

TOWN PAGE

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

This past Saturday, a tragic incident unfolded in Mount Albert which has affected our entire Town. On behalf of Council, I extend to the victims, family, friends, and neighbours our deepest condolences, and sympathies.

I want to acknowledge the first responders who attended the scene - our own East Gwillimbury Emergency Services fire crews, York Region paramedics and York Regional Police. These are difficult calls to manage and I know there will be a lasting affect for those on scene and I encourage everyone to take the necessary steps to reach out for the support needed.

Many will feel the impact of the events in the days, weeks, and months ahead. We are working with community partners and agencies to coordinate counselling services for our residents. I encourage everyone to access the supports needed during this difficult time. Information related to mental health supports are available on the Town's website including:

- Mindbeacon.com - Free mental health support for Ontario residents.
- Victim Service of York Region - 24/7 crisis counselling at 905-953-5363
- Dcontario.org - Distress Centre's available via phone or a web chat function
- Kids Help Phone - 1-800-668-6868 or text CONNECT to 686868 for youth mental health support

East Gwillimbury is a small Town with a big heart, and this is what will move us forward through such a tragedy. Please be supportive and kind.

My office is always available if you require further assistance.

Virginia Hackson

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS - FEB. 2, 2021

COVID-19 Update - Vaccine rollout plans are currently being developed by York Region and the Town is in support of these efforts where possible. EG is also partnering with Georgina on an application under the Rural Economic Development Program to establish a business incubation program that will support local entrepreneurs and encourage growth of rural businesses. More information will be shared as this project develops. For additional updates regarding COVID-19 visit www.eastgwillimbury.ca/COVID19

Former Overholt Pit - Fill Application - Please be advised that Town staff continue to follow up with regards to the former Overholt Pit Fill Application. A report for Council's consideration will be brought forward to the 6 p.m. Council meeting on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 for further consideration. Further details will be provided through the Agenda, which will be available at noon on February 11, 2021 at www.eastgwillimbury.ca/agendas

Operations Centre - The Town's new Operations Centre construction is anticipated to be complete in March. The facility will be the home of the new works yard, currently located behind the Sports Complex and staff will be moving into the facility in the spring. To learn more about the facility, visit www.eastgwillimbury.ca/projects.

Self Serve Portal - The Town has now launched an online portal to provide residents with online access to tax and water accounts. Future stages of this program include ebilling where residents can choose to receive email or paper bills. This will assist when the Town moves to monthly billing later this year. The final phase of the program will enable the Town to add online payments for items such as the water and tax bills, pet licensing and municipal tickets.

Carwash Site Plan Application - Council asked staff to provide additional details regarding the environmental impacts of a future potential carwash to be located at the Ultramar gas station on Leslie Street.

Routes Connecting Communities Inc. - Routes goal is to improve access to basic needs and special destinations, such as a doctor's appointment for seniors and others who require assistance. They also offer friendly calls. If you know someone who could benefit from this program please visit routesc.org.

Virtual Public Meeting

A public meeting is being held for Sharonvit Estates Inc. The Official Plan Amendment and Zoning-By-law Amendment will be discussed during the February 17 Council Meeting at 6 p.m. The public is welcome to provide feedback during the meeting by phone, video conference or in writing. To provide feedback, please email the Town Clerk at clerks@eastgwillimbury.ca by February 17 at 5 p.m.

▶ **Watch live at:**
<https://eastgwillimbury.civicweb.net/Portal/>

▶ **If you miss the meetings you can watch them at:**
<http://youtube.com/user/TownEastGwillimbury>

PUBLIC NOTICES

FAMILY DAY HOURS

Customer Service will be closed on Monday, February 15 for Family Day and re-open on Tuesday, February 16 at 8:30 a.m. If you have an emergency with regards to water, sewers, roads, or parks, please call 905-478-4282.

HAPPY CHINESE NEW YEAR

Chinese New Year in 2021 marks the Year of Ox and is celebrated by the Chinese culture and many other East Asian cultures. In the Chinese Zodiac, the ox is a very hardworking and energetic animal. 2021 is going to be a year of rewards for hard work. May the Year of the Ox bring you and your family strength to overcome challenges and accomplish achievements. May peace, joy and happiness surround you and your loved ones.

COYOTE SIGHTINGS

The Town has received reports of coyote sightings in residential areas in EG. Remember, if you encounter a coyote, keep your distance and keep pets on a leash. If the coyote is aggressive:

1. Stop and pick up small children and pets.
2. Shout loudly, wave your arms high in the air or use whistles.
3. Back away slowly while remaining calm.
4. Never run or turn your back on a coyote.

SPRING & SUMMER PHOTOS WANTED

Share your photos with us to be featured in the next Health & Active Living Guide! Please email your photos submissions to communications@eastgwillimbury.ca by Feb. 12.

TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE -KENNEDY ROAD

Kennedy Road will be closed 410 metres north of Davis Drive to the road end at the Bendore and Graves York Regional Forest Tract, from Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2021 at 6 a.m. to Friday Feb. 26, 2021 at 3 p.m. This is required to complete sustainable tree harvesting at Bendore and Graves Tract. The forest will be open on weekends and Family Day. Visit www.york.ca/yrf for more information.

BUSINESS FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

The Economic Development team is available to help businesses navigate the programs and resources that are available to them during this challenging time. New programs are being announced frequently and updated our website at www.eastgwillimbury.ca/covidbusiness

NEW - 2021 Business Support Program - Central Counties Tourism will reimburse up to 50 per cent of paid expenses (maximum of \$15,000) incurred beginning April 1, 2020 for businesses in the hospitality and recreation sectors. Eligible costs include, but not limited to, implementation of health and safety protocols, PPE and cleaning supplies, marketing and communication costs and digital tools.

Ontario Small Business Support Grant - Starting at \$10,000 for all eligible businesses, the grant provides businesses with funding to a maximum of \$20,000 to help cover decreased revenue because of the Province-wide Shutdown (effective December 26, 2020).

DO YOU NEED HELP TO SELF-ISOLATE?

A York Region COVID-19 Voluntary Isolation Centre is now available for residents who cannot safely self-isolate away from others in their household. There is no cost to stay at the Centre and the stay is entirely voluntary. Eligible residents can self-isolate at the Centre for up to 14 days with meals and snacks provided free of charge. Visit york.ca/IsolationCentre



EG FAMILY FUNDAY
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2021

JOIN THE TOWN OF EAST GWILLIMBURY FOR A VIRTUAL FAMILY FUN DAY EVENT THAT CAN BE ENJOYED IN-PERSON AND ONLINE.

CRAFTS SILVER LINING CONTEST
WE GOT GAME *
VIRTUAL PROGRAMS *
OUTDOOR SKATING *
*REGISTRATION REQUIRED

REGISTRATION OPENS FEBRUARY 1

11 - 11:45 a.m.	→ Karate
12:30 - 12:45 p.m.	→ Family Fitness
1:30 - 2:15 p.m.	→ Karate
2:30 - 3:15 p.m.	→ Family Yoga

VISIT WWW.EASTGWILLIMBURY.CA/FAMILYDAY FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER!
ACTIVITIES ARE ALL FREE AND ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

St. James Anglican Church Food Pantry - Open every Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to noon, located at 18804 Leslie St., Sharon. Winter clothes for adults and children are also available. Please call 905-478-1959 to make arrangements for pick-up.

EG Chamber Of Commerce Session - Join the Chamber on Feb. 16 from 8 to 9:30 a.m. for a virtual networking and coffee chat. Learn tax season tips and more! Visit <http://ow.ly/OYCD50DuEYc> to register.

EG Gardeners Meeting - Feb. 16 at 7 p.m., join Cathy Kavassalis discussing "Herbs, from Savory to Sensual & Deadly Poison". Please email eggardeners@gmail.com to register for the session.