



March 17, 2020

The Township of Madawaska Valley is continuing to monitor the situation regarding COVID-19, in conjunction with the Federal, Provincial and Healthcare partners. At a Special Council Meeting held this morning Council made the following decisions:

- Staff will follow the Provincial and Federal direction as it pertains to service delivery to the public.
- Interest on the tax installment due March 31, 2020 will be waived for the month of April.
- Regular Council Meetings and Council in Committee Meetings, effective March 18, 2020 are cancelled until further notice.
- Special Council Meetings will be called when deemed necessary
- Roads, waste management, transfer stations and curbside pickup are essential services and staff will continue to operate as scheduled whenever possible.
- The Planning Department, although not an essential service has legislative timelines under the Planning Act, and previously scheduled meetings on April 7 and April 14 will continue. Any future sensitive Planning matters may be scheduled on an as needed basis, however; legislative timelines may not be met.
- Building and septic inspections are essential services, and until provincial direction is received as it pertains to the Building Code, the Chief Building Inspector(s) and/or the Septic Inspector(s) may not meet legislative timelines.
- The Fire Department is deemed an essential service and the Chief Fire Official (or designate) has the authority to determine if the available volunteer firefighter complement is at risk and follow Mutual Aid protocol
- The Chief Fire Official (or designate) has the authority to determine if the issuance of burning permits will take place after April 1, 2020.
- Water and Wastewater are deemed an essential service, however; the water meter replacement program may be postponed until further notice based on direction from the Municipal contracted company Neptune.
- Ice rentals at the Paul J. Yakabuski Community Centre have been cancelled and the ice will be removed. Contact the Treasurer for facility rental refunds.

Please be advised that the Emergency Control Group will continue to monitor the evolving situation regarding COVID-19 and provide updates on the Municipal Website.

WE ENCOURAGE PATRONS TO AVOID THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE

- Please pay your invoices and property tax online or utilize the afterhours drop box (receipts can be mailed upon request) or mail a cheque.
- If you require a building permit, planning advice or commissioning of documents that are time sensitive, please **make an appointment or place the query by telephone or by email** and avoid coming to the Township office.
- Media releases and updates will be posted at www.madawaskavalley.ca
- Provincial links and updates are posted and will be updated at www.madawaskavalley.ca
- Renfrew County and District Health Unit instructions and updates <https://www.rcdhu.com/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-2/>

The Township is taking these actions to help protect the Health and Safety of the Community and prevent spread of the virus. **The risk currently remains low in Renfrew County and Residents and Visitors are asked to do their part by remaining vigilant and self isolating.** Staff and Council appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we work cooperatively with community partners to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in our Community.