



Township of Wainfleet

"Wainfleet - find your country side!"

NEWS RELEASE

INFORMATION UPDATE

For Immediate Release – March 29, 2020

Wainfleet Coronavirus COVID-19 - Update

Wainfleet, ON – The Township of Wainfleet's Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) continues to be partially activated in response to the spread of the COVID-19 virus in the Niagara Region.

CLOSURES: Closures are expected to remain in effect until at least April 5, 2020. We are continuing to monitor the ongoing situation and current indications suggest that the timelines for the closure of municipal facilities will be extended.

All Township buildings are closed to the public, though Township staff are still operating using telephone, digital capabilities and online presence to provide vital services to our community. Playground and park facilities are closed until further notice. Essential services are provided by pre-screened appointment only.

PROVINCIAL STATE OF EMERGENCY:

Under the provincial 'state of emergency,' non-essential workplaces, recreational programs, libraries, publicly funded schools, private schools, daycares, provincial parks, churches and other faith settings, as well as bars and restaurants (except those that restrict their service to takeout or delivery only) are to remain closed. Essential services, such as grocery stores, convenience stores, pharmacies, public transit, manufacturing facilities, and supply chain companies currently remain operational.

UPDATES:

In response to the dynamic growth of the COVID-19 pandemic, Wainfleet's Emergency Control Group (ECG) is working to protect the safety of all our residents by sharing the latest information from regional, provincial and national health authorities.

Based on the best advice of Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Ontario government has issued a new emergency order under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA) to prohibit organized public events and social gatherings of more than five people, effective immediately.

This order does not currently apply to:

- a) private households with five people or more;
- b) child care centres supporting frontline health care workers and first responders provided the number of persons in each centre does not exceed 50 people; and,
- c) funerals, which are permitted to proceed with up to 10 people at one time.

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Organized public events include parades, events including weddings, social gatherings and communal services within places of worship.

ENFORCEMENT:

Township Municipal By-law Enforcement Officers have been requested by Niagara Regional Police, through an order by the Office of the Solicitor General of Ontario and the Ontario Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, to assist in the enforcement of orders under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act to limit the spread of COVID-19 and ensure that essential services continue to be provided during the pandemic emergency. Anyone concerned over a business operating in contravention of emergency orders or gatherings of large groups of people can report their concerns to bylaw@wainfleet.ca for further investigation and follow-up.



INFORMATION

With the first case of community exposure being reported in Niagara, all residents are urged to follow **physical distancing** protocols.

- **Physical distancing** reduces exposure to other people. Avoid close contact (within 2 metres) with people outside of your immediate families.
- On March 25, 2020, the federal government announced an Emergency Order under the federal Quarantine Act that requires any person entering Canada by air, sea or land to self-isolate for 14 days whether or not they have symptoms of COVID-19. They should monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days.
- Take everyday steps to reduce exposure to COVID-19 and protect your health: wash your hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer; sneeze and cough into your sleeve; avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth; avoid contact with people who are sick; stay home if you are sick.



For more information, contact:

Lee Gudgeon, Emergency Information Officer
Township of Wainfleet

905-899-3463 ext. 243

