

Mayor's Report June 8, 2020

As Vice Chair of the Regional Hospital District, on May 27 I attended the spring Joint Interior Health Hospital Districts meeting. Interior Health hosts these meetings twice each year, in the spring and fall. Much of the information was related to COVID-19 including an update from IH's Medical Health Officer, Dr. Silvina Mema. As of May 27, only 1 person in the IH area is in hospital and no one is in ICU. Two people have died and 96% of all cases have recovered. Dr. Mema stressed how important it is to continue to follow protocols and orders and to plan for a second wave in the Fall. Whether or not we see this, it is better to be prepared. Also, IH is finding that there is a lot of interest—by both physicians and patients—in continuing virtual team-based care post-pandemic.

Later that day I participated in a teleconference about accommodating agricultural workers in the Province. This matter is now in the hands of staff; CAO Haddad will provide a public update when appropriate.

May 28, I attended the virtual RDOS mayor's/chair/CAOs meeting. These sessions provide a way to talk about pandemic matters. At this meeting most of the discussion was on how reopening is proceeding and the challenges of housing domestic agricultural workers.

Councillor Holmes and I attended the RDOS meeting on June 2. As usual, he has prepared a report that will be posted on the website as part of this meeting's correspondence.

The RDOS Board meeting was followed by the bi-weekly call with Minister Robinson, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing. Premier Horgan joined the call as well to hear from each of us what we've learned over the past three months and to answer questions raised by some of the mayors, regional district chairs and CAOs on the call.

After the call with the Province I joined the Okanagan Sustainability Leadership Council (OSLC) meeting. The OSLC is a non-profit society dedicated to protecting and restoring the natural ecosystems while building healthy, resilient and connected communities throughout the Valley. The Council has identified four priority initiatives: Zero Waste Valley; Intelligent Okanagan; Connected Communities; and Healthy Ecosystems and the chair of each of these initiatives updated the Council members. More information is available at okslc.ca.

Summerland and all of the province is continuing to hold the line against the coronavirus. Unless there is a dramatic change in the trend, the Premier has indicated that we will be moving into Phase 3 of the Restart BC Plan by the end of this month. Please continue to mindful of the protocols and orders and take care of yourself and one another.

Be safe and continued health.

Mayor Toni Boot