

Friday, April 9, 2021  
MEDIA RELEASE



### **COVID-19 UPDATE: ONTARIO DECLARES A PROVINCE WIDE STAY-AT-HOME ORDER**

**Welland, ON** – With COVID-19 cases rising at an alarming rate, a state of emergency and province-wide stay-at-home order was issued and took effect at 12:01 a.m. April 8. This shutdown puts measures in place that

- are the most stringent to address rapidly escalating conditions, including the spread of variants of concern
- include business closures in higher-risk sectors (for example, fitness activities, personal care service establishments, indoor and outdoor dining)

Following the guidance of the Ontario Regulations, the following city facilities or services have changed operational practices:

- Welland Civic Square, all Welland Fire halls, Public Works Municipal Centre, Welland Community Wellness Complex and Transit Office will be closed until further notice. Staff are available via telephone at 905-735-1700 or email [info@welland.ca](mailto:info@welland.ca).
- The East Main Street Transit Terminal will remain open to the public.
- Meetings will be virtual, unless otherwise required and will follow safety protocols distributed before the meeting.
- All Welland Parks, Trails, playgrounds, and outdoor recreation spaces remain open for individual recreation and exercise. Social distancing is to be maintained at all times and a maximum of five (5) persons may gather in one area.
- Families accessing playgrounds are encouraged to carry sanitizer and frequently wash their children's hands
- Gaiser Park Courts will be open for use from dawn to dusk starting April 16
- Marriage ceremonies have been suspended
- The Clerks Office will issue marriage licences, commission documents and provide Roll Book review by appointment only. Please contact 905-735-1700 x 0 or email [clerk@welland.ca](mailto:clerk@welland.ca) for further information.

Staff would like to remind members of the public of the following:

- Restrict close contacts to your household members only and essential supports. Those who live alone may join with another household for support.
- All in-person activities should be limited outside of the home to essential activities only.
- Wear a mask or face covering when around others from another household, out in public places, or outdoors when unable to stay physically distant.
- Wash your hands often.

If you have any COVID-19 symptoms or are not feeling well, isolate yourself, contact your health care provider for an assessment and/or referral for testing; or contact the Niagara Health COVID-19 assessment centre to book an appointment.

During normal business hours (Monday to Friday, 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM), concerns around enforcement of COVID-19 emergency orders please contact By-Law Enforcement Division at 905-735-1700 Ext. 2224; by email at [bylaw\\_enforc@welland.ca](mailto:bylaw_enforc@welland.ca). After 4:30pm, COVID-19 concerns should be directed to the Region of Niagara's information line at (905) 984-3690 or 1 (877) 552-5579 for further bylaw response and assistance.

How to access services during the Stay-at-Home order please visit [welland.ca](http://welland.ca).

For more information on Ontario's response to COVID-19, visit [ontario.ca](http://ontario.ca).

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