

THE CORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF NEW DENVER

POLICY TITLE: COVID-19 MEETING POLICY

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 15, 2020

SUPERSEDES: n/a

APPROVAL: Council Resolution #175/20

PURPOSE:

To establish Council's policy regarding public participation in Council Meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic.

POLICY:

Village of New Denver Council meetings will be open to the public during the COVID-19 pandemic, with restrictions to ensure compliance with guidelines set by the Provincial Health Officer.

Scope:

This policy will apply to all meetings of the Council of the Village of New Denver.

PROCEDURE:

In order to comply with the physical distancing guidelines set by the Provincial Health Officer, a maximum of two groups of up to two members of the public may be safely accommodated in Council Chambers at any one time, in addition to the press, elected officials and staff. Preference will be given to those members of the public appearing as a delegation to Council or making a request of Council.

Members of the public wishing to participate in Council Meetings are encouraged to do so remotely when possible. Members of the public wishing to attend meetings in Council Chambers should contact the Village Office regarding the availability of seats. Should demand for public participation exceed capacity, alternate means of public participation will be considered including telephone or video presence where this is within the Village's technological capability or, for agenda items attracting high levels of public interest, an alternate meeting location with greater capacity.

In order to ensure openness, transparency and accessibility, draft agenda packages for Regular Council Meetings will be posted publicly on the Village's website on the Friday afternoon before the meeting. Members of the public are invited to submit written comments regarding items on the agenda up until 4 p.m. on the day of the meeting. These comments will be presented to Council during the "Public Comments" portion of the meeting.