



Key Messages

January 22, 2021

Re: TOWN LAYS OFF FULL-TIME STAFF IN RESPONSE TO “SERIOUS” REVENUE SHORTFALLS

- The Town has suffered serious revenue shortfalls due to the lack of events, programs and services offered during the pandemic. Revenue shortfalls are in the order of \$800k. The Province is contributing \$400k towards the shortfalls, making the Town \$400k short.
- In an effort to remain fiscally responsible to our taxpayers, Council decided on Tuesday to temporarily lay off 19 unionized and non-unionized full-time Leisure and Community Services staff
- These staff, in general, are employees below ‘Supervisor’ level.
- All contract and part-time staff in Leisure Services that remain after the initial temporary layoffs last year will have their contracts end by the end of the month.
- This temporary layoff will commence immediately and will span a minimum period of 12 weeks (until May 2, 2021)
- Staff members affected will continue to work until February 5.
- As a result, all town programs, both virtual (online) and in-person will cease. This affects recreation programs, museum programs and downtown events. All special events will be ceased. Outdoor recreation amenities, such as the off-leash dog park, toboggan hills and the Greenwood Park rink, remain open for use.
- All other activities – road plowing, garbage collection, infrastructure maintenance – will continue as usual.
- Impacted staff are being placed on *Infectious Disease Emergency Leave (IDEL)*. Human Resources will be supplying details to those staff next week.
- These impacts are limited to the Leisure & Community Services Department and, at this time, we do not anticipate further layoffs within the organization.
- Council takes these matters extremely serious and is hoping for a very swift recovery, both from the Town’s financial situation and the COVID-19 pandemic.