



## Statement

For Immediate Release  
March 14, 2020

### March 14, 2020 Statement Regarding COVID-19

**Salmon Arm, B.C.** –Member of Parliament Mel Arnold issued the following statement on the COVID-19 pandemic:

Public health and safety must be a priority for all Canadians as we approach the coming days and weeks. While all levels of government are mobilized to provide information and resources required for optimum public health and safety, we all have an essential role to play in supporting the health and safety of ourselves, our families and communities.

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has assessed the level of public health risk associated with the COVID-19 virus as low for the general population, but that could change rapidly. It is important that we all take the time on a daily basis update our understanding of this ongoing situation and determine what actions we need to take at the individual level.

For updated information on the COVID-19 situation including what symptoms to look for and how to avoid infection, please visit the federal government's special website at [www.canada.ca/coronavirus](http://www.canada.ca/coronavirus).

The B.C. Centre for Disease control is BC's lead agency for testing suspected cases of COVID-19. Please follow [BC Centre for Disease Control - ImmunizeBC on Facebook](#) for direct updates. If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, contact your family doctor or phone 8-1-1 to speak to a public health official.

In an effort to reduce travel and potential risk of exposure to the virus, the House of Commons has adjourned until April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2020. My Parliamentary colleagues and I will continue to work in our constituencies during this period.

My constituency office in Vernon will remain open to provide our usual support for constituents dealing with federal government departments unless the level of risk assessed by PHAC changes. If you require our assistance, **please do not drop-in but rather call 250-260-5020 or email [mel.arnold.C1@parl.gc.ca](mailto:mel.arnold.C1@parl.gc.ca) in advance of any visit.**

I continue to communicate with local health and safety authorities to monitor the evolving situation and encourage everyone to stay informed and follow the recommendations of health officials.