

For Immediate Release

Tuesday, March 17, 2020



MESSAGE FROM MAYOR FRANK CAMPION ON COVID-19

I would like to take this opportunity to let you know that the City of Welland is closely monitoring the COVID-19 outbreak in Niagara and across the country.

While Niagara Region Public Health is advising that the risk of contracting the virus is still low, the city is focused on efforts to protect staff, their families, and the public from potential exposure to COVID-19.

Welland's Leadership Team which meets daily, has partially activated the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) to give full attention to mitigating any issues or concerns with providing essential emergency services to Welland's residential and business communities.

City Hall, Fire Halls, Public Works Building and Transit Buildings, with exception of the downtown Transit Terminal are closed to the public as of 4:30 p.m. March 17. The City's team of dedicated staff continues to work and is committed to provide essential/emergency services and stay connected to the public. All departments can be reached via telephone or email during regular office hours. City staff will continue to issue building permits for **new construction** and asks applicants to make appointments by telephone to the Building Division.

The City's Emergency Management Team is in close contact with upper-tier governments and public health agencies and is compliant with all provincial, federal and public health directives and advice. Staying connected to, and working together will ensure the best outcome and limit the spread of COVID-19.

Our team is constantly monitoring the evolving science and best practices coming from public health agencies and all levels of government. We are aware, flexible, efficient and effective in administering practices and procedures that ensure public safety, delivery of essential services, and business continuity at City Hall.

For more information on City of Welland facility closures and how to reach staff, visit <https://www.welland.ca/hottopics/COVID-19.asp> or for more information on how to protect yourself from COVID-19, visit <https://www.niagararegion.ca/health/covid-19/default.aspx?topic=1>.

-30-

Contact:

Theresa Ettorre, Administrative Assistant to the Mayor
mayor@welland.ca
Phone: (905)735-1700 Ext. 2101