

## NEWS RELEASE

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### March 17 COVID-19 Update – Task Force and Committee Meetings Postponed

#### Summary

On Monday, March 16, 2020 Nanaimo City Council unanimously voted to postpone all Council task forces and committee meetings, including the Finance and Audit and Governance and Priorities Committees, effective immediately. The Special Council Meeting on Finance and Audit will go ahead on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. in the Vancouver Island Conference Centre's Shaw Auditorium.

City business will continue via Council meetings and other measures such as online services. As a result, the City is encouraging residents to interact with City staff virtually as the City has online services available on the City website (<https://www.nanaimo.ca/city-services/online-services>). If residents have additional questions about online services they are asked to call 250-754-4251.

*Strategic Link: n/a*

#### Key Points

- The coronavirus (COVID-19) is a health matter which is overseen by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.
- The City of Nanaimo looks to and gets its direction and information from the Government of Canada, the BC Medical Health Officer, and the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC).
- Any health related questions and comments should be directed to provincial health authorities
- For the latest updates and information regarding COVID-19 please go to the BCCDC's website.

#### Quotes

"Nanaimo City Council is committed to flattening the curve and as a precaution we have had to make an extraordinary decision during extraordinary times. We took this measure as a precaution to protect the public and staff as we all do our part."

Leonard Krog  
Mayor  
City of Nanaimo

#### Quick Facts

- The province has created a phone service to provide non-medical info about COVID-19, including the latest information on travel recommendations and social distancing. Information is available in more than 110 languages, 7:30 a.m.-8 p.m. at 1-888-COVID19.
- The Public Health Agency of Canada has created a toll-free phone number (1-833-784-4397) to answer questions from Canadians about COVID-19.
- HealthLinkBC (8-1-1) for health-related questions.
- The BC Ministry of Health has set up an online COVID-19 symptom self-assessment tool which can be found here: <https://covid19.thrive.health/>

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