

May 26, 2020

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OPERATIONAL IMPACTS

Closures: The Town of New Tecumseth is further extending facility closures to the public and the majority of its employees of the Town Administration Centre (including the Building Department) and the Joint Operations Centre until at least start of business on **July 6, 2020**.

Province's Stage 1 of the Framework for Reopening:

In response to the Provincial announcement, the Town of New Tecumseth has begun the process of reopening and readying a number of local outdoor recreational amenities for public use, but are not issuing permits for rentals for group/team use at the following:

- Beeton off-leash dog park
- Tennis courts in Alliston, Beeton and Tottenham
- Outdoor picnic areas, benches and shelters *these areas are not sanitized*
- Skateboard parks *these areas are not sanitized*
- Basketball courts * team sports are not permitted*
- Soccer fields *team sports are not permitted* Please note Geoff S. Gaston Sports Park and Mel Mitchell Field will not reopen.
- Baseball diamonds *team sports are not permitted* Please note Coventry Park will not reopen.
- Disc golf at the Tottenham Conservation Area

As per the Province's orders, individuals are NOT permitted to play team sports, such as soccer or baseball even on fields intended for this purpose unless they are members of the same household.

Residents must continue to follow all health directives including maintaining safe physical distancing of at least two metres (six feet) apart from others - as per the Provincial Order. This includes no congregating and adhering to all COVID-19 Public Health and Provincial regulations regarding gathering of people. Please ensure you practice frequent hand washing and/or sanitizing and stay home when you are not feeling well.

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 outdoor recreation amenities including splash pads, playgrounds, 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.

The Tottenham Conservation Area (TCA) remains closed for campers and events this season. However, it is open to the public for daytime use only. Vehicle parking is available from the entrance of the TCA up to the gatehouse. Facilities and public washrooms remain closed. The space can be

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used for walking, exercise and picnics - however, we strongly remind residents to respect physical distancing while using the space and our parking areas. Please note, swimming is NOT allowed at the Tottenham Conservation Area.

Also, as per the Province's announcement, construction on all Town projects will now be able to resume including the Tottenham Library construction project.

The Town continues to review updates from the Ontario government to assess their local impact, as well as the time needed to safely implement any reopenings.

CUSTOMER SERVICE UPDATES

Burn Ban Update: Effective Friday, May 29, the Town of New Tecumseth will be fully lifting the burn ban that has been in place due to the COVID-19 situation.

Agricultural Burn Permits were being issued during the fire ban to assist agricultural property owners preparing fields for spring planting. The last day to apply for an agricultural permit is May 28, 2020. After that, the Agricultural burn permits will return to being part of the usual Open-Air Burning permit process.

The lifting of the burn ban allows all Open Air Burning, including the COVID-19 Agricultural burning, within the permit requirements of the By-law:

OPEN AIR BURN PERMITS - GENERAL

That any person who has been issued a fire permit pursuant to Section 2 above shall:

- a) burn only dry materials.*
- b) keep the fire at least 150 metres from any dwelling and/or 30 metres from any other structure.*
- c) attend the fire at all times until it is completely extinguished;*
- 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) size of any fire shall be limited to four (4) square metres unless specifically approved.*

New Tecumseth Fire Rescue had some active Open-Air Burn permits in place when the ban was instituted. Those property owners will be contacted directly, and their permits will be adjusted accordingly.

Requests for all Open-Air Burn permits are now being accepted. These requests as well as all those for Outdoor Wood Burning Appliance Permits are being processed and coordinated via email at fire@newtecumseth.ca. For more information, please contact the Fire Administration Office at 705-435-3900 ext.1425.

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**

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: The Town's partnership with the Beeton and Tottenham Foodland stores continues. Staff assist with grocery deliveries approximately three days a week to help those who cannot or should not be out in the community.

New Tec Connects latest food drive: During the May 16 food drives held by the New Tecumseth Fire Rescue, a total of 1,365 pounds of food and \$4,022.75 was collected. All donations were distributed to the two foodbanks in New Tecumseth serving those in need within the community.

New Tec Connects virtual recreation, fitness and activities: Our Parks, Recreation & Culture team are continually adding new health and wellness initiatives, family-fun activities, virtual tours and experiences and more on the Town's website <https://www.newtecumseth.ca/en/living-in-our-community/new-tec-connects-program.aspx>. Please visit the Town of New Tecumseth's YouTube channel and our [Virtual Recreation playlist](#)

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.

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

Assessment: 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.

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

Physical distancing: Residents must continue to follow all health directives including maintaining safe physical distancing of at least two metres (six feet) apart from others - as per the Provincial Order. This includes no congregating and adhering to all COVID-19 Public Health and Provincial regulations regarding gathering of people.

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

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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
May 11 th – May 12 By-law	4	0	0	0
May 11 th – May 12 OPP***	1	6**	0	0
May 11 th – May 17 By-law	5	2	0	0
May 11 th – May 17 OPP***	2	3**	0	1
May 18 th – May 20 By-law	3	1	0	0
May 18 th – May 20 OPP***	0	0	0	0
May 21 th – May 24 By-law	6	5****	0	0
May 21 th – May 24 OPP***	3	1	0	0
TOTALS	141	96	1	18

*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 continues planning the next phase of its response including recovery and re-establishment of services. We have further extended our facility closures to the public and the majority of its employees of the Town Administration Centre (including the Building Department) and the Joint Operations Centre until at least start of business on **July 6, 2020**. The Town's Emergency Control Group continues to plan and review when and how additional staff will be able to safely return to their office work spaces and the safety measures/logistics that would be put in place.

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.