



Town of Sudbury

Board of Health

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GATHERINGS POSE HIGH RISK OF SPREADING CORONAVIRUS

An overwhelming number of Sudbury residents have called the Health Department and Police Department to report that they are seeing large gatherings of people in parks and other public places. In order to respond to citizen concerns and protect our community, we are issuing this statement to send a clear message that gatherings pose significant risk of spreading the virus, even if the people involved feel perfectly healthy and are not elderly.

As you all know, the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has reached the Sudbury community. We are monitoring activity and expect confirmed cases to increase dramatically over the next few weeks with increased availability of testing. It is likely that many people have already been exposed to the virus and will soon come down with symptoms.

What You May Not Know: 80% of all cases of novel coronavirus in the world has been caught from someone exhibiting absolutely no symptoms. Social distancing by eliminating close contact with others and staying home significantly reduces your risk, your family's risk and risk to our community.

In Sudbury, playgrounds are closed. COVID-19 can live for days on surfaces and can pose a risk to users of the equipment if not disinfected properly. Residents should avoid town fields if social distancing of 6 feet or more cannot be accomplished. Any human interaction for more than 15 minutes, regardless of how small the group, puts yourself and family at risk. Families can go for walks but should maintain a 6-foot distance from other families.

Tennis and basketball courts, baseball and soccer fields, where people share balls and other outdoor places that encourage close social interaction and have equipment that can't be disinfected properly should be avoided. Many steps have been taken to prohibit access to these areas. Please respect these restrictions.

If we all do our part now we can hopefully shorten the duration and severity of this virus to reduce the negative impacts on the Sudbury community.