

Students, trainees, faculty and staff,

Happy Friday! I hope you get some much-deserved rest this weekend.

**COVID-19 media inquiries**

- Many of you may be approached directly by a reporter, and if so please direct COVID-19-related media inquiries to Kelly Johnston, senior communications specialist, at [kelly.johnston2@ucalgary.ca](mailto:kelly.johnston2@ucalgary.ca) or 403-617-8691.

**Parking at Foothills campus**

- As of today, Apr. 3, Alberta Health Services (AHS) has temporarily suspended monthly parking fees for faculty and staff.
- I had previously communicated that you needed to complete a form and return it to the Foothills Medical Centre (FMC) Parking Office along with your physical parking pass. This is no longer necessary. You are not required to take any action.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the [FMC Parking Office](#).

**Distribution services**

- Beginning Monday, Apr. 6, our Distribution Services team will be reducing their hours to 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday to Friday.
- The team continues to send and receive mail as per usual. However, they won't be delivering shipments to end users. Please pick up your shipments from Distribution Services between the hours of noon and 2 p.m. If you've received a perishable shipment, you'll be notified via email.
- Distribution Services staff will continue to fill Liquide Nitrogen and Ethyl Alcohol on a daily basis. Please ensure you have your interdepartmental billing (IDB) card with you at time of pick up.
- Outbound courier shipments will be picked up by Purolator at noon, and FedEx shipments will be picked up daily at 12:30 p.m.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ron Bailey at [baileyr@ucalgary.ca](mailto:baileyr@ucalgary.ca) or 403-210-5499.

**Learning and working**

- Thank you to those of you who work in essential services such as the Heritage Medical Research Clinic, the Animal Research Centre and on research projects that are part of the Canadian COVID-19 Rapid Response Research Grants Program. And another big thanks to those of you who are working from home to keep the university running smoothly during this critical time. Keep up the terrific work, everyone!

- Although buildings on main campus have transitioned to electronic or key access only, buildings on the Foothills campus remain open. However, it's possible that our buildings will also make this switch at a later date. Anyone in a role which requires you to maintain building access is asked to complete the [building access form](#).

### Education

- The Health Sciences Library is offering online workshops which focus on the Introduction to Qualitative Data Analysis Using NVivo 12. There are two workshops being offered on Tuesday, Apr. 7 — 10:30 a.m. to noon, and 1 to 2:30 p.m. [Register here](#).
- The Canadian Science Policy Centre (CSPC) has invited University of Calgary scholars to share your insights on the COVID-19 pandemic. Please see the list of topics and the full call [here](#). For more information, contact [soha.sani@sciencepolicy.ca](mailto:soha.sani@sciencepolicy.ca).

### Research operations

- As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research has made the decision to cancel the Spring 2020 Project Grant Competition. For more information, visit the [guidance for researchers web page](#).
- The UCalgary/AHS Clinical Research Fund is accepting applications for certain types of COVID-19 related clinical research. Visit the [guidance for researchers web page](#) for more information.

### UCalgary resources

- [Webinar: Parenting in a Time of Physical Distancing](#): Drs. Sheri Madigan, PhD, and Nicole Racine, PhD, will discuss strategies to promote parent and child well-being during COVID-19. Join the live, one-hour webinar at 1 p.m. on Monday, Apr. 6.
- [COVIDcast Episode 3: The Kids Are Alright\\*](#): Dr. Stephen Freedman, MD, discusses why children are seemingly unharmed by coronavirus, and answers questions such as: Can COVID-19 spread from pets? Can the virus pass from mother to baby?

The steps we've taken over the last few weeks have been incredibly important to help stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus. However, as the number of cases in Alberta continues to rise, social distancing is now critical. I hope you've established a new routine that incorporates this measure. If you're finding it difficult to adjust, help is available. Please reach out to your supervisor or connect with a member of our [Human Resources team](#). And don't forget that [remote mental health support](#) is available to those who need it.

I'll be in touch with our next update on Monday, Apr. 4, unless critical information becomes available over the weekend.

Stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Jon Meddings, MD  
Dean, Cumming School of Medicine  
University of Calgary