



Township of Wainfleet

"Wainfleet - find your country side!"

Coronavirus Update Regarding Municipal Services

March 16, 2020, 6:00 pm

On Friday, March 13, 2020 the Township of Wainfleet partially activated its Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) in response to the spread of the COVID-19 virus in the Niagara Region, as part of best practices aimed at protecting the public and municipal staff.

On Saturday, March 14, 2020, members of the Township's Emergency Control Group, with advice from the Mayor, and with input from Councillors, proceeded with closing public facilities including the Public Library and the Arena (and Seniors Centre) effective 3:00 pm that day. The Community Hall was closed effective Sunday, March 15, 2020. Closures are currently planned to remain in effect until April 5, 2020, but the Township will be continually monitoring the situation and updates will be provided as the rapidly evolving situation unfolds.

"These decisions were made in keeping the Government of Canada's community-based measures to mitigate the spread of Coronavirus disease (COVID-19)" said Wainfleet Fire Chief, Morgan Alcock.

Following a daily meeting of the Township's Emergency Control Group this afternoon and after careful consideration and monitoring of the situation, including direction from both the federal and provincial governments, the decision was also made late today to close Town Hall effective 8:00 am on Tuesday March 17, 2020.

"At this time, Town Hall will be closed to the public, but staff will continue to operate to maintain essential operations and meet legislated requirements," said Wainfleet CAO, William Kolasa. "With the closure in mind, we will be encouraging the public to utilize alternative means of conducting any necessary municipal business," he said, referring to telephone, email/internet, and pre-authorized payments as an alternative to coming to Town Hall in person.

Any essential business which requires attendance at Town Hall must be first arranged by phone and all residents coming to such an appointment will need to be pre-screened by staff before setting an appointment.

'Essential business' is considered to be transactions which cannot be delayed and cannot be done in any other manner besides in person. "We expect these meetings to be very few in number," said Mayor Kevin Gibson. "We are asking for peoples' patience and understanding during this very difficult time and I know that we will get through this by working together."

Those needing essential services may contact the Township as follows:

Building, By-law, Fire	905-899-3463 ext 221 or tmclachlan@wainfleet.ca
Planning	905-899-3463 ext 226 or eshacklette@wainfleet.ca
Finance	905-899-3463 ext 276 or smayne@wainfleet.ca
Operations, Cemetery	905-899-3463 ext 235 or cstewart@wainfleet.ca

During the closure, the Wainfleet Public Library asks patrons not to return their materials, but to keep them at home, until further notice. "We appreciate the public's understanding and will be waiving any fines associated with the closure."

Library patrons are encouraged to access the libraries e-resources, including our digital library, via the library's website <http://www.wainfleetlibrary.ca/>. There, users will find eResources, eBooks, audiobooks, digital magazines and even online learning courses.

The Township encourages residents to check in on each other by phone and other indirect means and to seek information from official sources, such as [Niagara Region Public Health](#).

