



Staff Report

Report Title: Emergency Management Policies and Emergency Management Update (39)

Prepared By: Emily Dance, Clerk

Department: CLERK

Date: May. 16, 2022

Report Number: CLK-2022-05-47

File Number:

P03-COV20

Attachments: Draft Policies

Recommendation:

THAT the Township of Huron-Kinloss Council hereby approves Report CLK-2022-05-47 prepared by Chris Cleave, Fire Chief and Emily Dance, Clerk AND approves amending the Emergency Management Policies By-Law AND FURTHER authorizes the appropriate By-Law come forward on tonight's agenda.

Background:

Township of Huron-Kinloss Emergency Management Policies

On March 26, 2020, Council passed By-Law No. 2020-43 authorizing a number of pandemic policies including: Absent from Work, Hours of Work, Overtime, Redeployment, Leave of Absence, Marriage Licence, Marriage Commissioner, Performance Evaluation, Recruitment, Remote Access, Return to Work, Self-Screening, Send-Home, Sick Leave, Social Distancing, Township Vehicle Use, Travel Policy, Visitors to Site, Water Restrictions, Working Remotely from Home, and Workplace Disinfectant Policy

Province of Ontario

There has been no further updates on the On April 22, 2022, announcement that the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health (OCMOH) will be maintaining existing masking requirements in select higher-risk indoor settings, as well as all remaining directives issued by the OCMOH in response to COVID-19, until June 11, 2022.

Discussion:

As the pandemic has evolved, staff has done a thorough review of the policies and recommend that the policies be consolidated down to two, a "Protection of Workers Policy" and "Consolidated Work, Hours, Absence and Travel Policy".

The key element in the policies is the protection of employees from illness resulting from a pandemic, endemic or epidemic events.

The consolidated policies are intended to provide direction and protection when any of these events are occurring or could potentially occur and the events could seriously affect the Health and Wellness of Township Employees, the Safety of the General Public and/or will directly impede the Townships ability to provide services and maintain continuity of operations.

Staff recommends that the Chief Administrative Officer reserves the right to apply this policy in any or all circumstance where any type of pandemic, epidemic, endemic or other viral infections may cause the same regardless of a declared emergency.

This delegation will allow the Township to quickly pivot with changes to the pandemic or as we move towards an endemic without having to continually bring forward emergency management policies for approval.

The Planning and Operations Committee continue to meet weekly and make the necessary changes to our procedures.

Staff currently working from home are transitioning back to the office with enhanced cleaning measures in place.

Communications on remaining virtual will be circulated through our social media channels.

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:

Chris Cleave, Fire Chief, Emily Dance, Clerk

Approved By:

Mary Rose Walden, Chief Administrative Officer