

Statement from Mayor Mike Savage
March 15, 2020

Today we learned three Nova Scotians have tested positive for COVID-19, an inevitability that makes the announcement no less concerning as we have watched this virus spread around the globe.

All of us must heed the advice of our public health officials. Now is the time for unprecedented action, broad social responsibility, faith in science over opinion, and compassion for those for whom the days and weeks ahead will be especially trying.

All orders of government are taking a coordinated approach to instituting measures that help break chains of coronavirus transmission and lessen the burden of illness in our communities and hospitals. In the Halifax Regional Municipality, we will continue to make our decisions in concert with the recommendations and direction of public health.

This afternoon we learned that a person who is an indirect contact of my office tested negative for COVID-19. Naturally, this outcome is a relief, to the person who underwent testing as well as my office team that went into in voluntary isolation.

This will not be an anomaly, but rather indicative of the challenges all of us will most certainly face as we unite against a virus that respects no borders or boundaries.

Each of us will be expected to take difficult actions, to make sacrifices. At the same time, we must remain true to who we are as members of a remarkably kind and compassionate community, a city whose residents have long been known for their generosity of spirit in times of adversity.

Follow social distancing measures as directed, and please show small kindnesses in whatever ways you can: check in with others, find ways to help those who will need it most.

Please stay informed by following reliable sources of public health information some of which I have provided here:

Province of Nova Scotia: <https://novascotia.ca/coronavirus/>

Government of Canada: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html>

World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

Municipal information can be found here:

<https://www.halifax.ca/coronavirus>

As a community we have faced challenges before, and we have come through them. I know we will again.