



## Response

Since the World Health Organization identified COVID-19 as a global health pandemic on March 11, 2020, efforts have been made at the national, provincial, and local levels to effectively support and serve our communities. For Coaldale, this has meant:

- Opening the Emergency Operations Centre on March 16th, 2020
- Approving directives to ease the economic burden placed on our community; and
- Remaining steadfast on local capital plans that council approved in 2019 to proactively commit to economic recovery

This Recovery Plan is intended to capture the major steps being taken to continue the Town's efforts in supporting the community to the greatest extent possible during and after the COVID-19 event.

## Current actions

Town staff are actively monitoring the situation to prepare and accommodate for operational changes required during the pandemic. The following measures have been taken to help support local businesses and residents:

- Extending the tax deadline from June 30th to September 30th, 2020
- Implementing a three-month deferral on utility payments
- Announcing a 0% increase in residential and non-residential taxes
- Helping businesses acquire personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Purchasing space in the Sunny South News for businesses to advertise their services
- Joining the Lethbridge Region Economic Recovery Task Force

For more details, please visit [coaldale.ca/covid19](https://www.coaldale.ca/covid19).

## Next steps

As the situation continues to evolve, the Town is looking to the province for guidelines and recommendations on how to reopen public spaces and facilities. Ultimately, the Town will determine whether local facilities will remain closed based on the resources currently available.

As facilities do start to open, limitations and restrictions will be put in place to help prevent the spread. We ask that you respect these guidelines for the sake of community well being.

We thank members of the public for understanding as we do our best to balance our need and desire to serve with the obligation to comply with provincial health recommendations.

# Our role

Our role as a local government is to provide the greatest level of support possible for the community and the local economy, through the prudent and effective use of all human, legislative, financial, and technical resources, tools, and mechanisms.

The Municipal Recovery Plan is intended to capture the major steps being taken to continue the Town's efforts in supporting the community during and after the COVID-19 event. Our pillars of recovery as stated in the Municipal Emergency Plan are as follows:

- People
- Economy
- Environment
- Reconstruction

COVID-19 is a unique crisis in that there is little to no physical damage that has occurred in the community. Therefore, we are focusing less on the environment and reconstruction and instead prioritizing helping people and rebuilding the economy.

# Our commitment

Much of the work that has already been initiated will continue for the foreseeable future. As the Town continues its response efforts, we are committed to:

- Prioritizing health and safety
- Continuing to follow the province's lead on reopening facilities and amenities and developing locally appropriate strategies
- Proactively communicating changes to the public regarding the Town's recovery process as more information becomes available

## Stay informed

For guidelines on reopening businesses, please visit the province's webpage for resources on how to prevent the spread in all workplaces.

[alberta.ca/biz-connect](https://alberta.ca/biz-connect)

As the province continues to release information relating to COVID-19, please refer to their website for the most accurate and up-to-date information.

[alberta.ca/covid19](https://alberta.ca/covid19)

For more information on local concerns or changes regarding the Town's services, please contact Cameron Mills, Manager of Economic and Community Development.

[cameron.mills@coaldale.ca](mailto:cameron.mills@coaldale.ca)

# What does recovery look like in Coaldale?

Recovery is a Coaldale that has stabilized and adjusted to regain a sense of normalcy within the context of what are considered to be safe public health practices as determined by Alberta Health Services and the province's Chief Medical Officer of Health.

## Planning:

Proactively planning and practicing for events is the first step of event recovery. The Town's Municipal Emergency Plan is reviewed and updated regularly, and exercises are rehearsed frequently to ensure the response to an actual event is as effective and efficient as possible.

## Mid-term - focused on:

- Ensuring support services continue to function as needed by the community
- Establishing new/updated supports for the community
- Engaging and informing the community

## Short-term - focused on:

- Ensuring the provision of basic needs
- Activating necessary support services
- Addressing health and safety issues
- Establishing temporary solutions for event

## Long-term - focused on:

- Rebuilding the economy
- Ongoing community supports
- Updated processes and services based on lessons learned from the event response

