

# Corporation of the Town of Carleton Place

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## COVID-19 UPDATE #11

March 25, 2020

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The Town of Carleton Place continues to monitor new information regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. We thank all residents who are following the directives from the Medical Officer of Health, and Federal and Provincial Governments to self-isolate when returning from out-of-country travel and monitoring themselves for symptoms for up to 14 days and for practicing social (physical) distancing.

### **Federal Government Updates**

The Prime Minister has announced a new benefit – the Canada Emergency Response Benefit – which will provide \$2,000 per month for the next four (4) months for those who lose their income as a result of COVID-19. This new benefit replaces COVID-19 benefits announced last week.

The Federal Government is imposing mandatory two (2) week isolation period on all people returning to Canada under the Quarantine Act to help stem further spread of the COVID-19.

More details on both of these updates will be provided in tomorrow's update.

### **Provincial Government Updates**

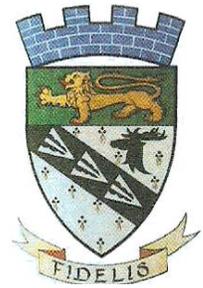
#### **Stop the Spread Business Information Line**

The Province has launched a toll-free line 1-888-444-3659 to provide support to Ontario businesses who have questions about the province's recent emergency order to close at-risk workplaces following recommendations by Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health. On Monday, the province issued an emergency order to close at-risk workplaces and encourage non-essential businesses to find ways to help their employees work from home. The government also reminded businesses to put in place protocols for physical distancing and regular hand-washing in order to protect the health and safety of employees and the general public.



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Businesses who have questions about closures of at-risk workplaces or how emergency measures impact their business or employment can call the Stop the Spread Business Information Line at 1-888-444-3659. Help is available from Monday to Sunday, from 8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m. The media release can be read [here](#)

## **Electricity Relief Program**

Premier Ford also announced an immediate electricity rate relief for families, small business and farms during COVID-19 paying time-of-use (TOU) rates.

For a 45-day period, the government is working to suspend time-of-use electricity rates, holding electricity prices to the off-peak rate of 10.1 cents-per-kilowatt-hour. This reduced price will be available 24 hours per day, seven days a week to all time-of-use customers, who make up the majority of electricity consumers in the province. By switching to a fixed off-peak rate, time-of-use customers will see rate reductions of over 50 per cent compared to on-peak rates. To deliver savings as quickly and conveniently as possible, this discount will be applied automatically to electricity bills without the need for customers to fill out an application form. The media release can be read [here](#)

## **Library Updates**

- A new weekly online program schedule! Offering weekly storytimes with Heidi, video babytime sessions, adult craft club online, online tech tutoring with Caroline, virtual lego, craft, and drawing sessions for kids, and so much more! Follow our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/CarletonPlacePublicLibrary](http://www.facebook.com/CarletonPlacePublicLibrary) to keep up with our new virtual programming schedule.
- Expanded digital collections to help you and your family through social distancing. Visit our [Online Resources](#) page to see what's available.
- Library Card registrations by email. Email the library at [library@carletonplace.ca](mailto:library@carletonplace.ca) to register, and gain access to free eBooks, audiobooks, movies, and more! Lost cards or forgotten PINs can also be accessed by emailing the library. No one should be without reading material at this time!
- All due dates have been extended. No fines will accrue on accounts during closure.
- All library holds have been suspended, so you do not have to worry about missing your holds. They will be waiting for you when we reopen.
- The library return box has been locked so that staff can remain at home during this time. Please hang on to your library materials until the library reopens.

## **Parks**

While parks remain open, use of playground equipment at this time is prohibited.

