



Brockton Buzz – March 2020 Newsletter

Brockton Buzz Newsletter – March 2020 and Tax Buzz Issue

View this issue and past issues of the Brockton Buzz Monthly Newsletter on our website at Brockton.ca/Buzz.

Tax Installment Due Dates – March 31, 2020 and May 29, 2020

Any payment received in our office after the due date will be considered late and any outstanding taxes will be subject to penalty and interest charges as per the *Municipal Act, 2001*. Please allow 2 to 3 days for processing if you are paying through the online banking system of your financial institution. Visit Brockton.ca/Taxes for more information.

Payment Options

You may use the following payment options to pay **all** municipal bills and invoices:

- In person at the Municipal Office via Debit, Cash, Cheque, or Post Dated Cheque
- Online/Telephone Banking - Allow 2 to 3 days for processing and ensure your account information is updated

Account Type	# of Digits	Format
Property Taxes	19 Digits	41-04-000-000-00000-0000
Utilities (Water and Sewer)	14 Digits	30000000000000
Brockton Child Care Centre	14 Digits	00000000000000
Brockton General Invoices	14 Digits	00000000000000

*If we have not been set up at your financial institution as a payee please contact your branch and they will send the necessary documents to have us registered as a payee.

Online Billing Services

The Municipality of Brockton has started to offer an e-billing service. You may opt to have your tax and water bills delivered directly to your email inbox. We will no longer be offering e-post as a delivery option. You can enroll for this service by filling out an e-billing form on our website at Brockton.ca/Payments.

Property Assessment

Every four years, the Municipal Property Association (MPAC) sends out a Property Assessment Notice to all Ontario property owners. Property Assessment Notices will be mailed from May to September, and will reflect the updated value of your property as of January 1, 2019. Municipalities will use your assessment to calculate your 2021-2024 property taxes. When you receive your Notice, review it and keep it for your records. Want to learn more? Visit mpac.ca and log onto AboutMyProperty, www.aboutmyproperty.ca an online tool to:

- Learn how your property was assessed
- See the information MPAC has on file for your property
- Compare your assessed value to other similar properties in your area
- File a Request for Reconsideration if you disagree with your property’s assessed value

Address Changes

Please notify the tax department if you have any changes to your mailing address. Address Change Requests must be done in writing or by email to mal@brockton.ca. Your cooperation in keeping your tax records up to date ensures timely receipt of your tax and utility bills from our office.

Animal Control – Dog Tags

The Municipality of Brockton will be mailing dog tag invoices in January 2020. Invoices are based on dog owner information in our current database, and your dog will continue to wear the permanent tag you received in 2014. If you no longer own a dog, or need to register your dog, contact Junior Deputy Treasurer/Tax Collector, Jessica Reinhart at 519-881-2223 Ext. 123, or email jreinhart@brockton.ca.



2020 Dog Tag Fees

\$15.00 - First Dog (per household)	\$25.00 - Additional Dogs	\$150.00 - Kennel License
\$10.00 - Late Fee (after April 1)	\$200.00 - Dangerous Dogs	\$5.00 - Replacement Tag

Winter Parking Restrictions

Motorists are restricted from parking on any streets in the Municipality of Brockton between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. from November 1 through to April 30. This allows snow plow drivers to better access the roadways.

Public Comments on Consolidated Traffic and Parking By-Law

The Municipality is in the process of consolidating our Traffic and Parking By-Law. The Municipality is inviting the public to provide comments on the proposal to prohibit parking at Lake Rosalind, and the change to Winter Parking Restrictions, to prohibit parking on all highways in Brockton from 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. during the months of November, December, January, February, March, and April. Written comments will be accepted until **March 2, 2020 at 12:00 Noon** and are to be addressed to Junior Deputy Clerk, Sarah Johnson by email at sjohnson@brockton.ca or by mail to the Municipality of Brockton, 100 Scott Street, P.O. Box 68, Walkerton, ON N0G 2V0. Submissions will be presented to Council at the March 10, 2020 Council Meeting.

Winter Landfill Hours

From November 1 to March 31, the Brant Landfill will be open on Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Greenock Landfill will be open on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Walkerton/Hanover Landfill will be open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For more information please visit Brockton.ca/LandfillSites.



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Community Safety and Well-Being Plan Engagement Survey

The Municipality of Brockton is joining forces with 15 other municipalities, 8 police services, and more than 30 education, health and social service organizations across Bruce and Grey Counties to complete Community Safety and Well-Being Planning (CSWBP)! The first phase of community engagement includes a survey, which is now live on cswbp-brucegrey.ca. The Municipality will also be providing a paper survey for residents at the Municipal Office, Walkerton Library, and Cargill Library. The survey will be available until **midnight on March 22, 2020**. Visit cswbp-brucegrey.ca or buildyourbrockton.ca for more information and to see how you can participate!

Brockton Parks and Recreation Programs

Enjoy an afternoon social at the Walkerton Community Centre on Wednesday, March 11, 2020 from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. with music provided by Take 1 - Dave Schmidt. Admission is by donation.

March Break WaaZooza week is here! Register for the week or for a day! Visit Brockton.ca/MarchBreak for daily themes and further information. A St. John's Ambulance Babysitting Course is being offered on March 16, 2020.

Trivia Night will be on Friday, March 27, 2020 at the Walkerton Legion. The first question starts at 7:30 p.m. Admission is \$5.00.

Spring Adult and Youth Programs begin the week of March 23, 2020. We have many new opportunities this year! Check out Brockton.ca/Programs for a full listing!

Online Reservations for Lobies Campground open on Monday, March 2, 2020 for the 2020 season.

Things to Know About Your Smoke Alarm

- 1) Age matters! Smoke alarms may still work when you press the test button however the sensors inside can become dirty from dust and pollen in the air. For this reason manufacturers recommend that the alarm is replaced after a certain number of years. This applies to hard wired alarms as well. Make sure you know when your alarm expires according to the manufacturer's recommendation and replace it when the time comes!
- 2) To keep your smoke alarm working at its best follow the maintenance instructions that come with the alarm!
- 3) Most smoke alarms have a button labeled "Hush". This button can be pressed in the case of a false alarm. When pressed the hush button turns off the alarm for a short period of time and then automatically resets. You should never remove the batteries from a smoke alarm to silence the alarm. Using the hush button ensures that you will not forget to replace the batteries and keeps your alarm in working order to protect you and your family.
- 4) There are two types of smoke alarms. An ionization smoke alarm is usually more responsive to flaming fires. A photoelectric smoke alarm is usually more responsive to smouldering fires. Use the type of alarm that works best for the area being protected.
- 5) If cooking fumes are setting off nuisance alarms in your kitchen try moving the alarm further away from the cooking area or install a photoelectric type smoke alarm.

Remember that you must have an alarm on every story of your home and outside all sleeping areas. Only working smoke alarms can wake you up in the case of a fire so be sure to test your smoke alarm regularly and to change the batteries at least once a year!

South Bruce O.P.P. Detachment – March is Fraud Prevention Month

Cons and scams are attempted daily by phone, social media, email, text, fax, mail or door to door. Understand that con artists are real and that we are all potential targets. Tech-savvy scammers use technology to create very convincing schemes to trick you into sending them money. They will often use the name of an established company, pretend to be someone you know or even impersonate a branch of the government. Your best defense is to verify an unsolicited contact. Unsolicited means that you didn't ask for it. Be very cautious with wire transfer requests, overpayment offers, spelling mistakes and requests for personal and/or banking information. Contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1 888 495 8501 or check online at www.antifraudcentre.ca for more details.

Community Events

- **Walkerton Trinity Lutheran Church Wednesday Soup "Hug in a Bowl"**
Walkerton Trinity Lutheran Church Wednesday Soup "Hug in a Bowl" fellowship and conversation events are from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Refreshments and lunch are available. Discussions, games, and guest speakers may be invited to the luncheons. A freewill donation basket will also be available for communities in need.
- **Human Trafficking Community Awareness Session**
Brockton, Huron-Kinloss, and Kincardine Police Services Boards are hosting a Human Trafficking Community Awareness Session on March 5, 2020 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Kincardine Davidson Centre. Contact Jenna Leifso at jleifso@kincardine.ca or 519-396-3468 Ext. 7116 for more details.
- **Spring Shoppers' Night**
Help support your local businesses in Walkerton on March 26, 2020 for Spring Shoppers' Night hosted by the Walkerton Business Improvement Area! Visit www.walkertonbia.ca for more details.
- **County Towne Players "Four Weddings and an Elvis" Performance**
The County Towne Players are performing "Four Weddings and an Elvis" at Victoria Jubilee Hall (111 Jackson Street, Walkerton) on March 27 at 7:30 p.m., March 28 at 7:30 p.m., March 29 at 2:00 p.m., April 1 at 7:30 p.m., April 2 at 7:30 p.m., April 3 at 7:30 p.m., and April 4 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20.00 and available at Victoria Jubilee Hall.
- **Maple Weekend at Meadow Ridge Maple**
Celebrate Maple Weekend on Saturday, April 4 and Sunday, April 5, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Meadow Ridge Maple (32 Carrick-Brant East – 1km south of Walkerton). Join Jim and Donna Fischer for a family-friendly event learning about the maple syrup process! Contact Donna at 519-881-8502 or Jim at 519-881-7238 or email jfischer@bmts.com for more details.