

For Immediate Release

Municipality of Brockton's Continued Response to COVID-19

Brockton, ON, March 16, 2020 – The Municipality of Brockton is committed to the health and wellness of all residents and is adopting a proactive and cautious approach to responding to the COVID-19 infection.

Parks and Recreation:

The Brockton Parks and Recreation Office and Recreation Facilities/Community Centres are closed to the public immediately until April 5, 2020. All recreational and leisure programs, including private bookings have been postponed until April 5, 2020.

Library: The Bruce County Public Library has closed the Walkerton and Cargill Library Branches until further notice.

Public Works/Operations:

Bag Tags: Residents can purchase bag tags from the Municipality's Bag Tag retailers, including Walkerton Foodland, Walkerton Valu-Mart, Cargill Country Variety, Junction 4 & 19, Paisley Freshmart, Towne Convenience, Circle K, and the Brant and Greenock Landfill Sites.

Landfill Sites and Recycling Depot: Regular hours will continue at the Municipal Landfill Sites in Brant, Greenock, and Walkerton/Hanover unless otherwise advised.

The Walkerton Recycling Depot (MTO Yard) will be closed to the public, however, cardboard recycling and styrofoam drop-off are still available.

Household Waste and Recycling Pickup: Household waste and recycling pickup will continue as normal unless otherwise advised.

Water/Wastewater: Detailed contingency plans are in place for municipal water and wastewater. There is no impact to our facilities and services.

Cemetery: Residents are advised to call the Municipal Office at 519-881-2223 for cemetery inquiries.

Municipal Office:

The Municipal Office will be closed to the public from March 17, 2020 until April 5, 2020. The Drop-Off Box will be available for residents to drop off documentation, payments, etc.

Taxes and Utility Bill Payments: The tax due date and utility bill due date of March 31, 2020 is still in effect. Residents can drop off payment by cheque or cash to the Municipal Office Drop-Off Box, or sign up for online payments through their banking institution. Visit www.Brockton.ca/Payments for further instructions on e-Billing services.

Building Permits: Residents wishing to obtain building permits can drop off documentation at the Municipal Office Drop Off Box, and obtain our Building Department's contact information to arrange details via telephone or email.

Licensing and Commissioning: Lottery licensing services are currently suspended. Marriage licensing is postponed, but will be reviewed by staff on a case-by-case basis. Commissioner of Oath services are currently suspended.

Walkerton Business Improvement Area: The Walkerton Business Improvement Area and the Brockton Visitor Information Centre will also be closed to the public until April 5, 2020.

Symptoms of COVID 19:

Symptoms of COVID 19 range from mild – like the flu and other common respiratory infections – to severe, and can include fever, cough and difficulty breathing. Complications from COVID-19 can include serious conditions, like pneumonia or kidney failure, and in some cases, death.

There are no specific treatments for COVID-19, and there is no vaccine that protects against coronaviruses. Most people with common human coronavirus illnesses will recover on their own.

Health authorities recommend drinking plenty of fluids, getting rest and sleeping as much as possible and trying a humidifier or a hot shower to help with a sore throat or cough.

Individuals can assist in slowing the spread of COVID-19 in the following ways:

- Frequent hand washing
- Refrain from touching face
- Keep a distance of 1-2 metres between people
- Avoid shaking hands
- Stay home if sick and call telehealth to report symptoms
- Avoid crowds and large gatherings
- Minimize all non-essential travel, especially outside of Ontario

It is important to avoid visiting long-term care centres and hospitals unless necessary to help protect those who are most vulnerable.

Further Updates:

The Municipality of Brockton will continue to obtain information and updates from the County of Bruce, The Grey Bruce Health Unit, the Province of Ontario and other health agencies and will provide new information to residents when available. Please visit www.Brockton.ca/Covid19 for updated information, or call the municipal office at 519-881-2223.

Additional Information:

The following links provide useful information about COVID-19:

The Province of Ontario: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus#section-2>

Grey Bruce Health Unit: <https://www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca/>

Health Canada: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html>