

# Seventh-day Adventist® Church

ALBERTA CONFERENCE



**Name:** Eric Ollila  
*Communication/Media Director*  
**Email:** eollila@albertaadventist.ca  
**Phone:** (403) 342-5044  
**Address:** Alberta Conference of the  
Seventh-day Adventist Church  
5816 Highway 2A  
Lacombe, Alberta T4L 2G5  
**Website:** [albertaadventist.ca](http://albertaadventist.ca)

**Name:** Ronda Ziakris  
*Education Director, MEd, BEd*  
**Email:** rziakris@albertaadventist.ca  
**Phone:** (403) 342-5044 ext 200  
**Address:** Alberta Conference of the  
Seventh-day Adventist Church  
5816 Highway 2A  
Lacombe, Alberta T4L 2G5  
**Website:** [albertaadventist.ca](http://albertaadventist.ca)

## Health and Wellness in Schools March 12, 2020

**W**e know and understand that our school communities are growing increasingly concerned with the announcement of local cases of COVID-19. Alberta Health Services (AHS) is actively monitoring the situation and leading the response in Alberta. We are taking our direction from AHS and will continue to respond and act in-line with their recommendations. We are also closely monitoring the recommendations from Alberta Education.

We have also set up internal monitoring to address the necessary planning and issues.

Please note:

- Schools (faculty/staff) have increased cleaning and disinfecting protocols on high traffic touchpoints (example: doorknobs, light switches, desktops) throughout AB Conference schools.
- AB Conference schools will remind students of proper handwashing techniques along with other preventative measures to avoid illness.
- If your child is sick, do not send them to school. Please call the school to report their absence. It is recommended that the child not return to school until being 24 hrs fever-free without meds.
- If you or your child have symptoms such as fever, cough and difficulty breathing, have travelled outside Canada or have been exposed to someone who has COVID-19, stay home and call Health Link 811.
- In certain circumstances, AHS is directing Albertans to self-isolate and is increasing testing for COVID-19. Self-isolation is a precautionary measure and does not mean that the individual is infected with COVID-19.
- Family members not flagged for testing by AHS and who are not showing symptoms may continue their regular routines such as going to work and attending school.
- We are taking all directions from AHS and AB Ed. If you have further questions, please call Health Link at 811. School staff are unable to answer medical questions.
- AHS recommends the following to help prevent respiratory illnesses, including flu and COVID-19, from spreading:
  - Wash your hands often and well
  - Avoid touching your face, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
  - Avoid close contact with people who are sick
  - Clean and disinfect surfaces that are frequently touched
  - Stay at home and away from others if you are feeling ill
  - When sick, cover your cough and sneezes and then wash your hands



## **AHS and Government of Canada Protocol**

As we enter a high travel season with Spring Break, we are strongly advising no travel outside of Canada. "If you are returning to Alberta from outside of Canada, you should self-isolate for 14 days, even if you are feeling well, and monitor for symptoms." [1]

\*We advise that you continue to refer to the Alberta Government website <https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx> for current information upon return from travels before sending your child back to school after Spring Break.

The Alberta Conference Office of Education is in dialogue with local school leadership regarding a contingency plan should AHS/Alberta Education or the AB Conference require schools to close for some time. We remain committed to communicating these messages.

Thank you for your support,

### **Mrs. Ronda Ziakris**

Education Director,  
AB Conference

### **Supporting Websites**

<https://www.albertahealthservices.ca/>

<https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories>

[1] <https://www.alberta.ca/coronavirus-info-for-albertans.aspx>

