FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE MAY 28, 2020



# CITY OF TERRACE OPENING CITY HALL AND PUBLIC WORKS/DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BUILDINGS TO THE PUBLIC

## Opening of facilities on June 1 will allow for in-person property tax payments

In line with the guidelines for Phase 2 of the Province's Restart BC plan and WorkSafeBC, the City of Terrace is opening up City Hall and the Public Works/Development Services building as of Monday, June 1. The Sportsplex and Terrace & District Aquatic Centre remain closed to the public until such time that they can be opened safely, cost-effectively, and in line with all regulations.

Staff are currently preparing these facilities for opening and will be posting regulations for entry on each publicly accessible door. Anyone who has been outside of the country recently or who has COVID-19—related symptoms will not be permitted to enter. Staff are installing Plexiglas shields and floor markings to keep both staff and visitors safe while completing transactions. Hand sanitizer will be available inside the door. The number of visitors inside the facilities at any one time will be limited.

City Hall and the Public Works/Development Services buildings will resume regular hours of operation, with the doors open Monday through Friday, from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

#### **Property Tax Notices Mailed Out This Week**

In addition, property tax notices have now been mailed out to businesses and residents. Notices contain information sheets outlining how to pay, when to pay, and how to claim the Home Owner Grant. While property owners are encouraged to pay online, the opening of City Hall on June 1 makes in-person payments possible, if required.

Property taxes are due July 2, as usual. However, the 10% penalty associated with non-payment will be deferred until October 1, 2020. Those who do not pay by 4:30 pm on September 30, 2020, will be charged a 10% penalty on any unpaid current taxes. Those who can meet the usual deadline of July 2 are encouraged to do so. This will help the City maintain its cash flow so it can continue to provide the many services that the community depends on.

Property owners are encouraged to make property tax payments online, by telephone banking, or by mail, if possible. However, City Hall will be accepting in-person payments by cash, cheque, post-dated cheque, or debit. Credit card payments are not accepted. The City encourages only one person per household to come inside City Hall in order to help manage physical distancing. In addition, the first hour of business, from 8:30–9:30 am, is reserved for seniors ages 65+ to complete transactions.

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For more information about paying property tax, links to claim the Home Owner grant, and more, visit <a href="https://www.terrace.ca/propertytax">https://www.terrace.ca/propertytax</a>.

Property owners may also contact City Hall with any questions about property taxes by calling 250-635-6311 during regular business hours.

For more notices related to COVID-19, please visit <a href="https://www.terrace.ca/COVID19">https://www.terrace.ca/COVID19</a>.

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