

Media Release

For Immediate Release

Enhanced Province Wide Shutdown and Stay-at-Home-Order - West Perth Operations

January 13, 2021 - The Province of Ontario has declared a second state of emergency, and issued a [stay-at-home order](#) (effective January 14, 2021) in response to rising COVID-19 cases. West Perth continues to assess the situation and interpret the rules surrounding Ontario's emergency declaration. The Municipality has already modified a number of operations and services in accordance with the previous order and we are making further adjustments to respond to the enhanced lockdown measures. In general, Municipal Operations will continue with some adjustments to staff deployment to further protect staff and comply with the enhanced order. Specific services will be adjusted as follows:

1. West Perth recreation facilities remain closed. Given the length of this shut down, the cost to sustain ice and the limited prospects for return to semi-normal ice rental use, the ice is being removed. This effectively marks the end to the Winter 2021 ice season as it would be cost prohibitive to re-install ice for a short season and due to the age of our facility, spring and summer ice operations are not feasible.
2. Water and Wastewater, Landfill and Road Operations will continue with the measures that are currently in place. We continue to recommend that residents use curbside pickup services and limit trips to the landfill.
3. The Municipal Administration Office remains closed and staff are available to answer inquiries by phone or email.
4. Building permit and inspection services are continuing. It is noted that further clarification is anticipated from the Province which may lead to the need for some adjustment to these services.
5. Fire response, prevention and education services will continue as already modified.
6. The West Perth Library continues to offer curbside service.

We also note the following for West Perth residents and businesses:

- If you have questions about what will be open or impacts to your business or employment, call the Stop the Spread Business Information Line at 1-888-444-3659.
- The Province has updated the list of [supports available to businesses and workers during the COVID-19 pandemic](#).
- Please see the [Guidance and Direction from the Province summary](#), which includes a list of limitations by business sector.
- If you are a health care or other frontline worker whose children are enrolled in school and are in need of **emergency child care** due to the school closures, please call City of Stratford Early Years Coordinator at 519-271-3773 extension 404 for up-to-date information on eligibility, child care sites, and registration.

- If you are a Perth County low-income resident who is struggling to pay your rent and are at risk of eviction, there are programs available to provide financial assistance for arrears related to rental costs and utility costs. Contact the Social Services Department at 519-271-3773 extension 200 to see if you are eligible for assistance.

For Further Information:

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