



December 22nd, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Township services impacted by provincial lockdown

Woolwich, ON – The province's announcement that Ontario is moving to a province-wide lockdown will have an impact on programs and services provided by the Township of Woolwich. These changes are effective as of December 26th.

For Woolwich residents, this means:

- No indoor gatherings will be permitted with people outside of your household. If you live alone, you may gather with one other household
- Outdoor gatherings will be limited to 10 people with physical distancing

Essential services, such as, but not limited to, winter control/snow clearance, watermains, municipal enforcement services, building inspections, cemetery services and planning approvals will continue.

Services that will continue:

- Issuing burial permits
- Cemetery at-need sales and inquiries are by appointment only
- Funeral / graveside services continue with maximum capacity of 10
- Accepting Freedom of Information requests
- Construction projects
- All building inspections will continue, and permit applications continue to be submitted/issued via email. Fees can be paid by online payment or by cheque via our drop-box
- Planning applications will be accepted and advanced electronically with staff working remotely. All planning meetings will be held virtually.
- Accepting appeals related to property standards, hearings are electronic only
- Issuing marriage licences (subject to change depending on provincial instruction)
- Marriage ceremony requests will be considered subject to Officiant availability and safety, and in accordance with Provincial restrictions.
- Commissioning of documents will continue by appointment only based on need and subject to availability of a Commissioner.
- Hosting electronic council meetings
- Payments can still be made online, through the mail, residents can sign up for pre-authorized payments or payments can be placed in our drop-box at the Administration Building (located along Maple Street)

Recreation programs and facilities

- The Township of Woolwich recreation facilities are closed and all rentals and programs within these facilities are cancelled pending continued monitoring of provincial regulations
- Virtual programs will continue to run
- Credits and/or refunds will be available for rental customers and recreation program participants

Please read below for information on refunds and program updates:

- Refund process during COVID-19 - All customers who paid by credit card, cash, cheque or debit will have a credit applied to their account. A receipt will be emailed to each customer, should you wish a cheque be sent to you please contact us at: customerservice@woolwich.ca. **Note:** *cheques will only be issued for amounts of \$25.00 or greater and will take 10-20 days to be sent.*
- WMC Memberships - Current memberships will once again be extended for the length of the closure.
- New registration and rental bookings - Registration for winter programs and requests for new bookings have been put on hold until further notice.

Residents are encouraged to stay active by getting outside and enjoying our many parks and trails or visiting our website at www.woolwich.ca/stayactive for games, virtual fitness and other activities to keep you engaged this winter.

We thank you for your patience and encourage you to stay up to date on services affected by COVID-19 by following us on our Website, Twitter, Instagram and ActiveNet registration site.

Please check the township's website for ongoing updates: www.woolwich.ca

- 30 -

For more information please contact:

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