



Dear Alberta municipal government leaders:

**Re: Access for Albertans to chiropractic care in the event of a second COVID-19 related shutdown.**

With the provincial rise of COVID-19 cases, there have been some calls for provincial and/or regional shutdowns of businesses, offices, clinics, and other services to control the pandemic spread.

We implore you to understand and respect what hundreds of Albertans have been telling us since the initial shutdowns – chiropractic care is an essential element of their health-care needs.

When the March COVID-19 restrictions led to health-care providers shuttering their clinics, many Albertans needlessly suffered. Injury rehabilitation was paused, acute pain worsened, and chronic pain returned. We heard from Albertans nearly daily about the negative impact the shutdowns had on them and their pain management.

The Alberta College and Association of Chiropractors (ACAC) exists to protect the public and advocate for chiropractic care. As part of that duty, we developed and implemented a robust [Pandemic Practice Directive](#) prior to the spring re-opening of clinics that included patient screening, environment cleaning and disinfection, hygiene, physical distancing, and PPE protocols.

We are pleased to report that in the subsequent months, Alberta's chiropractors have continued these practices and received commendations from both OHS and public health officials for our efforts to keep Albertans safe while providing needed chiropractic health-care services.

Failing to recognize chiropractic as an important health and wellness element in any closure order would result in many Albertans once again being left without their primary care provider, increased strain on other health-care providers, and further delays in treatment, negatively affecting overall health and wellness of patients.

If your council is examining options to restrict activity, up to and including another shutdown, we urge you to contact us before finalizing any decisions about determining policies around access to health-care services in your community. We would be pleased to walk you through our protocols and practices and provide any additional information you require. Please contact me at 780.420.0932 or via email at [ssteger@albertachiro.com](mailto:ssteger@albertachiro.com).

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

**Sheila J. Steger**

CEO, [Alberta College and Association of Chiropractors](#)

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