



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 17, 2020

**Community Message from Mayor Virginia Hackson**

COVID-19 continues to be an evolving and changing situation. Our Town remains under a State of Emergency, all Town facilities and libraries remain closed and our programming and events are suspended until June 30<sup>th</sup>.

To say we are in challenging times is an understatement. We are all affected by this global crisis, which is why, where we can, we need to help one another. One way we can do this is to support our local business community.

I take this opportunity to thank the many businesses who have adapted their operations to provide essential services and products where needed. A list of those businesses is available on our website. I also acknowledge the many businesses who may be struggling with the impacts of the extended closures and reduced traffic creating a significant financial burden and uncertain future. I want you all to know that we are here to help.

To assist our business community our Town is working hard to provide you with the supports you need to get through this. Partnering with the Northern York Region (N6) Teams a COVID-19 Business Recovery Information Centre has been created. This is a collaborative effort to ensure that you are supported and have the information and resources you need to navigate these unprecedented times.

Please visit the Town's website: [www.eastgwillimbury.ca/covidbusiness](http://www.eastgwillimbury.ca/covidbusiness) and complete a brief assessment, which will let our Team know how best to assist you. Through this site you will also have access to additional information regarding programs and supports that are available. In addition, you are encouraged to follow up with our Economic Development team who are ready and available to provide you with assistance, information, and referrals.

To all our residents I encourage you to shop local where possible. Many still offer curbside pick up options so please reach out to our businesses directly to inquire. The business community needs our help. Please remember that they are always there for us so let's be there for them now when it matters most. Please shop local.

What we do TODAY will shape what happens TOMORROW.

Please be kind and supportive and stay healthy and safe.

Virginia Hackson