



**Media Release**

**March 20, 2020 | 11:00 a.m.**

Update 3: COVID-19 Pandemic

***To Reduce Community Transmission GPREP Prohibits the Use of Playground Equipment***

The six partner municipalities of the Grande Prairie Regional Emergency Partnership (GPREP) have prohibited access to playground equipment as a precautionary step to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

This decision supplements announcements from the federal and provincial governments to limit public gatherings, maintain social distancing, and increase cleaning and hygiene.

GPREP is taking this precautionary step due to the close proximity playground equipment forces, the number of people touching surfaces, number of surfaces, inability to maintain cleanliness, and crowds of all ages that often gather in these areas.

At this time GPREP is prohibiting access to all playground equipment including schools in the City of Grande Prairie, County of Grande Prairie, Towns of Beaverlodge, Sexsmith, and Wembley, and Village of Hythe.

Residents are encouraged to maintain a space of 1-2 meters between individuals, practicing good hand hygiene, and covering coughs and sneezes.

The primary source of information for Albertans about COVID19 is [Alberta.ca/covid19](https://alberta.ca/covid19).

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