



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 13, 2020

Community Message from Mayor Virginia Hackson

This past week, Council approved some interesting initiatives that I wanted to take this opportunity to share with you.

Firstly, East Gwillimbury residents and visitors can enjoy free Wi-Fi internet access outside of the Civic Centre, Holland Landing Community Centre, and Ross Family Complex. Signage and barricades have been installed at each facility that identify the location of the Wi-Fi access areas within each parking lot. Those interested in connecting to the hotspots must park in one of the designated parking spots to successfully connect to the internet and to ensure social distancing.

Another important initiative is that the Town of East Gwillimbury Council has established a \$250,000 Emergency Response Benefit to support local businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. This fund will grant eligible businesses, experiencing significant negative financial impacts up to \$10,000 each. More information and the application can be found on our website www.eastgwillimbury.ca/COVIDbusiness

As we continue in the COVID-19 crisis, I am cautiously optimistic that we are moving in a very positive direction. Reports are indicating that the number of cases in Ontario is declining and the Province is taking steps to move us all forward. Our Town is focusing on our recovery plan as well and we are continuously monitoring the Provincial announcements to ensure we are aligned and following their guidance to protect the health and safety of our employees and residents. We will continue to share our updates and steps forward as they unfold.

As we move into the long weekend, and toward what we hope will be nicer weather, if you go outdoors and perhaps take a walk along our trails, please do so while practicing physical distancing. Everyone has done a great job and we are seeing the number of cases coming down, which is a trend we want to see continue. A reminder that what our tomorrow looks like depends on the action we take today.

As always remember:

- Support our local businesses and food establishments.
- Be kind and supportive and thank front-line health and essential workers.
- Please enjoy the long weekend in a responsible and respectful way.

Virginia Hackson