



90 Research Drive, Suite 122
Bible Hill, NS B6L 2R2

PO Box 30066, Robie PO
Truro, NS B2N 7J1

March 18, 2020

RE: COVID-19 Update

4-H Members, Families, & Friends,

Based on recent announcements from NS Government recommending social distancing (maintaining a distance of six feet/two metres) and keeping gatherings below 50 or much smaller, all 4-H activities in Nova Scotia are suspended until 15 April 2020.

This unfortunate event comes to us at a very busy time in our 4-H Nova Scotia year. While further communication regarding regular summer programming will continue to follow as the COVID-19 situation develops, here is a list of cancelled/rescheduled events to date:

4-H Nova Scotia

- Kevin Grant Tour (March 16 – 18, 2020) – Cancelled
- Atlantic Members Conference (March 27 – 29, 2020) – Rescheduled (April 24 – 26, 2020)
- 4-H Weekend (May 1 – 2, 2020) – Cancelled
Based on recent notification from Dalhousie University regarding their cancellations, 4-H Weekend is cancelled for 2020. This includes all Public Speaking, Demonstration, Ambassador, and Woodsmen Competitions.
- St.F.X Leadership Conference (May 8 – 9, 2020) – Cancelled
- Chocolate Bar Fundraising Campaign – Extended
The Chocolate Bar Fundraising Campaign will be extended to 15 June 2020. The counties will be expected to submit payment, along with the names for the random draw, no later than 1 July 2020. 4-H Nova Scotia will keep you informed if a further extension is advised.

4-H Canada

4-H Canada's current priorities are to determine the 30 and 60 day programming plan for national programs. They will continue to assess risk on an ongoing basis and are following recommended steps from public, local, federal government agencies. We are continuing to communicate regarding this issue. 4-H Canada's next communication will come on or before 27 March 2020.

4-H Canada has provided the following updates to date:

- US National Conference (March 28 – April 2, 2020) – Postponed (Fall 2020)

We want you to know the health and well-being of our youth, leaders, families, and employees continue to be our top concern. We have established a strategy that will enable the 4-H Nova Scotia office staff to continue to work, with as little interruption as possible, from the safety of their homes. The 4-H Nova Scotia office phone line and emails will continue to be monitored between the hours of 8:30am – 4:30pm.

Further communication relating to the COVID-19 virus will be communicated from the 4-H Nova Scotia Board of Directors from c19@4hnovascotia.ca. Please monitor your email for further information from c19@4hnovascotia.ca.

We encourage everyone to continue to protect themselves, and those around them, through proper hygiene practices (frequent hand washing, avoiding touching your face, sanitizing surfaces, staying home if feeling ill, etc.) and social distancing (maintain a distance of 2 metres (6 feet) and keep gatherings below 50 or much smaller). We can appreciate that an event of this magnitude can create fear and anxiety in many people. It is important that we reach out and support each other when we can. For a full list of ways you can help minimize the spread and help protect your, and your loved ones', mental health visit www.novascotia.ca/coronavirus/#protect.

This is a fantastic opportunity to work on your projects, learn a new skill (Google is a wonderful resource) and practice your judging skills. Go outside and enjoy the incoming Spring weather.

If you have any questions or concerns relating to the COVID-19 response, please feel free to reach out via email to c19@4hnoascotia.ca or phone at 902-843-3990.

Yours in 4-H,



Scott Masters
President, 4-H Nova Scotia

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