

Corporation of the Town of Carleton Place

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COVID-19 UPDATE #102

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FEDERAL GOVERNMENT UPDATES

Financial Support for Seniors - Today, the Honourable Deb Schulte, Minister of Seniors, highlighted that seniors eligible for the Old Age Security (OAS) pension, the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), or Allowances will receive their one-time, tax-free payment this week without needing to apply. Seniors who reside in Canada can expect to receive the payment by direct deposit or cheque this week, whereas seniors who reside outside Canada can expect this one-time payment in July for those on direct deposit, or by cheque with delays given international postal disruptions. Through several measures, the Government is providing about \$900 for low-income single seniors and more than \$1,500 for low-income senior couples, in addition to their existing benefits, to help with extra costs during the pandemic. Seniors eligible for the OAS pension will receive a payment of \$300, and those seniors also eligible for the GIS will receive an additional \$200, for a total of \$500. Allowance recipients will also receive \$500. This \$2.5 billion investment in financial support will help Canadian seniors cover increased costs caused by COVID-19.

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT UPDATES

Government Proposes Made-in-Ontario Plan for Growth, Renewal and Economic Recovery - The Government of Ontario has developed a made-in-Ontario plan for growth, renewal and economic recovery. This plan includes measures that would make it easier and faster to build provincial highways, major transit infrastructure projects and quality, affordable housing, while ensuring there are meaningful opportunities for community consultation and input.



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OTHER UPDATES

Local Health Units Announce Regional Approach to Mandatory Masks – Today, Medical Officers of Health from Eastern Ontario Health Unit; Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit; Renfrew County and District Health and Ottawa Public Health announced a regional approach to the use of face coverings/masks in enclosed public places within their respective jurisdictions.

Each public health unit will be issuing an Instruction under the province's *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* Stage 2 which states that the person responsible for a business or organization that is open shall operate the business or organization in compliance with the advice, recommendations and instructions of public health officials, including any advice, recommendations or instructions on physical distancing, cleaning or disinfecting.

In Leeds, Grenville and Lanark, this Instruction will require businesses to adopt a policy to ensure facial coverings/masks are worn inside enclosed public spaces/settings that are openly accessible to the public. The Instruction comes into effect as of Tuesday, July 7, 2020 at 12:01am and will be reviewed on September 30, 2020. The LGLDHU, to support implementation of this Instruction, will provide information and consultation to operators of enclosed indoor spaces. This directive is to be primarily used to educate people on facial covering/mask use in enclosed public spaces where 2-metre physical distancing cannot always be maintained.

As the province continues to reopen, there are increased opportunities for people to have close contact with others in enclosed public spaces. This could lead to an increased risk of potential spread of COVID-19, especially indoors or confined spaces where there is minimal airflow, higher concentrations of people, and an increased chance of sharing high-touch surfaces.

Evidence shows that wearing a mask or face covering, such as a bandana, scarf or cloth that covers the mouth and nose, can help contain the spread of COVID-19 when used in combination with staying home when ill, frequent handwashing and practicing physical distancing. Facial coverings/masks that cover your mouth, nose, and chin help to prevent respiratory droplets from your mouth and nose from reaching others or landing on surfaces.

You can also get more information about COVID-19 by visiting the [Health Unit website](#) or by connecting with LGLHealthUnit on Facebook and Twitter.



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Lanark County OPP Warns Beware of Fraud - Lanark County OPP wish to remind the public to be extremely cautious regarding phone calls from ANYONE you don't know; even if they say they are police or from the government. A new scam going around is where the scammer says they are from "Service Canada" and advise you there are fraudulent charges on your Social Insurance Card. The scammer then goes on to ask you for your Social Insurance Number (SIN). Firstly, your SIN is just a number to register you to work; you can't have fraudulent charges on the number. Secondly, if the caller says you have fraudulent charges on your number why then do they need you to provide your number? PLEASE, be careful and don't give out banking, personal information or your SIN or any parts of these numbers to callers you don't know.

Scammers continue to ask people to purchase GOOGLE "play cards" as payment. Some people are catching on to this. If you decline, the scammers go for another method to get your money. Think, if you are selling a product would you want the money sent to someone else in a different town, province, country? No, but this is what scammers do ask of you. Say NO! Scammers also frequently use money transfer places like Western Union.

