



BYLAW NO. 08 – 2020 TOWN OF VEGREVILLE

THIS BYLAW NO. 08-2020 OF THE TOWN OF VEGREVILLE, IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA FOR THE PURPOSE OF TEMPORARILY MANDATING THE WEARING OF FACE COVERINGS IN INDOOR PUBLIC PLACES AND PUBLIC VEHICLES

WHEREAS on March 11, 2020 the World Health Organization declared a global pandemic related to the spread of the COVID-19 virus and the COVID-19 pandemic remains a health risk and;

AND WHEREAS the World Health Organization, Chief Public Health Officer for Canada and the Chief Medical Officer of Health for Alberta have identified Face Coverings as a way to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 in circumstances where physical distancing may not be possible and;

AND WHEREAS physical distancing may not be possible in indoor Public Places and in Public Vehicles and;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to the *Municipal Government Act*, RSA 2000 c. M-26, and amendments thereto, a Council of a municipality may pass bylaws respecting:

- (a) the safety, health and welfare of people and the protection of people and property
- (b) people, activities, and things in, on or near a public place or place that is open to the public; and
- (c) businesses, business activities and persons engaged in business

AND WHEREAS Council considers it expedient and desirable for the health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of the Town of Vegreville to require the wearing of Face Coverings in indoor Public Places and in Public Vehicles

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Town of Vegreville duly assembled enacts as follows:

1. SHORT TITLE

- 1.1 This Bylaw may be cited as the **Temporary Mandatory Face Coverings Bylaw**.

2. DEFINITIONS

- 2.1 **Employer** means any person who is the owner, proprietor, manager, superintendent or person(s) of any activity, business, work, trade, occupation or profession, has control over or direction of, or is directly or indirectly responsible for the employment of a person and responsible for the day to day operations of a Public Place or a Public Vehicle.
- 2.2 **Face Covering** means a mask or other face covering that covers the mouth, nose and chin ensuring a barrier that limits the transmission of infectious respiratory droplets.
- 2.3 **Peace Officer** means a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or a Peace Officer appointed under the *Peace Officer Act*, SA 2006 c. P-3.5.

- 2.4 **Proprietor** means the person who ultimately controls, governs, or directs the activity carried on within any Public Place or Public Vehicle referred to in this Bylaw and includes the person usually in charge thereof.
- 2.5 **Public Place** means any property, whether publicly or privately owned, to which members of the public have access as of right or by express or implied invitation, whether on payment of any fee or not.
- 2.6 **Public Vehicle** means a bus, taxi or other vehicle that is used to transport members of the public for a fee.
- 2.7 **Violation Ticket** has the same meaning as defined in the *Provincial Offences Procedure Act*, RSA 2000, c. P-34, as amended.
- 2.8 **Watch/Enhanced** means the designation "Watch/Enhanced" as that term is used under the Government of Alberta's region classification system in accordance with Alberta's Relaunch Strategy and COVID-19 Relaunch Status Map.

3. FACE COVERINGS

- 3.1 A person must wear a Face Covering at all times while in an indoor, enclosed, or substantially enclosed Public Place or in a Public Vehicle.

4. EXCEPTIONS

- 4.1 Section 3 does not apply to the following persons:

- (a) persons under the age of 5
- (b) persons who are unable to place, use, or remove a Face Covering without assistance
- (c) persons unable to wear a Face Covering due to a mental or physical concern or limitation, or protected ground under the *Alberta Human Rights Act*, RSA 2000 c. A-25.5
- (d) persons consuming food or drink in designated seating areas or as part of religious or spiritual ceremony
- (e) persons engaged in water activities or physical exercise
- (f) persons providing care or assistance to a person with a disability where a Face Covering would hinder that caregiving or assistance
- (g) persons engaging in services that require the temporary removal of a Face Covering.

- 4.2 Section 3 does not apply to the following places:

- (a) schools and other educational facilities
- (b) hospitals and health-care facilities
- (c) childcare facilities
- (d) areas exclusively accessed or used by the Public Place's employees or a Public Vehicle operator, provided that physical barriers or physical distancing practices are implemented between any person not required to wear a Face Covering by operation of this exception and any other person.

5. ENFORCEMENT

- 5.1 Where a Peace Officer believes that a person has contravened any provision of this Bylaw, the Peace Officer may issue a Violation Ticket in accordance with the *Provincial Offences Procedure Act, RSA 2000 c.P-34*.
- 5.2 If a Violation Ticket is issued for an offence under this Bylaw, the Violation Ticket may:
 - (a) specify the fine amount established by this Bylaw for the offence; or
 - (b) require a person to appear in court without the alternative of making a voluntary payment.
- 5.3 A person who commits an offence may, if a Violation Ticket is issued specifying the fine amount established by this Bylaw for the offence, make a voluntary payment equal to the specified fine amount.
- 5.4 The Town of Vegreville has the discretion to enforce this Bylaw and is not liable of any outcomes should a Peace Officer decide not to enforce this Bylaw if acting in good faith.

6. OFFENCES AND PENALTIES

- 6.1 A person who contravenes this Bylaw is guilty of an offence.
- 6.2 A person found guilty of an offence under this Bylaw is liable to a fine in an amount not less than \$100.00, as per Schedule 'A'.

7. SIGNAGE

- 7.1 An Employer or Proprietor must prominently display a sign, in the form and containing the content set out in Schedule 'B', in a location that is visible to a person immediately upon entering the Public Place or a Public Vehicle.

8. SEVERABILITY

- 8.1 If any portion of this Bylaw is declared invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, then the invalid portion must be severed, and the remainder of the Bylaw is deemed valid.

9. EFFECTIVE DATE


- 9.1 This Bylaw comes into force on November 30, 2020 and will remain in force until 11:59 P.M. MST on February 28, 2021.

Read for a first time this 25th Day of November , 2020 A.D.

Read for a second time this 25th Day of November , 2020 A.D.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT RECEIVED FOR THIRD AND FINAL READING

Read for a third time this 25th Day of November , 2020 A.D.


TIM MACPHEE, Mayor


CLIFF CRAIG, CLGM, Town Manager

SCHEDULE 'A'
PENALTIES

<u>Section</u>	<u>Description of Offence</u>	<u>Specified Penalty</u>
Section 6	Failure to wear a Face Covering [Mask] where required	\$100.00
Section 7	Failure to display prescribed signage as shown in Schedule 'B'	\$200.00

SCHEDULE 'B'
FACE MASK POSTER



**All persons entering or remaining
inside public places or in a public
vehicle must wear
a mask or face covering**
that covers the nose, mouth and chin as
required pursuant to
Town of Vegreville Bylaw 08-2020

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON WEARING AND CARING FOR YOUR MASK

alberta.ca/masks



Exemptions include, but are not limited to: persons under the age of 5 or persons with an underlying medical condition or disability which inhibits their ability to wear a face covering (mask). **For more information on the bylaw, requirements and all exemptions, visit vegreville.com/p/covid19**