



Dear Friends,

108 years. Every time I see that number, I am staggered by just how much this organization has seen, experienced, and triumphed over. It seems the Colorado Mountain Club only knows one way to approach a problem – with steadfast commitment to ensuring this mountain community not only grows but thrives for the generations to come. It has a keen sense for being able to assess the path forward, weigh the risks, and find a way through.

After careful review of our revised budget forecast, we are making some difficult decisions to keep the organization moving forward while continuing to serve the membership and support our staff.

As such, effective May 18, 2020, CMC will reduce our hours of operations by 20%. Our operating hours, including for Member Services, will be Monday-Thursday, 10am-6pm. Staff will continue working remotely, with a partial return to the office for some staff starting June 1 in accordance with state, local, and CMC guidelines. We have been approved for Colorado's Work-Share Program so our staff will have access to supplemental support during this time and will maintain full medical benefits.

This was not a decision that we arrived at lightly. Safety is a core value of the CMC – protecting each other, our lands, our partners while out recreating – and the safety of our staff is paramount. A reduction in operating hours across the board now means that we can conserve funds while we retool some programs and assess the path forward. Our full staff will continue working to fulfill the mission of the Colorado Mountain Club for you, the members.

Your CMC staff are some of the most dedicated people I have ever had the pleasure to work with. Since the beginning of this pandemic, they rise to every day's challenge, and show the kind of grit you only see in true mountaineers. They launched a new CMC Online University, which now has more than 170 free videos with tips & tricks to learn from. They also transitioned events to a virtual format, hosting free trivia nights, pro-athlete Q&As, panels with people on the front lines of COVID-19, and have an upcoming virtual film festival. All the while, they have maintained a level of optimism and creativity that is unparalleled. They are unwaveringly committed to our community. For that, I am truly grateful.

I am also grateful to you, our members. You're sticking by us, renewing your memberships, and supporting us through this time. You've provided content for CMC's online university, attended events and webinars, and even created new online content specific for this time. Even in a virtual world, it is clear to me that our membership is unwaveringly committed to each other and to supporting this organization. It is humbling.

That commitment to Colorado's mountain community will get us through this. We've had 108 years to teach us how strong this Club can be. I know we will live up to that legacy, together.

As always, if you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please reach out to us at office@cmc.org or call us at 303-279-3080.

With gratitude,

Keegan Young
Executive Director