

For Immediate Release

## **Municipality of Brockton's Response to COVID-19**

**Brockton, ON**, March 13, 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.

### **Brockton Child Care Centre:**

The Minister of Education has ordered that all publicly funded schools close from March 14, 2020 returning April 6, 2020. The Ministerial Order will result in the Brockton Child Care Centre being closed for all child care during this time period due to its location at St. Teresa of Calcutta Catholic School.

### **Parks and Recreation:**

To slow the spread of COVID -19, all municipal programming and skating has been cancelled from March 14, 2020 until March 22, 2020 including recreation programs and all March Break Day Camps. A complete list of all cancelled programs can be found on the website at [www.Brockton.ca/Covid19](http://www.Brockton.ca/Covid19). Municipal facilities are still available for private bookings throughout March Break subject to confirmation by staff.

All events booked through the Municipality of Brockton for the Walkerton Branch of the Bruce County Public Library have also been cancelled from March 14, 2020 until April 5, 2020. The County of Bruce has also cancelled programs held at all Bruce County Public Library branches from March 14, 2020 to April 5, 2020.

The Grey Bruce Health Unit has advised that all events over 250 people be suspended. Events for less than 250 people being held at municipal facilities and arranged through private bookings will be reviewed in consultation with the Grey Bruce Health Unit and the event organizers on a case-by-case basis. The Municipality of Brockton will postpone or cancel bookings with refunds based on the preferences of the event organizers.

Event and program cancellations may be extended based on updated information from the Grey Bruce Health Unit and other health agencies about the spread of COVID-19 in Bruce County. Please visit [www.Brockton.ca/Covid19](http://www.Brockton.ca/Covid19) to receive updates as they become available.

### **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](http://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>