

Town of Gananoque – Municipal Communication #7

Premier Ford has announced initial steps in reopening the Province of Ontario. It is a gradual approach that has been described as three stages with public health and safety being the number of concern. With that we have seen certain businesses and workplaces permitted to be open and further expansions in the upcoming days. Businesses will be required to follow public health measures and workplace safety guidelines as they prepare for re-openings.

In keeping with Ontario's steps to "re-open the economy", the Mayor and Members of Council are also looking at an Economic and Tourism Recovery Plan. Council has passed a motion to hire a contract employee to create/implement a plan to seek funding programs, work with stakeholders, plan and implement post COVID events, and create appropriate branding and marketing campaigns all in a safe manner.

Check out "12 WAYS TO PHYSICAL DISTANCE IN STYLE THIS SPRING!" at www.gananoque.ca/covid-19-coronavirus-information. Please continue to refer to the Town's website for the most up to date information from the Town including municipal communications and business resources and support.



<https://www.gananoque.ca/love-community-shop-local>



#sunflowers1000islands

Childrens' Photo Contest



@townofgananoque or
#townofgananoque
Contest runs Apr.25-May 10

The closure of Town buildings has been extended at this time to May 12th, 2020 in keeping with the Provincial Orders.

Regular Council Meetings continue to be held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday. The next scheduled meeting is May 19, 2020 at 1:00 PM Via Telephone and Video Conference. Please reference the Agenda for details on how to connect to the meeting.

Boat Launch, Ramps and Water Access Points

- At the meeting of May 5, 2020, Council approved the re-opening of Lions' Launch at Kate Street/St. Lawrence Street as of Thursday May 7th. Boaters must take precautions including social distancing while launching your boat. The Gananoque Municipal Marina launch remains closed however truck and trailer parking is available at the marina until such time as it is open to customers.
- Other locations may be found on the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority website for other options. https://crca.ca/conservation-lands/boat-ramps-and-water-access-points/?fbclid=IwAR3c-Ho_q80wF-Q5sx8rV2a7MYfva0MkDCKPrmBHIDNobL2Owtv_flo-S6M

Community Planning and Development – Building, By-law Enforcement, Planning

- Staff continue to be available for all building permit, planning, bylaw enforcement questions or inquiries.
- Approved building permit applications will be issued a Building Permit, however, applicants are reminded that the actual work must wait until the Provincial Prohibition Order has been lifted.
- Please be advised that the issuance of a permit is subject to all restrictions and prohibitions under the law. More specifically, this permit does not mean that construction can be carried out in contravention of any Act, Regulation and/or provincial order prohibiting construction deemed non-essential.

Community Services – Parks & Recreation, Marina, Arena, Economic Development & Tourism Services

- Municipal Parks and Playgrounds are closed as per Premier Ford's Emergency Order. This includes all sports fields, the dog park, the BMX Park and the Skate Board Park. Playground structures have been cordoned off.
- Trails remain open for citizens to use in a responsible manner. Health officials encourage fresh air and exercise during the Pandemic, however the public must use precautions including social-distancing and no gathering. The public is encouraged to use the trails safely and enjoy the new Story Walk that was installed by the Frontenac Arch Biosphere.
- Municipal Marina The marina and boat launch at the marina remain closed (Lion's Launch ramp is open). Staff are onsite at the marina responding to customer inquiries and preparing for the season once the province provides approval for opening. For marina inquiries please contact 613-382-2149 ext.1414.
- Economic Development is here to help. We have developed a dedicated Business Support webpage that provides a snapshot of business resources and relief programming as they become available. We have also created a shop local webpage that outlines the businesses that are currently open to serve their customers. Visit <https://www.gananoque.ca/business-support> or contact the Business Development Coordinator at 613-382-2149 ext.1125
- Visitor Centre is currently closed however staff are responding to inquiries. Visit <https://www.gananoque.ca/explore-gananoque/gananoque-and-the-1000-islands-visitors-centre> or call 613-382-8044.

Emergency Services

IF YOU ARE EXPERIENCING AN EMERGENCY, PLEASE CALL 911

Fire Department

- Fire Chief Steve Tiernan would like to advise, that the County of Leeds and Grenville Fire Chiefs will be lifting the Fire Ban effective Friday, May 8, 2020 at 8:00am.
 - Residents must still obtain an Outdoor Fireplace Permit before having a fire. Inspection for receiving a permit can be made by calling the Gananoque Fire Service 613-382-3334 if you do not already have a permit. Having a fire without a permit may lead to charges being levied.
 - COVID-19 Provincial Orders do remain in effect. This includes no gatherings of more than 5 people and adhering to physical distancing.
 - The Fire Chief and the Firefighters at the Gananoque Fire Service, would like to thank everyone for abiding by the Fire Ban and helping flatten the curve and protecting our Firefighters.
- Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
 - Ontario's Fire Marshal is urging all Ontarians to follow the recommendations of medical and health professionals on how to use and clean personal protective equipment (PPE) and stresses that microwave ovens should never be used to sterilize a face mask.
 - "Heating a face mask in a microwave, in an effort to decontaminate it, is a potential fire risk and should never be done," said Jon Pegg, Ontario Fire Marshal, in response to suggestions that microwaves can be used to sterilize masks for re-use.
 - Microwave ovens are not designed to heat cloth materials, so there is a risk of the mask overheating and catching fire. Many disposable masks also have a metal nose wire or staples holding the straps which can cause sparks or a fire if heated in a microwave.

Police Services

- The Gananoque Police Services reminds all persons who will be accessing the launch ramp on St Lawrence St. that physical distancing rules still apply. All persons in the area should adhere to the current rules in an effort to keep those around you safe.
- Further to the launch ramp opening, persons operating vessels on the river should ensure that all safety equipment is present in the vessel and that all persons wear a life jacket to prevent serious incidents.
- The Gananoque Police Service is happy to report that there have been very few incidents investigated related to Covid 19. This is a credit to the members of our community who strive to make Gananoque as safe as possible while we all work through this pandemic. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed by members of the Gananoque Police Service and we thank you for that.

Finance Department

- Water and Sewer Bills: The Town will not be issuing the 2nd Quarter Utility bills in May 2020. Gananoque was in the midst of the Town wide water meter replacement program when the Pandemic hit. Less than half of the meters have been replaced at this point.
 - The 3rd Quarter billing cycle is scheduled for August 2020. This does not mean that customers will not be billed for water and wastewater services consumed during this time period. The bill that is issued in August will include 6 months of consumption and flat rate fees.
 - Customers are encouraged to continue to make average utility payments through online/telephone banking, by mail or drop off cheques at Town Hall.
 - Join the monthly payment plan.
<https://www.gananoque.ca/sites/gananoque.ca/files/Pre-Authorized-Utility-Billing-Quarterly.pdf>
 - Questions? Contact the Utility Administrator 613-382-2149 x1117 or utilitybills@gananoque.ca

Public Works – Roads, Water and Sewer

- Garbage Collection: Reminder that one (1) bag of curbside waste per household per week will be accepted without a bag tag for a period of two months from March 30 to June 1, 2020.
- Curbside brush collection commenced the week of April 20th, 2020 and has concluded. The site located on James A Brennan Road is available as per below for residents convenience.
- Curbside leaf and yard waste collection started the week of April 27th and will conclude the week of May 11th, 2020. The site located on James A Brennan Road is available as per below for residents convenience.
- Residential drop-off of leaf, yard waste, brush, and scrap steel is now available at the end of James A Brennan Road, Wednesdays and Saturdays from 8:00am to Noon

The Town will continue to accommodate your requests, however, delays may occur, and we apologize in advance and thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Municipal Staff:

- Shellee Fournier, CAO (sfournier@gananoque.ca or 613-382-2149 ext.1113)
- Melanie Kirkby, Treasurer (mkirkby@gananoque.ca or 613 382-2149 ext.1124)
- Penny Kelly, Clerk/CEMC (clerk@gananoque.ca or 613 382-2149 ext.1120)
- Kari Lambe, Mgr of Community Services (RecManager@gananoque.ca or 613 382-2149 ext.1127)
- Paul McMunn, Mgr of Public Works (pwmanager@gananoque.ca or 613 382-2149 ext.1615)
- Steve Tiernan, Fire Chief (firechief@gananoque.ca or 613 382-3334)
- Garry Hull, Police Chief (ghull@gananoquepolice.com or 613-382-4422)
- Brenda Guy, Mgr of Planning and Development (bguy@gananoque.ca or 613-382-2149 ext.1126)