

# Olds Farmers Market

## Covid-19 Information & Guidelines for Vendors

UPDATED: Wednesday, May 20, 2020

As we continue to navigate and adjust to the new normal, we are excited to be able to service our community while supporting local producers, bakers, artisans and network marketing individuals. We know that many people are concerned about food availability and accessing it in a safe way. As such, we are making every attempt to be responsive in a time when things are changing by the hour.

Our top priority is creating an environment in which our guests, vendors, volunteers and employees feel safe. We have and will continue to work closely with our local contacts at Alberta Health Services, the Alberta Farmers Market Association, Town of Olds and are committed to remaining up-to-date on any announcements from the Government of Alberta as it relates to COVID-19, public gatherings and the relaunch strategy. As such we have implemented required pandemic procedures and ask that all Vendors adhere to the policies and procedures while serving our community in the weeks ahead. Please read below for additional information.

<https://www.alberta.ca/assets/documents/covid-19-relaunch-guidance-farmers-markets-and-public-markets.pdf>

### • MARKET HOURS OF OPERATION

- Vendor Move-In & Move Out Hours:
  - Group A: 1:30pm – 2:00pm & 6:50pm – 7:00pm
  - Group B: 2:00pm – 2:30pm & 6:40pm – 6:50pm
  - Group C: 2:30pm – 3:15pm & 6:30pm – 6:40pm
- Public Hours:
  - Thursday's 3:30pm – 6:30pm
  - 3:30 – 4:00pm: This time will be reserved for seniors, people with disabilities and those most vulnerable

### • MARKET LAYOUT & OPERATIONAL CHANGES

- The market entrance and exit will be separated to accommodate an efficient flow of traffic.
  - During peak hours, shoppers will be asked to queue outdoors to allow staff to safely monitor, control and direct the flow of traffic.
- To accommodate for social distancing (a minimum of two (2) metres) the traditional market layout will be expanded. This includes spacing between each exhibitor booth and larger one-way aisles for shoppers. To account for the additional space needed, the market setup will utilize all the Cow Palace.
- Please note that the empty space between Exhibitor booths should be maintained at all times. Vendors will be asked to set up their booths so they are accessible from one main side of their space.
- Further restrictions at this time also include:
  - No promotional activities such as singing, crafts, face painting, and other social activities
  - Food / product sampling is not permitted

- No public seating / gather spaces
- The use of reusable cups and containers will be suspended until further notice. Vendors must only serve products in take-out packaging. Reusable cups, ceramic dishware, and glass growlers will not be accepted until further notice.

## **ORE's ENHANCED SAFETY AND SANITATION MEASURES**

Our team is committed to the following:

- Enhanced sanitation practices
  - In addition to the standard cleaning that has been part of our regular maintenance schedule, we will introduce extra measures to increase the sanitation of the market. Our staff will be cleaning high-frequency touch points using cleaning disinfectants and sanitizers.
  - We will offer fully stocked bathrooms which will be closely monitored and sanitized by staff prior to, during and after each market. The exterior doors to the washrooms will be propped open to minimize the number of contact services.
- Vendors will be responsible for cleaning / sanitizing their booth space during and after each market.
- Additional hand sanitizers
  - Hand sanitizing stations will be placed at the entrance, exit points as well as throughout the market
- Physical distancing
  - During Market hours, our team will monitor the number of visitors entering the market. As such, access to the market may be restricted to 25 public plus all vendors
  - Visual markers will be placed throughout the market (signage, arrows, floor decals) as a reminder to all in attendance to socially distance and to maintain one-directional flow of foot traffic
  - Announcements can be made throughout the market reminding guests and Vendors of the enhanced safety protocols
  - Anyone who is visually exhibiting flu and/or cold-like symptoms such as cough, fever, runny nose, sore throat or shortness of breath, will NOT be permitted on site
  - Abide by all orders outlined by Alberta's Chief Medical Officer
- Additional communication with guests prior to their arrival at the market and be shared on website and Facebook.
  - Encourage all guests to:
    - Shop one (1) adult per household
    - Consider shopping for friends and family (specifically seniors)
    - Shop with purpose and review online Vendor Map
    - Limit each guests time spent within the market to allow more others to come through (this includes limiting socializing and minimize browsing)
    - Not handle or try on products but rather indicate to Vendors which product they intend to purchase
    - Shoppers will sanitize their hands before entering the market

- If they or anyone with whom they have been in close contact with is experiencing symptoms guests will be directed to kindly stay home
- Guests showing signs of illness will not be permitted on site / asked to leave immediately

## VENDOR REQUIREMENTS

Each Vendor at the at the Farmers' Market is considered its own place of business and during the COVID-19 pandemic is legally obligated to put measures in place that prevent the spread of infection amongst staff, volunteers and customers. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Following all mandatory measures set out in AHS & CMOH Order
- Performing frequent hand hygiene. This could include both hand sanitizer and/ or incorporating your own hand washing station within your space for your use only.
- Creating barriers (e.g., glass or plastic partitions) between guests and workers. For example, use clear wrap across a stand to create a temporary physical barrier between the vendor and customer or consider investing in something sturdier such as plexi-glass.
- Although not required at this time, it is suggested to wear personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves and masks.
- Minimizing the handling of money (consider no-cash transactions, tap payment, etc)
- Sanitize electronic keypads after each use
- Encourage guests to refrain from handling products and to point out the items they would like to purchase

As we are all in this together it is important to adhere to all public health measures, policies and procedures. ORE does reserve the right to qualify, disqualify or restrict any vendor who does not comply with aforementioned practices and thus putting public safety at risk. It is important to note that in order to protect the health and safety of Albertans, **public health orders will be enforced by local public health inspectors and law enforcement officials**. Any individual, including market managers, vendors, workers, volunteers and customers, within a farmers' market, found to be in **violation of public health orders is subject to a \$1,000 penalty**. Further, farmers' market managers and vendors are subject to closure and/or further prosecution if the risk of infection is not being appropriately mitigated.

We thank you for your understanding and additional efforts at this time. We are excited to aid in connecting our Vendors to the local community and welcome the somewhat sense of normalcy that the annual farmers market offers. Please keep an eye for updates as things are continually evolving in regards to this current pandemic.

ORE Farmer's Market Manager & ORE Management