

Report to Council

Report Title:	Declaration of Emergency Update		
Prepared By:	Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer		
Department:	Administration		
Date:	September 22, 2020		
Report Number:	CAO2020-17	File Number:	C11AD, P03
Attachments:	Declaration of Emergency		

Recommendation:

That the Council of the Municipality of Brockton hereby receives Report Number CAO2020-17 – Declaration of Emergency Update, prepared by Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer and in doing so directs staff to communicate and coordinate with the County of Bruce and the Bruce County Lower-Tier Municipalities on lifting the Declaration of Emergency when rates of infection make it appropriate to do so.

Report:

Background:

On March 23, 2020, Mayor Peabody, as advised by the Municipal Emergency Control Group, declared a state of emergency in the Municipality of Brockton in response to the Covid-19 outbreak, and ratified by Council on April 7, 2020. An emergency was declared to protect the health and well-being of all residents and businesses. Throughout the past 6 months staff have been providing consistent updates to Council regarding the status on programming, communications and responses of each department.

The Province of Ontario declared a state of emergency on March 17, 2020, which has since expired with the passing of Bill 195 – *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*. That Act took over and ensured important measures remained in place to address the threat of COVID-19.

The Chief Medical Officer of Health issued a mandatory mask order, effective July 17, 2020 which has been extended a number of times and is currently set to expire October 9, 2020.

Analysis:

Staff and the Municipal Emergency Control Group are seeking Council approval to correspond and coordinate with the County of Bruce and the lower-tier municipalities with regards to lifting the Brockton Emergency Order after Thanksgiving on the week of October 13, 2020, provided the rates of infection remain low. Staff wish to coordinate with the County of Bruce, the other lower-tier municipalities and the Grey Bruce Health

Unit to see if the emergency order is still necessary to ensure that residents and businesses are protected and if it is not, that there are steps in place, for instance the mask by-law, in order to maintain the safety protocols.

Bruce County Council discussed with Dr. Ian Arra his Face Covering order and moving to a mask by-law on the Thursday, September 17, 2020 meeting. The mask by-law was discussed in length and will be reviewed again at the next County Council meeting.

Sustainability Checklist:

What aspect of the Brockton Sustainable Strategic Plan does the content/recommendations in this report help advance?

- Do the recommendations help move the Municipality closer to its Vision? N/A
- Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Cultural Vibrancy? N/A
- Do the recommendations contribute to achieving Economic Prosperity? N/A
- Do the recommendations contribute to Environmental Integrity? N/A
- Do the recommendations contribute to the Social Equity? N/A

Financial Impacts/Source of Funding:

- Do the recommendations represent a sound financial investment from a sustainability perspective?
N/A

There are no financial impacts with this report.

Reviewed By:



Trish Serratore, Chief Financial Officer

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sonya Watson, Chief Administrative Officer

For Immediate Release

Municipality of Brockton Declares a State of Emergency in Response to COVID-19

Brockton, ON, March 23, 2020 – Mayor Chris Peabody has officially declared a state of emergency in the Municipality of Brockton in response to Covid-19. Declaring an emergency allows the Municipality of Brockton to make use of all tools at its disposal to protect the health and well-being of all residents and businesses, including accessing any provincial funding that may become available in the future.

“The actions we take now are critical to help slow the spread of COVID-19 and protect and help Brockton’s vulnerable residents. I have made this declaration to emphasize the importance of following the requests made by the Province of Ontario and Canada about self-isolating and maintaining physical distance when going out for essentials such as food or medical needs. Brockton is a resilient community that comes together to weather tough times and we can help to protect each other by staying home”.

The Municipality of Brockton will continue to take all steps necessary to maintain essential services for our residents and local businesses. Residents are encouraged to visit www.Brockton.ca/Covid19 for up-to-date and accurate information about municipal services.

The declaration has been made as a precautionary step at this time. The Municipality of Brockton is urging all residents to do the following:

- Stay at home as per the Provincial and Federal requests
- Avoid gatherings
- Practice adequate social distancing
- Wash your hands for 15-20 seconds with soap and use hand sanitizer
- Cough or sneeze into your arm
- If you have any symptoms, self-monitor and self-isolate, and contact a health care professional if symptoms persist
- If you have travelled outside Canada recently, ensure you self-isolate for 14 days

For more information, please see the following:

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

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

Health Canada: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health.html>

World Health Organization: <https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>