

April 7, 2020

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**CIRCULAR TO MUNICIPALITIES, LOCAL SERVICE DISTRICTS,
AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS**

The Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment is continuing to provide support to municipalities, Local Service Districts and Fire Departments as they address concerns around COVID-19. We continue to follow the recommendations of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Department of Health and Community Services, and are encouraging local governments to follow their lead.

The Provincial Government provides regular updates at www.gov.nl.ca/covid-19. For general inquiries related to government services, please call [1-833-771-0696](tel:1-833-771-0696) from Monday to Friday or email covid19info@gov.nl.ca any time.

Government has recently noted that individuals and groups within our communities are organizing and participating in parades in support of various events. While the Department appreciates the support that communities are providing, such parades are not consistent with the recommended approach to limit vehicular travel in the province for essential reasons only.

In response, the Department is requesting that all fire departments, police, and the public refrain from holding parades. As such, we are asking all local governments to support this request and to help discourage such gatherings within your respective communities.

The Provincial Government continues to ask the public to limit travel and to maintain physical distancing whenever travel is required.

I sincerely appreciate the understanding and cooperation of your councils during this time. Please continue to support the message of the Chief Medical Officer of Health regarding COVID-19 to ensure the safety of our residents and communities.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Derrick Bragg".

DERRICK BRAGG, MHA
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Environment
District of Fogo Island-Cape Freels