
- Select ice arenas for figure skating and other ice users based on demand
- Fields for indoor turf users (Millennium Place)

Step 2: <450 hospitalizations (min 3 weeks from Feb 8 post Step 2 assessment)
Note: Depend on recalling staff for a potential start of March 8 at the earliest

- Wellness centres
- Dry surface spaces (indoor fields, arenas, halls)
- Gymnasium (Millennium Place)
- Racquet courts (Glen Allan Recreation Complex)
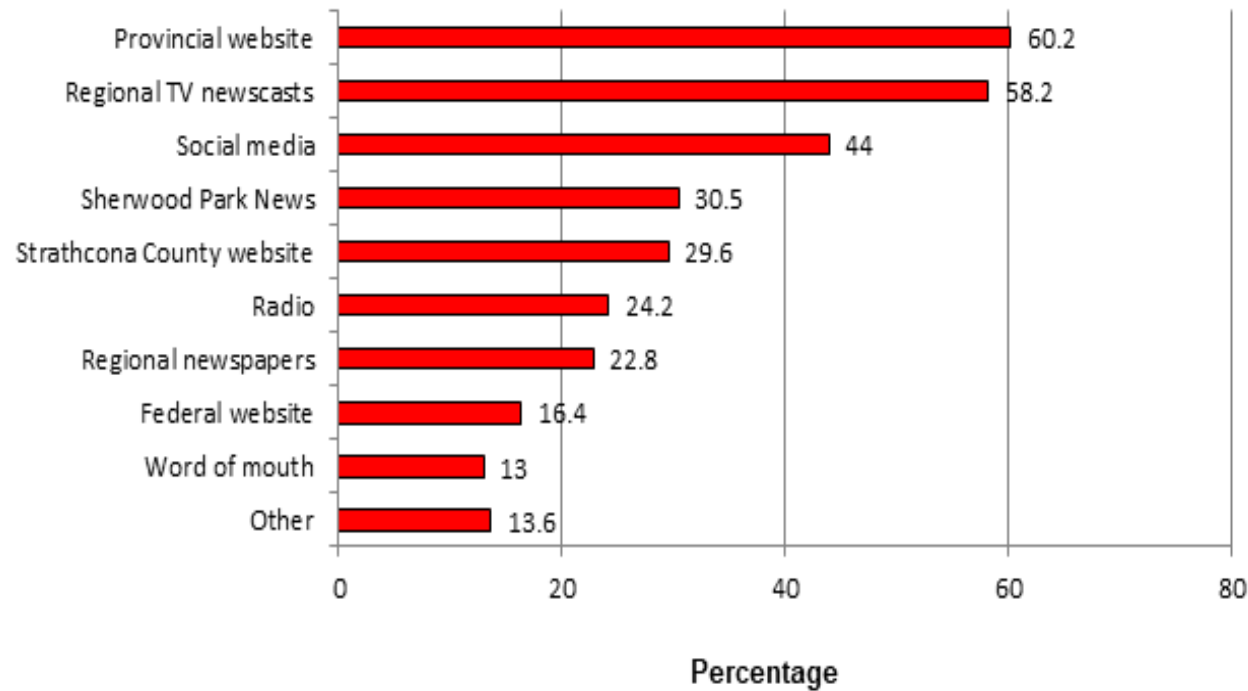
STRATHCONA COUNTY

FCS

- **Psychosocial impacts of COVID-19 are varied and complex**

- **Statistics: COVID-19 Survey (December 2020)**
    - poor or fair mental health (38.8%)
    - overwhelming or high levels of stress (40%)
    - overwhelming to high level of financial stress (15%)

- **Extended period of emotional recovery (3-5 years)**

- **Monitoring service needs**

- **Communication strategy**

STRATHCONA COUNTY

STRATHCONA COUNTY
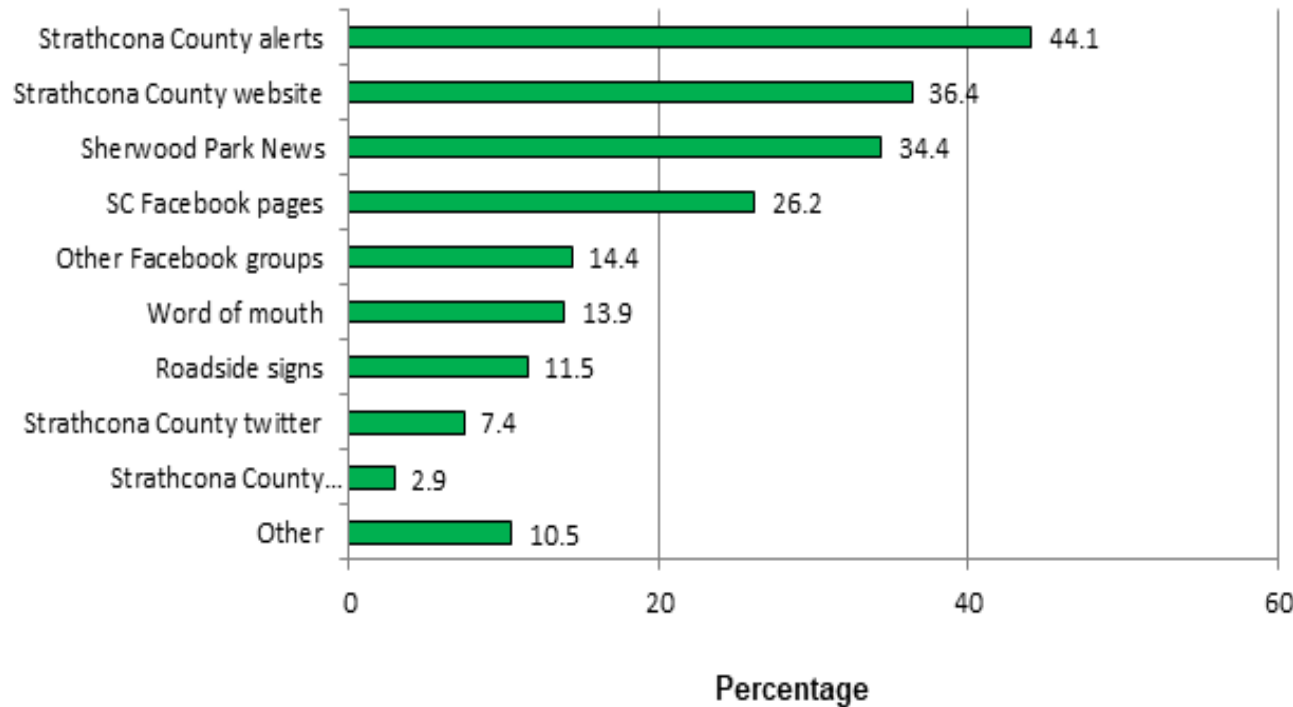
Communications – Information Sources

People use these sources to search for information on COVID-19*:

Provincial website — 60.2
Regional TV newscasts — 58.2
Social media — 44
Sherwood Park News — 30.5
Strathcona County website — 29.6
Radio — 24.2
Regional newspapers — 22.8
Federal website — 16.4
Word of mouth — 13
Other — 13.6

Percentage

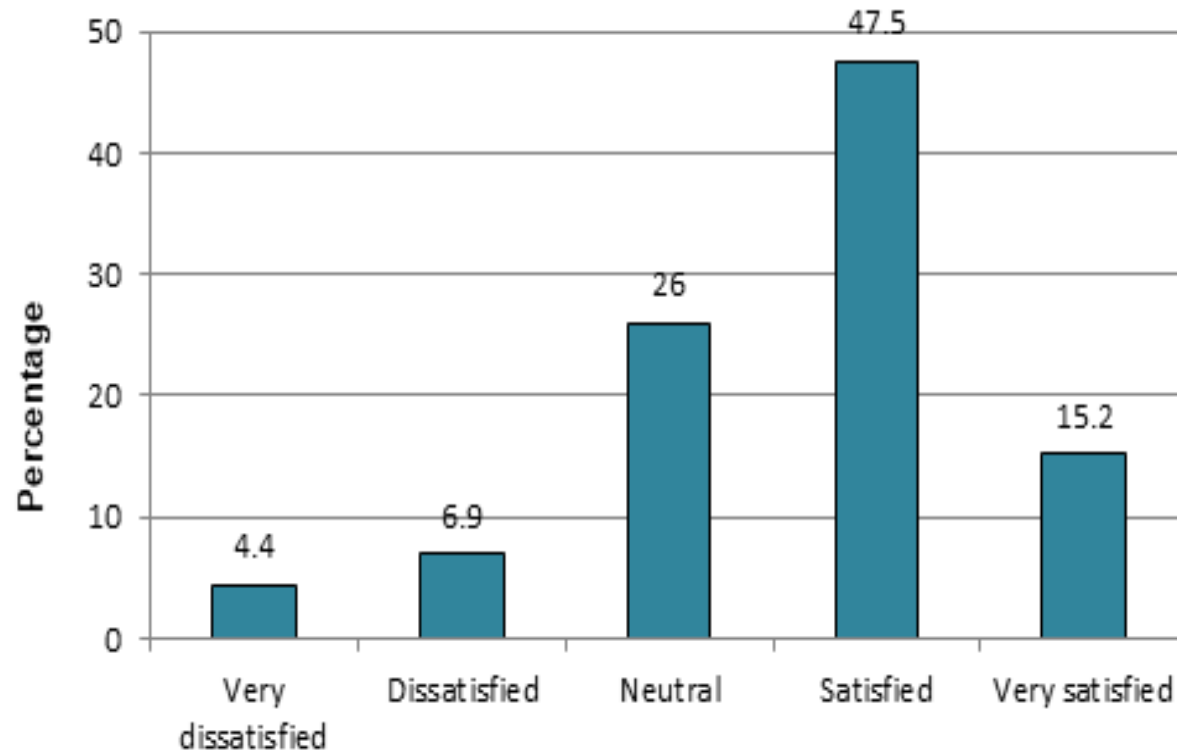*Source: 2020 COVID-19 Survey

STRATHCONA COUNTY

Communications – Information Sources Cont'd

When they get their information from Strathcona County – they get it from*:

*Source: 2020 COVID-19 Survey

Satisfaction with Communications Efforts

*Source: 2020 COVID-19 Survey

Communications Plan

Honouring the data on sources of information, Communications will:

- Issue a County info release to regional media (tv and radio outlets) with the details from today's meeting/County plans

- Post on Twitter and Facebook

- Update the website with latest information

- Provide info to stakeholder newsletters where applicable (example EDT and RPC for schools)

- Place routine ads in Sherwood Park News redirecting to County website

STRATHCONA
COUNTY

Reminder of Key Messages

- We know the restrictions are inconvenient, but we need to cooperate as a County/Edmonton region because these measures can literally help save lives. We are doing what we can to ensure you have healthy options available to you.

- Health and safety are our top priorities. We continue to monitor and work with all stakeholders to safely open what we can.

- It's ok to not be ok - sometimes people can feel overwhelmed and the County is committed to supporting the mental health of our residents and our staff. Please contact us if you need help.

- We will continue to support business with shop local campaigns and promoting any business supports available.

STRATHCONA COUNTY

Questions?

- We have representatives from County departments available virtually to answer questions

STRATHCONA COUNTY