



Town of East Gwillimbury

MEMORANDUM

To: Council

Date: June 23, 2020

Subject: COVID-19 Update #6

Origin: COVID-19 Control Group

COVID-19 Control Group Updates

The COVID-19 Control Group continues to meet on a regular and is in communications with all Members of Council, neighbouring municipalities and York Region. The group also continues to work closely with Provincial and York Region Public Health Officials regarding this public health crisis.

The Town remains under a state of emergency and continues to monitor the Federal and Provincial updates with respect to the phased approach for a safe restart of economy.

Province Extends Emergency Orders until June 30, 2020

The Ontario government has extended the all emergency orders until June 30, 2020 to ensure the government continues to have the necessary tools to safely and gradually reopen the province, while continuing to support frontline health care workers and protect vulnerable populations from COVID-19. This now aligns with the State of Emergency which was also extended until June 30, 2020.

The Ontario government plans to extend its COVID-19 state of emergency to July 15, 2020. The motion will be debated in the Legislature (week of June 22nd) and will be voted on afterwards.

The government will continue to review the emergency orders on an ongoing, case-by-case basis to determine when and if they can safely be adjusted or lifted, as part of the province's framework to safely reopen the province.

York Region to move to Phase Two of Reopening

On Monday, June 15, 2020, the Province of Ontario announced that York Region Public Health area would enter into Phase Two of the government's reopening framework as of Friday, June 19. This step allowed additional businesses and services such as restaurants, hair salons and malls to reopen.

York Region was listed as part of the second wave of regions to enter Phase Two due to positive trends of key public health indicators at the local level, including lower transmission of COVID-19, sufficient hospital health system capacity, local public health capacity to assist with rapid case and contact management, and a significant increase in testing provincially.

Splash Pads, Community Centres and Libraries Permitted to Open With Limited Access As Part of Phase Two

As part of Phase Two, a number of municipal amenities are now permitted to reopen further including:

Libraries – Libraries can reopen with limited on-site services, such as computer access and contactless book pickup and drop-off. EGPL will continue to offer programs and services virtually in this next stage. The Summer Reading Club will kick off July 3 with live stream storytimes, activities with the Sharon Temple and LSRCA and remote reading club registration. To support the summer reading club, the Library will be offering portable program kits for cardholders. Kits contain material and instructions to follow along with activities led by library staff throughout the summer. Please visit egpl.ca for details.

Community Centres - Limited or modified on-site programs and services that follow workplace guidance and public health advice. Recreational activities are restricted at indoor facilities, but spaces can be used for other programs and services such as physically distanced in person counselling, group counselling, computer access, education and tutoring. Further details have been provided in Community Parks, Recreation and Culture Memo dated June 23, 2020, entitled COVID-19 Programs and Permitting.

Outdoor Recreational Team Sports - Outdoor team sports may resume, if physically distanced, for training only and with no scrimmages or games. The Town is allowing bookings at tennis courts, league play with East Gwillimbury Tennis Club, and the return to soccer with East Gwillimbury Soccer Club at limited fields, and for physically distanced training and groups of 10.

Splash Pads – May open to the public with no access to high contact features. Town staff are working Public Health to review the strategic opening of Splash Pads with the proper precautions and signage.

Note: Playgrounds, play structures and outdoor fitness equipment will remain closed.

CPRC has provided a further update memo on programs and permits under COVID-19 CPRC Memo Program and Permit Update.

Summer Camp Update – CPRC has launched staff training with Camp Counselors and is developing a Build Back Better Summer Camp option in order to respond to the potential opening of our municipal facilities for programming. Review of the financial and risk management implications in offering this scaled back camp option is still underway. CPRC with The Sharon Temple and East Gwillimbury Public Library are currently creating “Camp in a Box”, a take home box of activities to keep our community active and engaged from the comfort of their own home.

Social Circles Can Now be Up To 10 People

The government of Ontario is now allowing people to create social circles of up to 10 people who can interact without physical distancing. This will help with social isolation and allow people to connect with close friends and family, while still allowing for rapid contact tracing in the event of a case of COVID-19 in a social circle. The Province has provided guidelines on how to properly expand your bubble as restrictions surrounding interacting with a larger group are eased. For more information visit www.ontario.ca/socialcircles.

Operating Financial Impacts

Town staff have analyzed the financial impacts of the pandemic to the end of August 2020 and have identified measures to offset these impacts. Details regarding this analysis are outlined in Administration Report ADMIN 2020-05 dated June 23, 2020, titled COVID-19 Financial Impact Update.

Recovery Plan Status Update

The Town’s Recovery Team continues to work on the 100-day plan and to gather relevant information from all divisions to ensure all operating requirements are met for the purpose of returning staff to a safe work environment.

Additionally, the Town’s consultant is currently developing a draft report on the after-action review (the operations of the Emergency Operation Centre) to be brought back to the COVID-19 Control Group in July 2020.

Long-term Care Facility Outbreak Update

As of June 2, 2020, it was reported that the Town had two additional outstanding outbreaks at Long Term Care Facilities. One of these has now been declared over, and one is outstanding. The total closed COVID-19 Institutional Outbreaks is now eight. The Town now has a total of 51 confirmed cases through institutional outbreaks.