



BRIEFING NOTE

COVID-19 media briefing notes - Karen Redman April 10, 2020

Sympathy statements

I'd like to start by expressing my condolences for those who have lost loved ones to COVID19. Holidays are particularly difficult when grieving the loss of a loved one.

My sympathies go out to those who are ill and for those who are worried about loved ones who might be vulnerable.

I want to assure you that the Region, together with public health, are doing everything we can to reduce the spread of COVID19 in our community.

More on holidays...

For those who are trying to find ways to mark celebrations this month like: Passover; Easter; Ramadan; Vaisakhi; and Ridván; I hope you will find ways to connect with family and friends while keeping safe.

Maybe connect online if you can and save the social gathering for another day.

Crowded trails, parks and forests

And lastly I know we mentioned this earlier in the week, but we are still seeing overcrowding at local parks and trails.

The safest thing to do at this stage of the pandemic...is to stay at home.



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Crowded trails, forests and parks reduce your ability to maintain proper physical distancing - including busy parking lots.

For those who feel they need to walk outside for physical or mental health and wellbeing, please adhere to Public Health guidelines.

Those guidelines are:

When walking in a park (or anywhere), residents should always practice 2m physical distancing guidelines.

Avoid crowding and don't travel to parks or trails, particularly by car.

Residents who do not live near a trail should walk within their own neighbourhoods.

Residents should not plan activities at parks. This includes gathering of any kind, picnics or sports.

Always wash your hands immediately upon returning home.

Conclusion

I hope you can find ways to make the best of this holiday weekend. Thanks again to everyone who is doing their part to stay home as much as possible. We will get through this together.