



Staff Report

Report Title: Emergency Management Update (21)

Prepared By: Emily Dance, Clerk

Department: Clerk

Date: Jul. 5, 2021

Report Number: CLK-2021-07-79

File Number:

P03-COV20

Attachments:

Recommendation:

That the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report Number CLK-2021-07-79 prepared by Emily Dance, Clerk

Background:

Province of Ontario

On June 24, 2021 the Province announced that with the key health and health care indicators continuing to improve, the provincewide vaccination rate now surpassing the targets outlined in the province's Roadmap to Reopen, and on the recommendation of the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Ontario government would move the province into Step Two of its Roadmap to Reopen on Wednesday, June 30, 2021.

Step Two of the Roadmap focuses on the resumption of more outdoor activities and limited indoor services with small numbers of people where face coverings are worn, with other restrictions in place. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Outdoor social gatherings and organized public events with up to 25 people;
- Indoor social gatherings and organized public events with up to 5 people;
- Essential and other select retail permitted at 50 per cent capacity;
- Non-essential retail permitted at 25 per cent capacity;
- Personal care services where face coverings can be worn at all times, and at 25 per cent capacity and other restrictions;
- Outdoor dining with up to 6 people per table, with exceptions for larger households and other restrictions;
- Indoor religious services, rites, or ceremonies, including wedding services and funeral services permitted at up to 25 per cent capacity of the particular room;
- Outdoor fitness classes limited to the number of people who can maintain 3 metres of physical distance;

- Outdoor sports without contact or modified to avoid contact, with no specified limit on number of people or teams participating, with restrictions;
- Overnight camps for children operating in a manner consistent with the safety guidelines produced by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health;
- Outdoor sport facilities with spectators permitted at 25 per cent capacity;
- Outdoor concert venues, theatres and cinemas, with spectators permitted at 25 per cent capacity;
- Outdoor horse racing and motor speedways, with spectators permitted at 25 per cent capacity;
- Outdoor fairs, rural exhibitions, festivals, permitted at 25 per cent capacity and with other restrictions.

Ontario may remain in Step Two for a period of approximately 21 days to allow the most recent vaccinations to reach their full effectiveness and to evaluate any impacts of moving to Step Two on key public health and health care indicators.

As information changes frequently we are encouraging everyone to visit the [Provincial Website](#) to learn more about the restrictions in effect.

Grey Bruce Health Unit

The Grey Bruce Health Unit has witnessed a sustained increase in COVID-19 cases in the past week, however, on June 29, 2021 the Health Unit posted in a [news release](#) that

“Grey Bruce is witnessing a slowing down in the rate of new cases connected with the recent surge of COVID-19 cases locally. The origins and the majority of cases associated with this surge can be traced to specific sectors of the community. The Delta variants appears to be driving the surge. Similar additional surges may be possible based on the experience of Delta in other locations where it is already widespread. COVID-19 remains a serious threat to unvaccinated adults, especially those middle-aged or older.”

Vaccines

The Grey Bruce Health Unit has requested massive shipments of vaccine from the province over the coming weeks. The goal is to have everyone in Grey Bruce with either their first or second vaccination by the end of July.

These incoming vaccine supplies would be directed to larger numbers of daily mass immunization clinics being held in the three Hockey Hubs across Grey Bruce.

The Grey Bruce Health Unit has a [dedicated webpage](#) that outlines how you can book an appointment in Grey Bruce

Discussion:

The global COVID-19 pandemic has been on-going since March 2020 with the Township of Huron-Kinloss being in a State of Emergency since March 23, 2020.

The Municipal Emergency Control Group (MECG) and Planning and Operations Group continue to meet weekly to assess changes in the pandemic and provide the required response when necessary.

Staff continues to monitor the changes making the necessary modifications when required.

The current modification to our services, including the Municipal Office being open by appointment only will remain as a result of the extension of the emergency and stay at home order.

Staff continues to update the website, deliver news releases, social media posts, electronic newsletters and hard copy newsletter to keep the residents informed on the pandemic and any modifications to services.

Financial Impacts:

The financial impacts related to the pandemic are not known at this time.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

We are an accessible community by being open and transparent.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Emily Dance, Clerk

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer