

May 11, 2020

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OPERATIONAL IMPACTS

Closures: The Town of New Tecumseth is further extending facility closures of the Town 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 recreational centres, arenas, libraries, Museum on the Boyne, Banting Homestead, 54+ Centre and all outdoor recreation amenities including splash pads, playgrounds, sports fields, basketball and tennis courts, Beeton's off-leash dog parks, skateboard parks, picnic areas, outdoor community gardens, park shelters, outdoor exercise equipment and other outdoor 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.

CUSTOMER SERVICE UPDATES

UPDATE to burn ban and fire permits: The Burn Ban remains in place and No Open-Air Burning is allowed except for those permitted through the Agricultural Permit.

EFFECTIVE FRIDAY, MAY 15 at 12pm (noon)- There will be a partial lifting of the ban to allow for the use of Outdoor Wood Burning Appliances (OWBA – which includes chimineas) who have already been issued the required one time permit ONLY.

OUTDOOR WOOD BURNING APPLIANCES

That any person who has been issued a one time permit after the inspection of an outdoor wood burning appliance shall:

- a) burn clean dry wood only*
- b) keep the fire at least 7.5 metres from any structure and property line.*
- c) fire must be kept no larger than .5 metres by .5 metres in diameter with flames no higher than one (1) metre.*
- d) have sufficient equipment and resources available at the burning site to extinguish the fire in the event that the fire gets out of control or is causing an adverse effect.*
- e) attend the fire at all times until completely extinguished*
- f) outdoor wood burning appliances must include spark arrestor and enclosed fire area, and shall not be located under any tree, wires or other overhead obstruction*

Requests for additional OWBA applications will be processed and coordinated via email at fire@newtecumseth.ca beginning on May 15 or contact the Fire Administration Office at 705-435-3900 ext.1425

County Mulch & Compost Program: The Mulch and compost program is put on by the County of Simcoe and is not available at this time.

The County will update the municipality of the Town of New Tecumseth and its residents on the program when details become available. Residents are encouraged to call the County of Simcoe toll free at 1-866-893-9300 for further inquiries.

You may also visit the Simcoe County website at www.simcoe.ca and view their public notices page to see a list of any services they provide that have been placed on hold.

Impacts to bookings, cancellations, events: 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, field house 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.
- 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.

Impacts to summer camps, outdoor Rotary Pool, Tottenham Conservation Area:

- 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.

Interim Property Taxes / Water & Wastewater Billings: We have taken financial relief measures to help our residents who need some additional time to make payments. Please note that the following payment dates have been extended:

The second tax bill installment originally due April 30, 2020, is **now due on May 29, 2020**

Beeton water bill originally due on April 15, 2020, is **now due on May 15, 2020**

Alliston water bill originally due on May 15th, 2020, is **now due on June 15th, 2020**

Interest and penalties will not be added as a result of these due dates being extended.

New Tec Connects Food Drive: Mark your calendars, as the New Tecumseth Fire Rescue Services is gearing up for another New Tec Connects Food Drive, taking place Sat., May 16 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Non-perishable food donations will be accepted at the following locations Alliston Walmart and Zehrs, Beeton Foodland, Tottenham Foodland and Vince's Market. All donations collected will be distributed the two foodbanks in New Tecumseth serving those in need within the community.

Trails and open spaces: 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.

Virtual recreation, fitness and activities: Check out our virtual fitness and activities component of our New Tec Connects program which focuses on opportunities for families and individuals to interact virtually. These activities can be viewed on the Town's website

here: <https://www.newtecumseth.ca/en/living-in-our-community/new-tec-connects-program.aspx>. To assist with physical activity, the Town of New Tecumseth's Parks, Recreation & Culture team has put together a variety of short fitness videos to help our residents remain active and keep your mind and body moving. Please visit the Town of New Tecumseth's YouTube channel and our [Virtual Recreation playlist](#) for more and be sure to subscribe to receive notifications of new class additions. Please check back weekly as we continue to add new videos and activities to keep you moving.

CONTACT US:

You can continue to do business with the Town on our website at www.newtecumseth.ca, or by phone at 705-435-3900 or 905-729-0057 (Monday through Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm) or by email at info@newtecumseth.ca. For recreation related questions, please call our Parks, Recreation and Culture team at 705-435-4030 ext. 1500 or 905-936-4203 ext. 1621 or by email recreation@newtecumseth.ca. For the most up-to-date impacts and information on Town services, subscribe to our webpage at www.newtecumseth.ca/COVID19.

KEY MESSAGES

Health tips: The Public Health Agency of Canada and World Health Organization recommend that you:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after using the washroom or blowing your nose, coughing or sneezing; before preparing food; or after you have been in a public place. You can use hand sanitizer with at least 60 per cent alcohol if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily including: toys, toilets, phones, electronics, door handles, bedside tables television remotes, light switches, countertops, desks, faucets and sinks.

New symptoms to watch for • The Ministry of Health added a number of new symptoms to the list of possible COVID links: pink eye (atypical), vomiting and abdominal pain, diarrhea, excessive sneezing, a hoarse voice and difficulty swallowing. The expanded list helps to cast a larger net and offers a better sense of the spread of the virus within the community. The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit advises that people should be monitoring their health and if you have even one or two of the symptoms you should be screened. The SMDHU have a [self-assessment tool](#) on its [website](#) and a list of assessment centres and hours on its COVID-19 page.

Physical distancing: Together, we can slow the spread of COVID-19 by making a conscious effort to keep a physical distance between each other. Physical distancing is proven to be one of the most effective ways to reduce the spread of illness during an outbreak. Stay home, if you can. Limit your contact with others and avoid non-essential trips in the community - it's the best way to practice physical distancing. While you may not feel sick, we ask that you be mindful of those more vulnerable in our community. With patience and cooperation, we can all do our part.

Please visit the Town's website at www.newtecumseth.ca/COVID19 for the latest local information and be sure to subscribe to the page to automatically receive updates.

ENFORCEMENT DETAILS

New Tecumseth By-law Enforcement Officers are assisting the Nottawasaga OPP to enforce the Province's COVID-19 Orders by doing proactive patrols and partnering with the OPP to educate residents and working with the Nottawasaga OPP where Police intervention may be warranted. Charges may be laid for violations of the Province's Orders in two ways. People not abiding by the Provincial Orders may receive a ticket with a set fine between \$750 to \$1000 dollars per charge. Alternatively, Officers may lay a charge by way of a summons in which case the fine and penalties are potentially more severe, ranging from up to \$100,000 for individuals, \$500,000 for Directors or Officers of a corporation and up to \$10,000,000 for a corporation. In addition, offenders may be subject to up to one-year imprisonment.

Date	Number of Questions or Concerns Received (Email/Phone)	Number of Education Occurrences (times Officer spoke to public during patrols*).	Number of Charges Issued Pt.1 or Pt.3	Number of Warnings Issued
March 30 th - April 8 th By-law	24	10	0	0
March 30 th - April 8 th OPP	6	3**	0	2
April 9 th -15 th By-law	3	12	0	0
April 9 th -15 th OPP	5	5**	0	0
April 16 th -19 th By-law	4	7	0	0
April 16 th -19 th OPP	9	9**	0	4
April 20 th – 22 nd By-law	7	1	0	0
April 20 th – 22 nd OPP	6	6**	1	2
April 23 rd – 26 th By-law	8	1	0	0
April 23 rd – 26 th OPP***	5	9**	0	2

COVID-19 UPDATE

April 27 th – 29 th By-law	5	1	0	0
April 27 th – 29 th OPP***	2	3**	0	2
April 30 th – May 3 rd By-law	16	0	0	0
April 30 th – May 3 rd OPP***	2	5**	0	5
May 4 th – May 5 th By-law	4	2	0	0
May 4 th – May 5 th OPP***	2	1**	0	0
May 6 th – May 10 By-law	6	2	0	0
May 6 th – May 10 OPP***	3****	1**	0	0
TOTALS	117	78	1	17

*By-law Patrols are occurring 7 days/week 9am-4pm approximately.

** This number only represents the total number of OPP patrols conducted.

*** OPP Officers have been instructed to patrol grocery stores to increase Community/visible presence.

**** 2 of these 3 calls have been related to the opening of a non-essential business.

RECOVERY PLANNING FOR TOWN OPERATIONS

The Town has started planning the next phase of its response including recovery and re-establishment of services.

RELIABLE SOURCES OF INFORMATION

[Town of New Tecumseth](#)

For up to date information, visit newtecumseth.ca/COVID19

The Town's **Economic Development Office** is gathering important information and resources to assist local businesses and their employees in responding to the economic impacts of COVID-19.

[County of Simcoe](#)

For COVID19 service updates, visit simcoe.ca/Coronavirus

[Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit](#)

For the most up-to-date local information, visit the **Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit website**.

[Stevenson Memorial Hospital](#)

For the latest news from Stevenson Memorial Hospital, please visit their website at: <http://www.stevensonhospital.ca/index.html>

Province of Ontario

The Province of **Ontario's Action Plan** will provide **support for people and businesses** through tax credits and deferrals to improve their cash flow, **protecting jobs and household budgets**, while providing the resources necessary to protect their health.

Government of Canada

The Government of **Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan** includes a wide range of measures to **support for Canadian individuals and families** who are facing financial hardship as a result of the pandemic.