



ESA. THE BEST ARE READY.

May 5, 2021

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**Re: Covid- 19 Update- Provincewide Restrictions**

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I'd like to start this update on a very positive note...

We are 13 months into this pandemic and ESA has NOT had a single positive Covid case. This feels like a huge accomplishment! There are so many factors that have made this feat possible; mandatory masks, scheduling small groups, cohorting, physical distancing, PPE, frequent hand washing, temperature monitoring, daily health questionnaires, one-way foot traffic, zero congregating, plexi-glass barriers and frequent sanitization of surfaces. There are also some very important people that made this possible; our admin team who diligently completes contact tracing and follow up on daily health questionnaires, our faculty who have become zoom pro's and are constantly aware of and reminding students to physically distance during practical training and our students who, as silly as it may seem at the time, stay home when they have a headache or sore throat. WE DID THIS. TOGETHER. THANK YOU!

Provincewide restrictions, including restrictions for post secondary institutions came into effect on May 5, 2021. As stated on the Alberta Health website, "Post-secondary schools will transition to online learning, effective May 5." Details regarding the provincewide restrictions can be found [HERE](#). For ESA, this means we pivot again, revise schedules, extend programs and continue to be flexible. Fortunately, we feel more prepared than this time last year. We are already very proficient at Zoom and we have the ability to adjust schedules as needed. Thank you to all our current students for being patient as we make the best plan possible to help you to successfully complete your program of study. Please stay tuned and continue to be patient with us as we work through the next few weeks, together.

In addition to the provincewide restrictions, additional restrictions came into effect for high case regions, including Strathcona County. These restrictions will be in place for at least 3 weeks and will be extended if necessary. Details [HERE](#).

As always, we will continue to heed the advice of the Alberta Government in regard to Covid-19. We move forward with the understanding that at any moment, we could be asked to pivot once again. As evidenced in the past thirteen months, we are up for the challenge. We are fiercely committed to our students and we are resilient. We will continue to provide high level emergency services education while continuing to maintain our close knit, family environment.

I want to share my sincere gratitude to our administration team, faculty, students and training partners for their commitment, flexibility and trust as we all continue to work together to maintain a safe learning and working environment.

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Stay safe. Stay healthy. Stay connected.

Best regards,

**EMERGENCY SERVICES ACADEMY LTD.**

*Chelsey Reid*

Chelsey Reid, Director & Registrar

