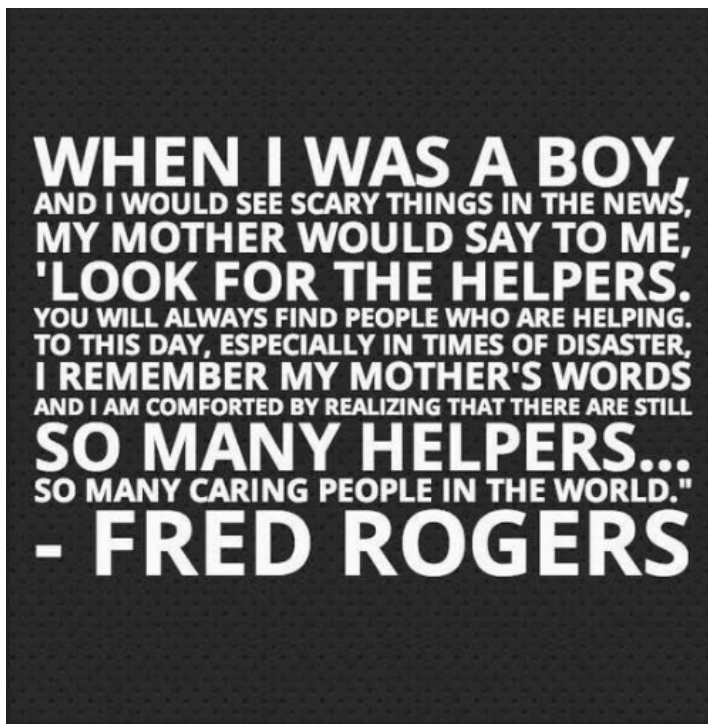


Pay it forward with Points

The events of the past couple of weeks are hard to describe as our city, two provinces, a nation and our world are experiencing a crisis not experienced since 1918.

Covid-19, a virus that has reached every corner of the world has challenged us in many ways. We are now practicing social distancing which is hard for everyone especially because we are a social people. We can no longer gather in person for coffee, discussions or to celebrate our faith traditions.

No matter how hard it gets for the world Mr. Rogers had advice for the world.



Thank you, to all the helpers..

As we look for the helpers, as we figure out how we can be helpers we will journey together. If you are part of the more susceptible group in our community learning how to ask and receive the care of those around you is a huge task. Many who are helping behind the scenes join those who are reaching out and offering to pick up groceries and supplies. I heard about a group of over 20 who went out yesterday and shoveled snow so that those unable to have visitors at one of our local care facilities are able to have family visit them at their windows. Together we can do this.

At the same time some of you may ask how can I help to ensure others don't go hungry. Our local charities have felt the effects the current crisis that are preventing our residents from being able to make a living and to feed their families on a day to day basis.

One of the thoughts suggested, was to consider using reward points to help stock our local food bank. This might be a way to share and not affect your current cash situation. Our local food banks are looking for the following: Pasta Sauce, Peanut butter, canned meals (beans or pasta), rice, canned fruit, soda crackers, toilet paper, cleaning products and hand sanitizer. Cash donations or gift cards are also always accepted if you are able.

As we practice and live out social distancing reach out to your neighbours, call friends and family check up on those you know. Get to know those who live near you while maintaining the 6 ' distancing.

If you are in need of help please reach out to the Olive Tree, Salvation Army or check out Facebook help groups.

Remember our unsung heroes, those who are on the front lines and show your support however you can.

We are in this together. Let's be helpers and receive help if we need it!

Gerald S. Aalbers
Mayor
City of Lloydminster AB/SK