



# Township of Wainfleet

*"Wainfleet - find your country side!"*

## NEWS RELEASE

### INFORMATION UPDATE

For Immediate Release – April 1, 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:**

Closure of Township facilities will remain in effect until further notice.

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. Essential services are provided by pre-screened appointment only.

Playground and park facilities are closed until further notice.

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. Business owners with questions about what businesses are considered 'essential workplaces' can call 1-888-444-3659

#### **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 local updates and information from regional, provincial and national health authorities.

- The declaration of a Provincial Emergency and all Orders have now been extended and will be in effect until April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.
- Wainfleet Council has approved relief for taxpayers affected by the Coronavirus pandemic. Measures are expected to involve the deferral of the tax due date – more details will follow in a future update.
- The Wainfleet Volunteer Firefighters Association has donated \$500 to Port Cares, who provides services to families in Wainfleet, to assist that organization with their essential work in the community.
  - Inspired by the firefighters' efforts to assist, Wainfleet Mayor and Council took up the challenge and have also pledged to make donations to Port Cares. These donations are personal and will not be made with tax dollars. Likewise, Township staff also plan to make personal donations in the coming days in solidarity with the firefighters and Council, to assist those in need.

- The Township in partnership with the Wainfleet Volunteer Firefighters Association has also created a Community Support Team (CST) to outreach to the wider Wainfleet community and help in these unprecedented times. The CST is currently offering a food 'drop box' placed at the main doors to the Community Hall to collect donations. In addition to raising food donations, the groups plans to check on seniors and other vulnerable people who might be at increased risk due to social isolation measures. Details will follow as these programs develop. A phone line and email has been established so that those who require assistance, as well as donors, can contact the CST. Please call 905-899-3463 ext 249 or email CST@wainfleet.ca

#### INFORMATION:

- **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.



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For more information, contact:

Lee Gudgeon, Emergency Information Officer  
Township of Wainfleet

905-899-3463 ext. 243

