

City of Grande Prairie COVID-19 Timeline March 11 2020 - Sept. 24 2021



Ongoing



Regular updates to the community
(press conferences, web updates, social media)



Citizens encouraged to follow
AHS recommendations



Members of the public are encouraged to practice
good hygiene and physical distancing

March 23



Community Care Program: Food & Pharmacy launches to ensure residents of the GPREP service area have continued access to essential items



Council directed Administration to draft relevant bylaw amendments and procedures for the following tax deferrals:

- Establish August 31, 2020 as the property tax deadline. This includes both residential and non-residential
- Eliminate the May and July penalty deadlines
- Stop all reminders and notices for past due tax-payments until September 1, 2020

March 24



GPREP asks all regional residents returning from international travel to immediately self-isolate

March 25



Grande Prairie Airport announces commercial air service restrictions

March 26



The City of Grand Prairie, County of Grande Prairie and Grande Prairie and District Chamber of Commerce launch joint taskforce to support businesses



GPREP encourages community members to donate to local food banks if able to

March 27



Applications for FCSS funding open for non-profits to support individuals, seniors, families and other vulnerable Albertans through the pandemic



Casual and temporary employee workforce is reduced by 330, due to shortage of work available to satisfy available hours

April 6



Council approves \$35M Line of Credit to ensure service delivery

April 8



Mayor Bill Given reminds residents to practice physical distancing while celebrating Easter

April 9



GPREP reminds residents to continue practicing effective physical distancing



Business Resiliency Taskforce launches an Advisory Service Voucher Program to connect eligible businesses with education, training and consulting services



Transit adjusts daytime hours effective April 13. On demand evening service launched



City launches GP Grows, Indoor Gardening Project for City residents

April 15



All recreational programs and bookings cancelled up to May 31st



All outdoor programs and events cancelled for the month of May



Select closures of outdoor recreational facilities with provincial regulations in place at remaining facilities



GPREP announces the activation response to COVID-19 is the longest GPREP activation in the partnership's history

April 20



Council directed Administration to develop a budget scenario considering a 0% tax increase for 2020 and report back to Council by mid-May 2020

April 23



GPREP launches Mental Health Campaign to provide regional resources for mental health support

April 27



City hosts virtual conversations with local non-profits to discuss challenges and opportunities related to the pandemic

Visit alberta.ca/covid19 for up-to-date physical distancing guidelines.

Visit cityofgp.com/covid19 for more details on the City's response.

April 28



GPREP aligns with the Business Resiliency Taskforce to formalize a Business Ambassador Team to help prepare local businesses when the province lifts restrictions on operations

April 30



Province of Alberta issues Relaunch Strategy

May 7



GPREP shifts focus to help businesses prepare to re-open as early as May 14, 2020

May 11



The Business Resiliency Taskforce hosts a Telephone Town Hall with government officials to provide updates about COVID-19 and the economy

May 12



Applications available for PPE4Biz Program by GPREP to assist local businesses in keeping workers, patrons, & volunteers safe when they re-open



Business Relaunch offers online resources to businesses preparing to re-open through the GPREP website

May 14



Alberta proceeds to the first phase of its relaunch plan in most parts of the province

May 15



GPREP plans to relocate the Temporary Cot Program from the Dave Barr Community Centre to the Bowes Event Centre in the next two weeks

May 19



City Council approved the following to provide relief on property tax payments:

- Tax payment deadline extensions
- Tax payment rebate of 1.25% to create a 0% increase
- Waiving the late sign-up fee to sign up for the Tax Installment Payment Plan

May 20



City cancels all indoor recreational programs and bookings up to June 30th, 2020. Credits will be issued for all previously paid programs and bookings



Gatherings in outdoor public spaces are limited to 50 people or fewer and members should observe the 2-metre physical distancing requirements



Dog parks across the City have re-opened to the public with provincial restrictions on physical distancing



Cancellation of the annual Eastlink Centre Triathlon for the 2020 season

May 27



Transit buses reduce capacity and limit number of passengers to approximately 8-10 riders at one time per bus



GPREP lifts regional closure of playgrounds starting June 1

May 29



The following facilities will reopen June 2 with several changes in place to accommodate COVID-19 restrictions:

- Grande Prairie Museum & Heritage Village
- Ernie Radbourne Pavilion (Muskoseepi Park)
- Heritage Discovery Centre (Centre 2000)

June 8



City Hall partially re-opened to the public for tax payments only.

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June 9



Alberta moves up stage 2 of its relaunch strategy to Friday, June 12



Stage 2 enables the re-opening of facilities such as:

- Library
- Select indoor & outdoor recreation facilities



The City announces a phased approach to re-opening in order to ensure all safety measures are in place

June 12



GPREP lifts the state of local emergency in all participating municipalities

June 15



The state of public health emergency in Alberta ends

June 18



Transit services are re-instating fare collection for all transit services effective June 29

June 21



Revolution Place introduces a variety of re-opening safety measures in preparation for fall announcements

June 22



Revolution Place Box Office and Dave Barr Community Centre re-open to the public

June 24



Eastlink Centre, Coca-Cola Centre and Grande Prairie Outdoor Pool are starting a phased re-opening on Monday, July 6

June 29



Transit passes available for purchase at City Hall and Ernie Radbourne Pavilion

July 6



Spray Parks re-open at Muskoseepi Park and Lion's Park



Ernie Radbourne Pavilion and Heritage Discovery Centre change hours of operation

July 27



Eastlink Centre reopens walking track and adult river walking

Sept. 1



Mask wearing is required on all transit buses

Sept. 8



The City of Grande Prairie passes the Temporary Mandatory Face Covering (Mask) Bylaw

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Oct. 26

! The Mandatory Face Covering (Masks) Bylaw C-1426 trigger point has been reached. Face coverings and masks are now required in indoor and enclosed public spaces within the City

Oct. 27

 FAQs are available on the Temporary Mandatory Face Covering (Mask) Bylaw information page

Nov. 6

! A public health order announces 15 people max for indoor and outdoor gatherings for the City of Grande Prairie

Nov. 12

! The Province of Alberta announces additional public health measures for communities under the “enhanced” category, which includes the City of Grande Prairie. New restrictions apply immediately from November 13 – 27

Nov. 24

! The Government of Alberta announces a State of Public Health Emergency with mandatory public health measures

Nov. 27

! The Government of Alberta’s new business and service restrictions for areas with ‘Enhanced’ status, which includes Grande Prairie, comes into effect

Dec. 8

! The Government of Alberta announces mandatory measures province-wide for a minimum of four weeks

Dec. 13

 The City of Grande Prairie temporarily closes its recreation and cultural facilities for a minimum of four weeks to comply with the latest provincial health regulations and keep the community safe and healthy

Dec. 21

 Economic Development launches business outreach program by contacting restaurants and retail businesses who are impacted by provincial restrictions. The outreach was expanded to gyms and personal services as they began to reopen, which continued until March 26, 2021

2021

Jan. 28

 The Chamber of Commerce and the City of Grande Prairie partner to deliver highly tailored instructional workshops to support current business needs in a virtual series called Serving Up Knowledge

Feb. 8

 The following City of Grande Prairie recreation centres open for children’s sport and performance activities for minor sports and school athletics:
• Eastlink Centre
• Coca-Cola Centre
• Revolution Place
• Dave Barr Community Centre
• The Leisure Centre

Feb. 22

 A change of use fee waiver was launched for restaurant, drinking establishment fee waiver for businesses applying to change from one to another of the following uses: restaurant, drinking establishment major or minor, and restaurant & drinking establishment major or minor

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March 1



Bookings are available for the following amenities at the Eastlink Centre Community Knowledge Campus:
• Fieldhouse
• Pool

March 4



Eastlink Centre opens up the walking track for 1-hour time-slot bookings and the Fitness Centre and Aquatics area for registered low-intensity group fitness classes

March 12



Eastlink Centre opens pre-booked low-intensity fitness workouts in the Fitness Centre and walking track

March 31



GPREP's Community Care Program concludes

April 6



Eastlink Centre closes Fitness Centre for individual and group bookings in alignment with mandatory public health orders. Individual or household one-on-one training with a registered personal trainer remains available

April 8



Applications open for Barrier-Free Grants to improve accessibility to buildings and properties around the City and Training Grants for businesses within the City of Grande Prairie - Economic Recovery Program

April 29



The Government of Alberta announces new mandatory measures to address growing COVID-19 cases in communities, which currently includes Grande Prairie

April 30



All City recreational facilities close indoor bookings for a minimum of two weeks

May 6



City recreational facilities cancel outdoor fitness and recreation classes

June 1



The City re-introduces outdoor fitness and recreation offerings in accordance with the Government of Alberta's Open for Summer Plan

June 10



Some restrictions ease as the province moves into Stage 2 of Alberta's Open for Summer Plan

July 1



All restrictions lift as the province moves into Stage 3 of Alberta's Open for Summer Plan

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July 27



Economic Development launches DIG (Development Incentives and Grants Program)

Aug. 15



The Eastlink Centre returns to full week operating hours

Sept. 4



The Province announces temporary measures due to the rising case numbers

Sept. 20



The City's recreation and culture facilities adopt the Government of Alberta's REP (Restriction Exemption Program)

Last updated September 24, 2021

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