



The United Church of Canada L'Eglise Unie du Canada



First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council
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First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council Covid-19 Update **January 18, 2022**

Dear Members of First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council,

New Year's greetings to you. While this is not the start to the new year that we had hoped for, I would like to thank each of you for doing your part to follow the protocols that have been put in place to ensure continued safety in our communities of faith. May you be blessed as you prepare to bless others this year, with your leadership and ministry, through this constantly changing time.

As you are already aware, all of Newfoundland and Labrador is currently in modified Alert Level 4. This Alert Level will be reassessed again on January 24, 2022. Public Health guidance for this modified level states the following:

It is all of our responsibility to:

- Follow Public Health Guidance.
- Stay at home as much as possible, except to get essentials like groceries and medications.
- Work from home, where possible.
- Your household bubble can interact with up to 10 close, consistent contacts from outside your household (Tight 10).
- If you have COVID-19 symptoms, use the online COVID-19 Assessment and Referral tool or call 811 if you do not have internet access.
- Wear a non-medical mask when you are in public indoor settings. This includes when you are seated.

Faith-Based Organizations

- Gatherings at funerals, burials, weddings, and religious and cultural ceremonies are limited to no more than 50 people or 25 per cent capacity, whichever is less.
- Physical distancing must be maintained.
- Public visitations are permitted, with one household bubble visiting at a time.
- Wakes are prohibited.
- Visitor restrictions for acute care, long term care, personal care homes, community care homes, and assisted living facilities are in accordance with the **Guidelines for Support Persons/Designated Visitors**.

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I continue to encourage our churches to move your congregational services to online or drive in, if you are able. If you are continuing with in person services, I would suggest that you limit or have no congregational singing and have a soloist or small bubbled group sing the hymns until we come out of Alert Level 4. A reminder to remain masked; only those who are speaking/singing/reading should unmask while they are speaking but mask when not.

Pease continue to follow all Public Health Measures if gathering:

- Practice good hygiene
- Stay home when sick
- Practice physical distancing (avoid crowds and maintain 2-meter distance from other people)
- Wear a mask
- Limit and track your contacts

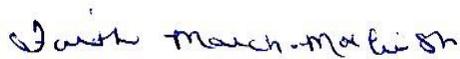
All of this information is currently available online at the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador Covid 19 Website: [Covid-19 Alert level 4](#)

At this time, I would also remind you that the decision was made, after the January 3, 2022 briefing, to close our office building at 320 Elizabeth Avenue due to the rising number in COVID cases. In keeping with the Covid-19 guidance, staff will be working from home at this time. If you wish to speak to any of the staff please use their email or phone number. The staff directory can be found by visiting our website at: [Staff Directory](#)

We have been here before and we will get through this together. Be safe everyone, and thank you for your ongoing support to the province's response to the COVID 19 pandemic.

If you have further questions, please be in touch.

Sincerely,



Rev. Faith March-MacCuish
Executive Minister
First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council

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