



The TOWNSHIP of
NORTH DUMFRIES

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

June 11th, 2020

COVID-19 Update: Township to gradually reopen some community amenities in line with the Province's Stage 2 Announcement

Ayr - As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve around the world and in our local community, the health and wellbeing of our residents and Staff remains our top priority. The Township continues to work closely with the Region of Waterloo's Public Health and the Regional Pandemic Control Group to monitor and respond to new developments.

In alignment with Stage 2 of Ontario's Framework for Re-opening the Province and the June 8th Provincial announcement with the permissions to open up additional recreation, leisure and business activities, the Township has embarked upon a program that will gradually witness a widening of opportunities for members of the Community to access municipal facilities and services.

Over the next couple of weeks the following Township facilities and amenities are set to reopen:

Township Municipal Offices

Beginning on Monday June 15th, the North Dumfries Municipal Office will re-open for in-person appointments for select Township services that cannot be delivered on-line, through video conference or by phone. The customer service counter in the central foyer will be open to receive financial transactions and services. The Municipal Office will be open Monday to Friday, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

The Township does provide a wide range of services on-line including payment transactions for property taxes and building permits. Cash transactions are not being processed at this time. If you have any questions about how to conduct a financial transaction on-line, please contact the Township Municipal Office via telephone, email or on-line.

In-person appointments can be scheduled by contacting the Township Municipal Office at (519) 632-8800 or through the Corporate email account at mail@northdumfries.ca. Residents and businesses are encouraged to continue to utilize electronic payments &

transfers as the preferred business practice or the drop box outside the main entry door to the North Dumfries Community Complex (NDCC).

All public access to the NDCC will be via the main entry doors on the south elevation of the building. There will be **no access** for the public to the indoor recreation / leisure programming areas at the NDCC at this time, including the walking track. Visitors to the NDCC will be encouraged to wear face masks.

Splash Pad and Outdoor Washroom Facility at Cowan Park

The splash pad and outdoor washroom facility in Cowan Park will open on Monday June 22nd. The facilities will be open during the hours of 9 am to 7 pm, seven days a week. There will be restrictions in terms of the number of occupants within the splash pad to align with physical distancing protocols. The playgrounds at Cowan Park will remain closed at this time to align with the Provincial Orders.

Sports Fields

Township sports fields in Victoria Park, Cowan Park and Schmidt Park have been open since May 18th for passive and individual use. As all sports leagues (adult and youth) in North Dumfries have cancelled their respective seasons for 2020, the sports fields will continue to be available for passive and individual use for the balance of the season. Consistent with current Provincial Orders, effective June 12th, physical distancing of 2 metres between individuals remains in place with a public gathering threshold revised to up to 10 persons. The outdoor washroom facilities in Schmidt Park remain closed.

Consistent with the advice and guidance from the Medical Officer of Health, as a community we need to be vigilant and continue to do our part to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus and to protect those individuals that are vulnerable. With the phased re-opening of the economy, there is an increased emphasis on:

- physical distancing of 2 metres (6 ft) between individuals;
- residents are encouraged to wear a face covering when out in public places;
- if you have to sneeze or cough, do that into your sleeve; and,
- to continuously wash your hands with soap and water or utilize hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.

The situation with the COVID-19 pandemic is rapidly changing. The Township will continue to adjust our operations according to the recommendations of health authorities and Provincial Orders. Residents and business are encouraged to follow the Township's website [www.northdumfries.ca] and social media accounts for emerging changes and for links to useful resources associated with COVID-19.

Media Release COVID-19 Update:
Gradual Re-Opening of Township Facilities & Services
June 11th, 2020

- 30 -

For more information:

Andrew McNeely,
Chief Administrative Officer

amcneely@northdumfries.ca