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Town makes changes to impacted services due to COVID-19

NEW TECUMSETH, ON – The Town of New Tecumseth is continuing to work closely with the Simcoe-Muskoka District Health Unit, the County of Simcoe and other community partners to monitor the COVID-19 global situation to be as prepared as possible and respond accordingly.

“As we continue to work together as a community to stay apart and do our part to fight COVID-19, all the decisions we make have the safety of our staff and our residents at the forefront,” said New Tecumseth Mayor Rick Milne. “We must follow the direction of the Province and top health officials in determining what the next few weeks and months look like for our community as well.”

Following the guidance and directives from the Province and local health officials, the Town is further extending facility closures of all Town of New Tecumseth, libraries, Administration Centre (including the Building Department) and the Joint Operations Centre until at least May 31, 2020.

As per the Province of Ontario’s Emergency Order under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, the Town’s recreation centres, arenas, Museum on the Boyne, Banting Homestead and all outdoor recreation amenities including splash pads, playgrounds sports fields, basketball and tennis courts, Beeton’s off-leash dog park, skateboard parks, picnic areas, park shelters, outdoor exercise equipment and other recreational amenities remain closed - as per the Province’s direction. These closures will be revisited pending potential future changes in the current Provincial closure and health directives.

As the Town has to plan and prepare in advance, and based on the best information available and directives through the Province and top health officials at this time, the following will be in place for 2020 and Town staff will contact any affected permit holders to cancel bookings and/or tentatively postpone. Should Provincial orders and health directives and restrictions change in the coming months, booking postponements will be revisited.

- All bookings for sports fields including ball diamonds, soccer pitches, tennis courts and basketball courts will be cancelled until September 7, 2020.
- All bookings and rentals for indoor room, hall, fieldhouse and ice surface area will be cancelled until September 7, 2020.
- Town-organized events - such as Canada Day celebrations and the Charity Rodeo - are cancelled.

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- Community-led and/or organized events scheduled to be held at any of the Town's outdoor spaces will be cancelled until September 7, 2020.
- Town run summer day camps will not be planned for the season, however, may be organized at a later date.
- The Tottenham Conservation Area will be closed to campers/users/events for the 2020 season.
- The outdoor Rotary Pool will remain closed for the 2020 season.
- Trails and other open green spaces remain available for residents to use responsibly and while practicing safe physical distancing and all health-related directives. Users of open spaces and trails are asked to park vehicles in designated places, being respectful and cautious to not block roadways and/or private property.

“Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020 is a very different year than what we had hoped for and planned. We are all looking forward to getting back to the things we enjoy. Until then, it is vital that we continue to work together to stay apart during this difficult time,” Milne said.

The Town's most critical services will continue. During the extended closures, our Customer Service team continues to be available to answer your calls and emails. For general inquiries, please call the Town of New Tecumseth at 705-435-3900 or 905-729-0057 or email info@newtecumseth.ca

Please visit the Town's website and subscribe to receive updates at www.newtecumseth.ca/COVID19.