Huron-Kinloss

The Corporation of the Township of Huron-Kinloss

Staff Report

Report Title: Emergency Management Update (35)

Prepared By: Emily Dance, Clerk

Department: CLERK

Date: Mar. 7, 2022

Report Number: CLK-2022-03-22 File Number: P03-COV20

Attachments: Grey Bruce Public Health Memorandum February 25, 2022

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Committee of the Whole hereby receives for information Report CLK-2022-03-22 prepared by Emily Dance, Clerk.

Background:

Province of Ontario

As announced by the provincial government earlier this month, public health restrictions imposed in light of COVID-19 were modified on March 1, 2022 with all regions in Ontario moving into the Roadmap Exit Step of the province's Reopening Plan. Notedly, the Roadmap Exit Step does not have a requirement that persons must provide proof of vaccination in order to gain access to any business or organization. However, businesses and other settings may choose to continue to require proof of vaccination.

Current masking requirements continue to apply in the Roadmap Exit Step and businesses and organizations must ensure they have a safety plan available that describes the measures and procedures which have been implemented or will be implemented in the business to reduce the transmission risk of COVID-19.

Grey Bruce Health Unit

On February 25, 2022 the Grey Bruce Health Unit posted a <u>News Release</u> rescinding the self-isolation Class Order that was issued on April 16, 2021 that contained requirements for self-isolation related to COVID-19.

In addition, Dr. Ian Arra, Medical Officer of Health sent a memorandum to all businesses in Grey and Bruce Counties regarding modified recommendations on

Workplace COVID-19 Vaccination Policies. Dr. Arra noted that "for non-high-risk settings it would be helpful to continue to encourage and support vaccinations (moving to a third dose as being desirable) but would not be continuing to recommend that all workplaces universally have a vaccination policy at this time." Dr. Arra further explains that "workplaces should consider their risk of transmission and medical vulnerability of employees/clients and to be aware that circumstances may change and as such, their recommendations may also change."

A Community vaccination is scheduled for the Ripley Community Centre on March 25, 2022, from 1:00 pm – 6:00 pm. First and second doses are available for anyone 5 to 18. First, second and third doses and if eligible forth does are available for anyone 18 years or older. Walk ins are welcome but appointments are recommended. Online: Ontario.ca/bookvaccine, Phone: 1-833-943-3900

Discussion:

In keeping with the lifting of some COVID-19 restrictions by the Province of Ontario, as of Tuesday March 1, 2022, facilities in the Township of Huron-Kinloss no longer requires proof of vaccination to enter. The facilities moved towards a passive screening process, with each person entering a facility being required to self-screen based on information posted at facility entrances.

Protective measures, such as wearing masks or other face coverings will continue. Enhanced cleaning measures continue, including sanitizing and disinfecting high touch surfaces and common areas such as washrooms.

The Municipal Emergency Control Group (MECG) and the Planning and Operations Committee continue to meet and will review the changes in regulations and recommendations and make the necessary modifications to services and procedures.

Financial Impacts:

The total 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