

Township of McKellar

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April 3, 2020

We hope you and your family are keeping healthy during these difficult times. McKellar Council and staff have been busy taking the necessary actions to keep everyone informed, safe and healthy.

We continue to hold regular meetings with our local and area Community Emergency Management Committees - to ensure we are all working together to keep West Parry Sound safe.

We understand that the situation changes daily - for updated information, please refer to:

- www.township.mckellar.on.ca
- www.parrysound.ca
- www.facebook.com/mckellar.township
- [Twitter.com/townparrysound](https://twitter.com/townparrysound)
- www.wpshc.com
- www.NorthBayDistrictParrySoundHealthUnit
- Google COVID-19

Realizing not everyone has email access, this letter will be mailed to all ratepayers to ensure everyone is informed regarding municipal services, preventative measures, ways to keep informed and be safe.

On March 12 we closed the municipal office, cancelled all public meetings, special events and programs until further notice while reducing normal services. On Friday March 26 we officially declared a state of emergency to ensure we can act quickly with emergency meetings and measures.

We have circulated numerous notices regarding COVID-19 on our website and the MLCA website. Recently, a new McKellar Township Facebook page was created. A letter from the Mayor was posted March 24 and another notice regarding our State of Emergency was posted on March 27.

We all have a responsibility to take personal measures to stay safe and prevent the spread of COVID-19. Council and staff are encouraging everyone to take the COVID-19 pandemic very seriously. We are requesting everyone to act responsibly to ensure we all stay safe and healthy. Please keep yourself informed as to proactive preventative measures – keeping a distance, staying at home, washing hands and getting tested if symptomatic.

- You are advised to stay home unless absolutely necessary.
- If you have travelled outside of Canada lately, you must self-isolate yourself for 14 days.
- If you have been in contact with anyone with known COVID-19 symptoms, stay home in self-isolation for 14 days.
- If you are coming from an area with COVID-19 cases, it is recommended that you stay home and do not travel.

- If you have symptoms, you can take a self-test through the COVID-19 community information package available online through the West Parry Sound Hospital or pick up a package at the McKellar Post Office Lobby or Fire Hall #1 located on Sharon Park Drive.
- If you are symptomatic, call 705-746-4540 extension 5030 to make an appointment to be tested at the new assessment centre located in the Parry Sound Mall.

Concrete actions that the Township of McKellar has taken to date:

- cancelling all programs and special events until further notice
- closing municipal facilities to the public – including the municipal office, the library, community centre, rink, playgrounds, parks and public washrooms
- allowing some municipal services to continue via phone call, email or through our drop box outside the library
- limiting car access to the transfer station to one car at a time - please be patient
- temporarily closing public works operations
- looking at ways to hold special meetings to resolve matters of an emergency nature
- removing any late fee penalty for property taxes for 30 days until Council can meet to consider extending this date

McKellar has always had an excellent sense of community. We continue to look for ways to assist the citizens of our community. We have many volunteers who enhance our quality of life. We do have citizens in need. Please check on your neighbours to see if they need help and help out where you can. You can contact the Rotary and Sobeys to help pick up and deliver food to those in need. Visit www.parrysound.ca/help or call 705-996-0716 to request assistance. In short, help yourselves and neighbours to keep safe and COVID-19 free.

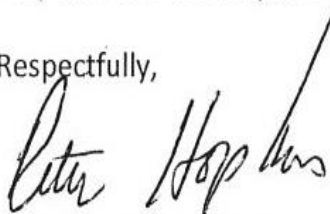
We would like to sincerely thank all those on the front lines for helping deal with this issue. Our volunteer firefighters continue to respond to emergencies.

Please take the COVID-19 pandemic seriously and take all the necessary and responsible actions to keep you and your neighbours safe. It is impossible to predict when we will return to a normal way of life. Hopefully we can get through this issue together. You are not alone.

If you wish to contact me, I can be reached by telephone at 705-389-2228, or email at pdhopkins@lycos.com

Stay safe and act responsibly.

Respectfully,



Mayor Peter Hopkins
On behalf of Council

If you wish to share your email contact information with the office in order to receive further notices, and save mailing costs, please send it to our Clerk Administrator Tammy Wylie – clerk@township.mckellar.on.ca