



# Kootenai County Office of Emergency Management



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## MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

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### Message from Emergency Operations Center

We would once again like to thank and commend all of the Healthcare Workers, First Responders and other local officials who are tirelessly working on the current COVID-19 situation. We understand that there is concern in our community and that we are encountering issues that we have not encountered before. That said, we would like to reaffirm that we are monitoring and preparing throughout and that Kootenai County is safe! Our Fire, EMS, Law Enforcement, Hospital, Health District and other healthcare partners are in lockstep to serve and protect our community.

We would also like to dispel any rumor that there is any intention to close public transportation, private business or force shelter in place guidelines. We are of course asking all Kootenai County residents to follow the CDC's guidelines of social distancing, limiting large group interactions and personal safety/hygiene. We are remaining calm and ask you to do the same! We have trained and practiced for years to serve you and we are doing it well! Again, thank you to the Healthcare Workers, First Responders, Local Officials and all others who are providing great service to our community during this event.

Unified Commanders,  
Sheriff Ben Wolfinger  
Chief Chris Way

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