



360 Dibble St. West (Box 160) • Prescott ON K0E 1T0 • T: (613) 925-2812 • F: (613) 925-4381

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Wednesday, March 18, 2020**

**(For Immediate Release)**

### **Town of Prescott – Information update regarding Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19)**

(PRESCOTT) The Town of Prescott Emergency Management Committee continues to meet regularly to review and update precautions regarding the developing situation with coronavirus (COVID-19). Municipal operations and services continue to function and operate.

All essential services are still in place and operating without change in the Town of Prescott, including but not limited to water and wastewater management, emergency services, and garbage and recycling collection. Town Hall remains operational to provide essential services and assistance to residents by calling 613-925-2812 ext. 6200 or through email [admin@prescott.ca](mailto:admin@prescott.ca). Facility closures will continue to remain in place indefinitely, to be reviewed again on April 5, 2020.

Federally, the Public Health Agency of Canada is working with provinces, territories and international partners, including the World Health Organization, to actively monitor the situation. Global efforts are focused on containment of the outbreak and the prevention of further spread. The federal government has taken measures to restrict travel, particularly international in nature. Guidelines are now in place for those returning from travel.

The province has enacted a declaration of emergency to help contain the spread of COVID-19 and protect the public. As a result, the following establishments have been required to close: bars and restaurants (except those offering take-out and delivery), indoor recreational programs, public libraries, private schools, licensed childcare centres, movie cinemas, theatres, and concert venues. These mandated closures will remain in place until March 31, 2020 when the province will reassess the need for an extension or end the closures.

As of March 17, Ottawa Public Health, Eastern Ontario Health Unit (Cornwall), and KFLA Public Health (Kingston) all have cases of COVID-19 infection in their communities, linked to international travel and case exposure. Locally, the Leeds-Grenville-Lanark Health Unit stresses the importance of practicing precautions to prevent the spread of the disease, particularly through social distancing. The virus is spread by a cough or a sneeze and the large particles can travel up to 6 feet. Public Health reminds us to think carefully when you go out about protecting those who could become very ill if they develop the COVID-19 infection – older age, people with heart or lung disease or diabetes. If you can avoid going out or avoid unnecessary trips, then it will help containment immensely.

The Town of Prescott will continue to monitor the ongoing situation and update the public accordingly. The Town will review these measures and update as circumstances require.

“I just want to re-assure the citizens of the Town of Prescott that we are continuing to monitor this evolving situation, and that all closures as implemented last Friday will be continuing indefinitely” said Mayor Brett Todd. “I want to reiterate that we are just at the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic locally. Please stay at home whenever possible, practice social distancing, and be aware of the vulnerable people in our community. Let’s all take care of one another.”

If you are experiencing any symptoms, please make use of the Ontario Self-Assessment Tool, telephone 1-866-797-0000, or contact the local public health unit.

As this is an evolving situation, we continue to remind people of the importance of using credible sources to stay informed, and encourage others to do the same. In order to keep up to date with official information, please refer to the following sources:

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

Public Health Ontario: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca>

Ontario COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus>

Health Canada: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

As additional information becomes available, we will provide it through the Town of Prescott website and social media platforms.

-30-

For more information, contact:  
Matthew Armstrong  
Chief Administrative Officer / Treasurer  
(613) 925-2812 Ext. 6220