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**For Immediate Release**

# News Release

## Outdoor Rinks (COVID-19 Closures Extended)

**Edson, Alberta, December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020** – The Town of Edson Emergency Coordination Centre has made the decision to keep the outdoor skating rinks (ODRs) in the community closed at this time.

The active COVID-19 case count has remained high over the past two weeks, with no significant decrease in new or active cases. This is the driving factor behind the temporary closures and will continue to be monitored through the holiday season.

The ODRs could reopen if local spread of COVID-19 is lowered significantly and the community risk is reduced. In the meantime, crews will continue to build and maintain the ice, so it's ready for use once it's safe to do so. We ask residents to continue to respect the closures and stay off the ODRs at this time.

While the outdoor rinks have been temporarily closed, outdoor spaces like Willmore Park, the town trail systems, and park spaces remain open. We encourage people to continue to use these spaces responsibly by keeping distance with anyone outside of your household cohorts, do not go out while sick, and refraining from any type of social gatherings.

As of December 21st, 2020, the Edson Zone (Central Yellowhead County) is listed as having 103 confirmed active cases.

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