



Good evening Fort McMurray Catholic Schools families,

As you likely have heard by now, late this afternoon, our Premier announced that all publicly funded schools, Out of School Care and childcare programs in Alberta will close to students indefinitely. This is in response to the emergence and growth of COVID-19 in Alberta. As a result, **all Fort McMurray Catholic Schools will be closed to students at this time.**

We understand this news is sudden, and that you likely have many questions on how these closures will impact you and/or your family.

Please do not send your child(ren) to school, Monday March 16, 2020—you do not need to report their absence. Students and parents **will not** be permitted to enter our schools tomorrow. All doors will be locked. We are aware many families would like to retrieve personal student items. A plan for personal item retrieval will be forthcoming.

We understand this news is sudden, and that you likely have many questions on how these closures will impact you and/or your family. In addition to all schools being closed to students, here is a breakdown of how programs will be impacted by this news:

- All schools will be closed to students beginning Monday March 16, 2020 for an indefinite period of time.
- Out of School Care/child care programs will be **closed** to children beginning Monday March 16, 2020 for an indefinite period of time.
- All Bethel Happy Day care programs will be **closed** to children beginning Monday March 16, 2020 for an indefinite period of time.
- All community rentals of our facilities will be closed to the public beginning Monday March 16, 2020 for an indefinite period of time.

Details about how we will be continuing to support your child's learning will be coming out later this week.

We will continue to do our best to respond to inquiries we receive by email and social media, but given the volume of questions, there may be delays. We appreciate your ongoing patience and understanding as we work through this rapidly evolving and unprecedented event.

We understand this is a time of uncertainty for many in our region, province, and internationally. We will work through this together.

God Bless,

George McGuigan

Superintendent of Schools