



BRIAN BOWMAN
MAYOR • MAIRE

April 8, 2020

Good day,

As Mayor, I wanted to take this time to write to you, and let you know I am thinking of you. As we all work together to fight this new illness facing our community and our country – the COVID-19 virus – it's a tough and worrying situation for everyone. But I know it's especially tough for seniors, as your lives are so disrupted by the measures needed to keep us all healthy.

Hardest of all is the physical distancing we all have to practice to prevent the spread of illness. One of the things I love most about my job as Mayor, is the chance to meet with Winnipeg seniors, across the City. Over the years, these conversations have been a source of fun, friendship, and countless suggestions and good ideas that have really helped and sustained me.

Now, and for some time to come, we're not able to meet people as we used to. This is especially difficult in a season when many of us observe holy days on our calendars, and many of us would hope to have visits with families and friends. I would like you to know that, as our community's parents, grandparents, and elders, you are remembered and loved.

Together, we are fighting back against this new illness, and we will win. Residents across the city are pulling together, and helping out in every way imaginable. Your federal, provincial, and city governments are working together in unison, and with great determination. I think you would be proud of all the fine civic employees who are working flat-out, around the clock, to provide essential services and to do so safely. I thank them every opportunity I get; and I also want to thank the wonderful medical staff, caregivers, and residential staff who do so much for our community at all times, but particularly at *this* time.

Most of all, I want to thank – **YOU**. You are the men and women who built Winnipeg, and made it what it is today. You have led us, guided us, taught us, provided for us, and defended us. You have ensured our community survived the hardest of hard times: war, depression, droughts, floods, and many health crises in the past.

Your example gives us courage. And by the light of your example, we will prevail, preserve the health of our community, and – as Her Majesty the Queen assured us in her recent address – we will meet again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'B' followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Brian Bowman, B.A. (Adv.), J.D., CPA (Hon.), CGA (Hon.)
Mayor
The City of Winnipeg