



MEDIA RELEASE

23 March 2020

Council's COVID-19 response as at 23 March 2020

Alice Springs Town Council wishes to advise the community that, in line with public health advice, the Alice Spring Public Library will cease operations from Tuesday 24 March 2020 until further notice. The Alice Springs Aquatic & Leisure Centre has also ceased operation as at 12noon, Monday 23 March 2020.

"The safety of our community is Council's number one priority. As such, Council has implemented a range of measures based on the advice of the Australian Government, the Northern Territory Department of Health, and the Northern Territory Chief Minister in regard to a community response to COVID-19" said CEO Robert Jennings.

At this stage, non-essential Council events for March, April and May 2020 have been CANCELLED. This includes: Twilight in the Mall, Multicultural Fitness month, Dancing with Dementia, YAG Recycled Art launch (exhibition logistics TBA), Library Book Sale, Anzac Day Dawn Service, 12hour Swim, April Night Markets, Big Day Out in Harmony, Pets On Parade, National Simultaneous Storytime, and the Saturday morning Heart Walk. Council is evaluating its other upcoming events and will advise the community in due course.

Last week, Council advised that it would suspend all current (including externally led) programs and events at the Library. This includes the regular programs such as Lego Club, Preschool Storytime, STEAM Club, Connect to Tech, Baby Rhyme Time, School Holidays Programs and Storybook Saturday from Tuesday, 17 March 2020.

Council is also looking at how to best manage and conduct its meetings over the coming months, including the use of teleconferencing facilities.

The NT Government's Emergency Operation Centre has been set up in Alice Springs to monitor and manage COVID-19 across the Barkly and Southern regions. Council is represented on this group and continues to work with all key stakeholders to conduct and coordinate responses to ensure the health of all Territorians.

Council reminds all community members to stay up to date with official and accurate sources: <https://secure.nt.gov.au/> or <https://coronavirus.nt.gov.au/> or <https://www.health.gov.au/>.

Note: These special measures have been put in place as a result of COVID-19. All information is correct as at 3pm Monday 23 March, 2020.

Ends

For further information contact:

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