



Staff Report

Report Title: Implementing a Face Covering By-Law – County of Bruce and Grey

Prepared By: Emily Dance, Clerk

Department: Clerk

Date: Sep. 21, 2020

Report Number: CLK-2020-09-76

File Number:

Attachments:

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council hereby receives for information Report CLK-2020-09-76 prepared by Emily Dance, Clerk

Background:

With the provincial re-opening Stage 3 on July 17, 2020, Dr. Arra, the Grey Bruce Health Unit Medical Officer of Health implemented an order under Section 22 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act for all commercial establishment in Grey Bruce to the fullest extent possible to:

- Ensure effective measures are in place to maintain physical distancing of 2 metres amongst all employees and clients;
- Ensure the availability of alcohol-based hand run at all entrances and exits; and.
- Make the best effort (verbal) to restrict persons from entering the premises or remaining within the premises if not wearing a face covering.

To note turning away or refusing a customer is not required under the order.

The order was in place for four weeks (28 calendar days) and has since been extended on August 14, 2020 and again on September 11, 2020 for 28 calendar days to October 9, 2020.

County Councils of Bruce and Grey have been in discussions with the Grey Bruce Public Health Unit regarding the establishment of a face covering by-law that would be consistent across the jurisdiction of the Health Unit if/when the Health Unit order has expired.

Enacting a by-law at the County level will provide a continuing and consistent message to the residents and visitors of Bruce and Grey. This type of by-law allows the County and lower-tier municipalities to take enforcement action and streamline any prosecution and demonstrates a united front in the commitment to COVID-19 infection prevention and public safety.

Discussion:

A draft by-law has been developed collaboratively by Grey and Bruce Counties, in consultation with both Dr. Arra and legal counsel for both counties.

The County of Grey discussed enacting a public non-medical masking by-law at the July 23, 2020 Council meeting. Report can be read

<file:///C:/Users/edance/Downloads/CAOR-CW-12-20%20Public%20Masking%20Bylaw.pdf>

The County of Bruce discussed the draft by-law at the Executive Committee meeting on September 17, 2020. Report outlining details on the proposed by-law can be found

<https://pub-brucecounty.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=11595>

As noted, the enforcement of the by-law would fall to the lower tier. It is recognized that the Ministry of Health Unit order has been generally well adhered to in our community and across the county. No enforcement issues have been noted by the Health Unit or the OPP at the MECG meetings

Financial Impacts:

There are no financial impacts related to this report.

Strategic Alignment / Link:

We are a spirited community that takes pride in calling Huron-Kinloss home.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Emily Dance, Clerk

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer