



Rideau Lakes

1439 County Road 8, Delta, ON K0E 1G0
T. 613.928.2251 | 1.800.928.2250 | F. 613.928.3097
rideaulakes.ca

Statement from Mayor Hoogenboom regarding COVID-19 Pandemic

March 19, 2020

The number of COVID-19 cases continues to grow. Ontario has, as of this morning, confirmed 214 cases, with one death. Ontario has declared a Province-wide state of emergency. The Provincial and Federal governments continue to make daily announcements, including plans and programs to help those individuals and businesses most impacted.

At the Township level, our Municipal Emergency Control Group (MECG) has met twice and will continue to meet as required. In an effort to take proactive action to stem the tide of COVID-19 locally, the Township closed all halls, libraries and cancelled all Committee and Council meetings.

Further, the Township offices and buildings have been closed to the Public. Staff continue to provide the full range of services via telephone and internet. We value our employees and volunteers. Their health, and that of the Public, is our primary concern. Reducing face-to-face interaction is a primary method of reducing the rate of COVID-19 spread. I wish to thank the community for their patience and understanding while we modify our operations.

As your Mayor I wanted to reinforce the advice of our public health professionals and senior governments:

- Practice social distancing at every opportunity;
- Wash your hands regularly;
- Avoid group meetings;
- Avoid unnecessary travel;
- Check on your neighbours, particularly those that may be vulnerable;
- Work from home if possible.

For my own part, my wife and I entered self-imposed isolation last week for two reasons. We returned from outside the country just over a month ago and our daughter has a compromised immune system. I will continue to be engaged in all aspects of municipal governance through regular electronic contact with the CAO, Senior Staff and Members of Council as required.

The Township will continue to provide local municipal services including waste and recycling curbside collection, building permits and inspections, road maintenance and fire protection. Over time, should services have to be suspended or modified, notice will be provided, with adequate time for residents and businesses to adjust whenever possible. Feel free to contact the Township office with questions on any municipal services (1-800-928-2250).

We need to recognize the risk that COVID-19 presents both to our health and to our economy and respond without fear or panic.

We will get through this together, as a community. Rest assured that your council will take any necessary preventative and recovery actions in a timely manner. Watch the township website at <http://www.rideaulakes.ca/news-events/covid-19-updates/> for ongoing updates.

Utilize the following links as well for accurate information:

Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit <https://healthunit.org/coronavirus/>

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

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

Government of Canada

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/reports-publications/responding-stressful-events/taking-care-ourselves-families-communities.html>

Arie Hoogenboom

Mayor

613-323-0901

mayor@rideaulakes.ca