



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

March 19, 2020

The Sanctuary Response to COVID - 19

VICTORIA: On March 17, 2020, The Swan Lake Christmas Hill Sanctuary Society reached out to its members to inform them that effective Wednesday, March 18, 2020, on the recommendations of the BC Health provincial health officer limiting groups to under 50, they made the difficult decision to close the Nature House to the public and temporarily cancel all public programming for an undetermined period of time.

Executive Director, Kathleen Burton said, “Given the rising public health concerns regarding spread of the novel coronavirus, COVID-19, we are taking the utmost precaution to safeguard the community. This is as a safety precaution in response to the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic and trails remain open.”

The Society promised to keep their members, donors and volunteers up to date with any related changes at the Sanctuary, including information regarding the Annual General Meeting currently scheduled for April 9, 2020 which will have to be postponed.

The public is encouraged to learn more using the information available through the Province of BC’s Public Health Services <https://news.gov.bc.ca/ministries/health> and asked to continue checking the Society’s website and social media channels of (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) where the latest updates including when the Sanctuary will reopen to the public will be posted.

The Society Board and staff acknowledge how much the Sanctuary means to you and its members, it is a place for escape, connection, friendship, and health. The current moment dictates that to maintain each of these qualities, this, is the right thing to do.

“Please take good care of yourself and those closest to you,” said Burton. “Remember to be kind to one another and the Society will continue to stay connected with you over the coming days and weeks and we hope it is not necessary, months’.

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[About Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary](#) - Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary is a non-profit organization that offers the community a place to enjoy the natural habitat that surrounds the Nature House in which programs and interactive displays educate both children and adults. A registered charitable organization, it is run by the Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary Society. The lands and facilities are owned by the Corporation of the District of Saanich, and the Nature Sanctuary Society operates through a land management agreement with Saanich since June, 1975.