

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

COVID-19 UPDATES AND MEASURES

Hawkesbury, March 18, 2020 – In the current context of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Town of Hawkesbury wishes to provide a summary concerning municipal services and safety instructions.

Administrative measures and municipal services

Following instructions from the Government of Ontario, the Town of Hawkesbury maintains the closure of Town Hall, the Sports Complex, the fire station, the water plant and the public works building, until further notice. Also, for the moment, all staff is still at work.

The following services are suspended until further notice:

- All activities at Sports Complex (multi room, skating rink, pool and other halls), are cancelled until further notice;
- Registration & Spring Session suspended until further notice.

However, many municipal services are available online or by phone, including:

Applications for building permits can normally be made by phone and / or email. You can contact us at 613 632-0106 ext. 2020.

For any information about property and water taxes, please call 613 632-0106 ext. 2266. To make a tax payment, please use one of the following options:

- Use our secure outer box at main entrance;
- Through your online banking services (smartphone or computer).
- At your financial institution.
- Pre-Authorized debit plan.
- Postdated cheque.

Payment for tickets can be made by sending a check by post to Town Hall or by dropping your envelope with your check in the box at the main entrance. Be sure to include the tear-off coupon and write the ticket reference number on your check.

Dog tags can be renewed by sending a check by post to Town Hall or by dropping your envelope with your check in the box at the main entrance. We will send the tag by mail. We already extended the period to March 31, 2020.

The water distribution network is secured. To report a situation, please dial 613 632-3112. In case of an emergency or after normal business hours, please dial 613 632-1105.

To report a situation related to the public works department, please contact us at 613 632-0106 ext. 2020.

Daily updates on our Website : <https://www.hawkesbury.ca/en/living/latest-news-and-notices/coronavirus>

More information about COVID-19 : <https://eohu.ca/en/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) – Employment and Social Development Canada:
<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/corporate/notices/coronavirus.html>

Government of Canada announced new measures on March 18, 2020: <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/03/18/prime-minister-announces-more-support-workers-and-businesses-through>

Information on how to have a safe and enjoyable journey whether you are travelling in Canada or abroad: <https://travel.gc.ca/>

Recommendations to vulnerable populations

The people most vulnerable to COVID-19 are the elderly and those:

- At risk due to underlying medical conditions (e.g. heart disease, hypertension, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, diabetes, cancer);
- At risk due to a compromised immune system from a medical condition or treatment (e.g. chemotherapy);
- Anyone returning from a trip outside of Canada.

Ways to protect your health:

- Washing your hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Sneezing and cough into your sleeve.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Stay at home if you are sick. In particular, do not visit a long-term care, retirement home or other congregate living situation.

Proper handwashing

- Remove any rings. Use warm water and wet hands thoroughly.
- Use liquid or foam soap and lather very well.
- Scrub hands between fingers, under nails and at the base of thumbs for 15 to 20 seconds.
- Rinse thoroughly.
- Dry hands with a single-use towel or hot air dryer.
- Turn off taps/faucets with a disposable paper towel. Protect hands from touching dirty surfaces as you leave the bathroom (e.g. doorknob).

Symptoms of human coronaviruses may be very mild or more serious, such as:

- Fever.
- Cough.
- Difficulty breathing.

New important measure to better curb the spread of COVID-19. The following establishments are legally required to close immediately:

- All facilities providing indoor recreational programs;
- All public libraries;
- All private schools as defined in the Education Act;
- All licensed child care centres;
- All bars and restaurants, except to the extent that such facilities provide takeout food and delivery;
- All theatres including those offering live performances of music, dance, and other art forms, as well as cinemas that show movies; and
- Concert venues.
- All organized public events of over fifty people are also prohibited, including parades and events and communal services within places of worship.
- Churches and places of worship should close.
- Stay/work at home as much as possible and avoid non-essential outings.
- Adults over the age of 70 should not leave their home unless absolutely necessary.
- Avoid non-essential international travel. Residents who have travelled outside of Canada must self-isolate for 14 days upon their return.

We can all do our part in preventing the spread of covid-19.

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