



Brockton Buzz Newsletter – December 2021 Issue

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COVID- 19 Updates

In response to the rapidly-spreading and highly transmissible Omicron variant, the Ontario government issued a [News Release](#) on December 17, 2021 announcing additional public health and workplace safety measures, including capacity and social gathering limits. Ontario is introducing a **50% capacity limit in indoor settings** such as restaurants, personal care services, retailers (including grocery stores and pharmacies), and recreational amenities. In addition, to mitigate COVID-19 transmission that can occur at informal social gatherings, the province is also **reducing social gathering limits** to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors. **These restrictions come into effect on 12:01 a.m. on Sunday, December 19, 2021.**



Ontarians are required to be fully vaccinated and provide their [proof of vaccination](#) along with photo ID to access certain public settings and facilities. Vaccination receipts can be [downloaded from the Provincial website](#). Vaccination receipts are also required for any individual entering Municipal community centres. A [COVID-19 Vaccine Certificate Guidelines and Procedure](#) is available on our website outlining the procedure for verifying vaccine certificates for members of the public wishing to visit or participate in indoor programs at the Community Centres.

Starting December 20, 2021, individuals aged 18 and over will be eligible to schedule their booster dose appointment through the [Ontario's booking portal](#), by calling the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre, through Indigenous-led vaccination clinics, [participating pharmacies](#) and primary care settings.

The Province and Grey Bruce Health Unit remain concerned about the variants (including the new Omicron variant) and continue to encourage vaccine uptake, and adherence to public health measures to limit further spread of the virus.

Visit our [COVID-19 Updates page](#) for information on the Municipality's response to the pandemic. If you have concerns related to gatherings that are occurring and not complying with Provincial orders, call the non-emergency O.P.P. number at 1-888-310-1122. We encourage residents to continue following public health measures over the holiday season, in order to help prevent a rise in COVID-19 infections. This includes completing daily screening, staying home if sick, being tested if you have COVID symptoms, and getting vaccinated as soon as possible and eligible.

To stay safe and reduce transmission of COVID-19 follow these basics:

- Stay home if sick
- Wash your hands frequently
- Watch your distance (ideally 2 m)
- Wear your face covering correctly
- Avoid Crowds

2022 Council and Budget Meetings

The dates for the 2022 Brockton Council Meetings have been posted to our website [Brockton.ca/Council](#) and our [Community Calendar](#). Council meetings will be held on Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted), and will be held electronically until further notice. Residents will be notified of any change in meeting location.

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

Tuesday, January 25, 2022 (Budget Meeting 9:00 a.m. and Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, January 26, 2022 (Budget Meeting 7:00 p.m.)

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Tuesday, February 15, 2022 (Budget Meeting 1:00 p.m.)

Tuesday, February 22, 2022

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Tuesday, March 22, 2022

Tuesday, April 12, 2022

Tuesday, April 26, 2022

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

Tuesday, July 12, 2022

Tuesday, August 9, 2022

Tuesday, August 23, 2022

Tuesday, September 6, 2022

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

Tuesday, October 4, 2022

Tuesday, October 18, 2022

Tuesday, November 1, 2022

Tuesday, November 15, 2022 (Inaugural Council Meeting)

Tuesday, November 22, 2022

Tuesday, December 13, 2022



The Council of the Municipality of Brockton will hold meetings to discuss the 2022 Municipal Budget on Tuesday, January 25, 2022 at 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. and Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. The meetings will occur electronically. Stay tuned for the launch of our Budget Consultation 2022 project on our Community Engagement Website, [Build Your Brockton!](#)

Holiday Office Closures

The Municipal Office, Parks and Recreation Office, and Brockton Child Care Centre will be closed at 1:00 p.m. on December 24, 2021 until January 2, 2022 for the holiday season. The Municipal Offices will reopen on January 3, 2022. Council and staff wish you a safe and happy holiday!



Brockton's Community Engagement Website

The Municipality of Brockton reminds you to register to get involved on our community engagement website, buildyourbrockton.ca! This community engagement website invites feedback from the community on various projects such as our Accessibility Plan, Coping with COVID, Be Active Brockton, Strategic Action Plan 2025, What do you like best about Brockton?, and photo submissions projects! We are excited to offer this service to our residents and continue to look for improved communication methods to receive input from members of our community!



Brockton Strategic Action Plan 2025

The Municipality of Brockton staff and Council would like to express their thanks for everyone who submitted comments and participated in the surveys for the Strategic Action Plan. The comments and surveys received by residents, service groups and businesses has helped shape the final 2021-2025 [Brockton Strategic Action Plan](#) (incorporating key performance indicators identifying how the Plan will be implemented) was approved by Council on December 14, 2021. Visit our [Strategic Action Plan webpage](#) or the project on our community engagement website, [Build Your Brockton](#).

Brockton Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2021-2025

The updated 2021-2025 Municipality of Brockton [Multi-Year Accessibility Plan](#) was adopted by Council on December 14, 2021, an integral part of our ongoing commitment to accessibility and inclusiveness. The Multi-Year Accessibility Plan outlines the initiatives the Municipality will undertake to ensure compliance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, including outlining how the Municipality of Brockton will continue to remove barriers and improve accessibility for persons with disabilities. The plan will be implemented over the next five years, and recruitment for an Accessibility Advisory Committee will occur in 2022. Learn more on our Accessibility webpage or the project on our community engagement website, [Build Your Brockton](#).



2022 Recycling Collection Schedule

Bruce Area Solid Waste Recycling have released their 2022 Recycling Collection Schedule. Download the [2022 Blue Box/Recycling Collection Schedule](#) or view the dates on our website's [Household Waste and Recycling Calendar](#).

Winter Landfill Hours

From November 1 to March 31, the Brant Landfill is 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 is open on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Walkerton/Hanover Landfill is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. All residents are encouraged to continue to use curbside pickup services. Residents are reminded to wear a face covering and maintain physical distancing when attending the Landfills. A limit of 10 vehicles at a time remains in effect for the Brant and Greenock Landfills. Visit Brockton.ca/LandfillSites for more details.

Holiday Landfill Hours

The Brant, and Greenock Landfills will be open on Wednesday, December 22, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and Wednesday, December 29, 2021 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The Brant and Greenock Landfills will be closed on Saturday, December 25, 2021 for Christmas and on Saturday, January 1, 2022 for New Years.



The Walkerton/Hanover Landfill will be closed on Friday, December 24, 2021, and Saturday, December 25, 2021 for Christmas, and Saturday, January 1, 2022 for New Years. The Walkerton/Hanover Landfill will be open on Tuesday December 21, 2021, Thursday, December 23, 2021, Tuesday, December 28, 2021, Thursday, December 30, 2021 and Friday December 31, 2021 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Winter Parking Restrictions

In accordance with Section 8 of the Municipality of Brockton's Consolidated Traffic and Parking By-Law 2020-052, no person shall park on any highway between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. inclusive during the months of November, December, January, February, March and April.

Winter Fire Hydrant Access Reminder

Help our firefighters by clearing snow around fire hydrants to allow easier access in an emergency. Remove any ice and snow, clear a three foot perimeter around the hydrant, and clear a path from the hydrant to the street. By-Law 2019-118 also requires individuals to keep hydrants clear from obstructions, such that shrubs, trees, and hedges should be trimmed to allow free access to the hydrants.



Brockton Parks and Recreation Winter Programming

Registration is now open for Winter Programming! Visit Brockton.ca/RecreationPrograms, or call 519-881-0625 or [email](mailto:recreation@brockton.ca) the Recreation Department for more information.

A Winter Welcome – **Winter Break Day Camp** is occurring from Monday, December 20th to Thursday, December 23rd. Spots are still available!

Public Skating is offered on Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., and Sundays from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. Additional skates are December 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th from 12:00 Noon to 2:00 p.m. Please refer to Brockton.ca/Skating for more information.

Walkerton/Brockton Dollars

If you're planning to shop local this holiday season, one of the best ways is through the purchase of Walkerton Dollars – gift certificates that can be redeemed at most Walkerton businesses, and never expire. You can now purchase Walkerton Dollars at the Brockton Municipal Office at 100 Scott Street during office hours (Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., holidays excepted). This is a great way to support local businesses and delight your friends, family, co-workers or employees. In 2022, we will launch a new Brockton Dollars program, but any unspent Walkerton Dollars will still be honoured.

December Programs at Cargill and Walkerton Library Branches

The Cargill and Walkerton Branches of the **Bruce County Public Library** are welcoming patrons back for programs and are excited to share their December calendar which includes preschool, school age, and teen programs! Visit library.brucecounty.on.ca/events or contact one of the branches to learn more!

Victoria Jubilee Hall Community Input Survey

Victoria Jubilee Hall wants to hear from you! As the venue approaches its 125th year, its members are looking to what the future will bring. Please share your ideas at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CBC69DZ> or follow them on Facebook at **Victoria Jubilee Hall, Walkerton, Ontario**.



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-  Facebook – [BrocktonON](https://www.facebook.com/BrocktonON)
-  Instagram – [municipalitybrockton](https://www.instagram.com/municipalitybrockton)
-  Twitter – [Mun_Brockton](https://twitter.com/Mun_Brockton)
-  LinkedIn – [Municipality of Brockton](https://www.linkedin.com/company/municipality-of-brockton)
-  YouTube – [Municipality of Brockton](https://www.youtube.com/municipalityofbrockton)



The Cargill and District Community Foundation are hosting cookies and cocoa with Santa on Sunday, December 19, 2021 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Cargill Park. The event features outside activities, lighting of the park at 6:00 p.m., cookies and hot cocoa, Santa's arrival at 6:15 p.m., treat bags for kids, and carolling. Please bring a non-perishable food item for the local foodbank.



South Bruce O.P.P. Detachment – Festive R.I.D.E.

Festive RIDE is an annual police enforcement and education initiative aimed at taking impaired drivers off Ontario roads during the holiday season. This year's OPP Festive RIDE campaign runs from November 18, 2021 to January 2, 2022.

The South Bruce OPP reminds you that officers are equipped to deal with motorists that are driving while under the influence:

- Mandatory Alcohol Screening became law on December 18, 2018. Police officers in possession of an approved screening device who lawfully pull over a driver can demand a breath sample without having reasonable suspicion that the driver has alcohol in their body.
- In addition, officers can demand a driver to submit to a Standardized Field Sobriety Test (SFST) and a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) Evaluation. SFST-trained officers and DREs have the expertise to detect impairment by alcohol, drugs or both in a driver.

Statistics:

- Last year's OPP Festive RIDE campaign ran from November 26, 2020 to January 3, 2021. During the initiative, South Bruce OPP members charged 5 impaired drivers. 2 of these impaired drivers were arrested at a motor vehicle collision scene.
- From January 1, 2021 to October 31, 2021, the South Bruce OPP charged 84 impaired drivers. This is a 42% increase when compared with this same time period in 2020 (59 impaired charges).

The increase in the number of impaired drivers charged is very concerning. Remember that it only takes 1 impaired driver to seriously injure or kill someone that you love.

South Bruce O.P.P. Detachment – Holiday Cons and Scams

The Holidays are a great time to protect yourself from cons and scams. The South Bruce OPP is asking you to be on the lookout for cons and scams for the holidays.

Tech-savvy con artists can create very convincing scams to trick you into giving them money. They can pretend to work for an established, well-known business, or even a branch of the government. They will have some basic information about you that they call.

Pay close attention to any unsolicited contact – unsolicited means that you didn't ask for it. Whether it's a knock on the door, phone call, letter, fax or email – always **verify** the contact is legitimate before you ever consider sending money.

This is an especially important time of year to be vigilant; at a hectic time of year when we're scrambling to make holiday preparations; we may more vulnerable to the smooth talking con artist that wants to trick you into giving up your hard earned money. Remember; it's your money, you work hard to earn it so work hard to protect it.

Anyone interested in more information on fraud can contact the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre at 1 888 495 8501 or visit the [Anti Fraud Centre's website](#).

South Bruce O.P.P. Detachment – Pocket Your Keys

#PocketYourKeys over the holidays to protect your vehicle and any items inside your vehicle. The Lock it or Lose it and **#PocketYourKeys** campaigns are designed to help prevent vehicles from being taken. An added benefit to these programs, is the reduction of the theft of items from inside the vehicle.

Here are some simple steps to help reduce the number of stolen vehicles and protect you as the vehicle owner:

1. Do not leave your keys in your vehicle.
2. Do not leave your vehicle running.
3. Lock your vehicle.
4. Treat your keys like cash – Don't leave keys in places where they are easy to steal such as a gym locker, on your desk at work, in an open purse or unattended in a shopping cart.
5. Never leave anything in your vehicle in plain view such as loose change, cell phones, cameras, clothing, gifts, cigarettes, medication, firearms or any other valuables.

This is a hectic time of year that gets even busier if you have to replace items taken from your unlocked vehicle.

Theft is a crime of opportunity that you can help control so **#PocketYourKeys** to help prevent the loss of your vehicle or the loss of items inside your vehicle.