



Update on COVID-19 for March 16 Temporary Adjournment of Classes – March 17 to March 20, 2020

Good evening Students and Employees of Selkirk College.

I appreciate everyone's patience and suggestions as our teams have worked over the weekend and today developing responses to the evolving COVID-19 pandemic. Providing daily updates is important as our understanding of the COVID-19 transmission and effective mitigation continues to evolve.

Effective March 17 until March 20, all classes at all Selkirk College campuses and learning centres are temporarily adjourned to meet today's new directive from the Provincial Health Officer that prohibits gatherings of 50 or more people.

The adjournment of classes will also provide additional time for instructors and the Education Division to prepare for moving the remainder of the Winter Semester courses and assessment for program completion to alternative delivery methods. **Classes will resume under these new or revised methods commencing March 23.**

We remain committed to ensuring students in all programs can complete learning outcomes and final assessment. Deans, School Chairs, the E-learning team, Campus Management, and IT Services will continue to develop strategies and actions to support instructors. Students will receive information in the coming days as to what format and schedule their respective classes will resume. Students are asked to monitor their email closely over the coming days for these instructions.

It is important to note that the adjournment of classes will mean that campuses and learning centres will remain open to provide essential and some student support services.

Important services and next steps are listed here:

- Libraries will remain open, but social distance protocols of 1 meter will be observed;
- Cafeterias will remain open, but available seating limited to 50 at a time and spread widely;
- Computer labs will remain open, will observe social distance minimums, and have increased cleaning;
- The gymnasiums at Castlegar and Nelson's Mary Hall will temporarily close until Friday for deep cleaning and to give time for staff to develop scheduling to limit facility attendees to less than 50 at any time. Once resumption of classes takes place students will be given the priority to use gym facilities;
- The residences will remain in operation with current hygiene and social distancing protocols in place, and limiting gatherings in social areas to a minimum;
- The Registrar's Office and Enrolment Services will remain open with social distance protocols being observed; and

- Counselling Services will remain open for in-person counselling, but will move to online/phone counselling as soon as possible. Future appointments will be contacted with directions.

Students will receive email updates from their specific program as the week progresses. **Please note, this does not mean classes are canceled for the rest of the semester.** Students will be expected to complete the required course work under the revised delivery of instruction.

Please also refer to earlier communications to remind yourself of additional strategies to mitigate the transmission and infection with COVID-19.

Thank you,

Angus Graeme,
President