



**CP SCOOP – February 19th, 2021**

## **MUNICIPAL UPDATES**

**Virtual Council and Committee of the Whole Meetings** - The Town of Carleton Place Council will hold its Council and Committee of the Whole meetings via Zoom on Tuesday, February 23rd starting with a closed session (not open to the public) at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the Pay Equity/Internal Equity Study findings. The regular open portion of the Council agenda will commence at 7:00 p.m. with the Committee of the Whole meeting to follow. The agenda and associated documents are available on the [Town's website](#). Members of the public can view the meeting online via [Zoom](#) or a live stream to the [Town Hall Facebook](#) page.

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**Reminder - Additional Bag of Waste Extension ENDING** - Council made the decision to extend the allowance of two (2) unstickered bags of waste per week, per household to **one week beyond the end of the Provincial shutdown period**. The Stay-at-home Order was lifted in our region on February 16th, therefore, the **final day of the extension period will be Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>**. Any additional bags will require a sticker. Residents can continue to use previously issued green stickers.

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**Adopt a Hydrant** - Looking for something fun and exciting to do this weekend? How about clearing out a fire hydrant in front of, or near your house. Every second counts when [Ocean Wave Fire Company](#) responds to an emergency, so having a clear path and room to work near a fire hydrant is a big help to us! If you, your family, and kids clear one over the weekend send a picture on [Facebook](#) with a quick message! Maybe we will surprise you with a nice fire safety package!

## **FEDERAL UPDATES**

**[Government of Canada Proposes Increase to Number of Weeks for Recovery Benefits and EI Regular Benefits to Ensure Continued Support for Canadians Who Have Been Hardest Hit](#)** – Today, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion, Carla Qualtrough, announced the Government of Canada's intent to introduce regulatory and legislative amendments to increase the number of weeks of benefits available for the Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB), the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB), the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB) and Employment Insurance (EI) regular benefits.

## **PROVINCIAL UPDATES**

**[Ontario Continues Investing in Innovative Festivals and Events](#)** - Funding will support local tourism initiatives as communities continue to struggle with COVID-19 - The Ontario government is investing more than \$7 million in 87 local and virtual events and initiatives through the Reconnect Festival and Event Program. This funding will support the festival and event sector during COVID-19 while helping municipalities and organizations deliver innovative and safe experiences that allow people to reconnect with their communities.

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**[Ontario Launches Education Campaign to Help Workplaces Reopen Safely](#)** - A full suite of resources is available to prevent the spread of COVID-19 - The Ontario government is launching new health and safety education campaigns, with a particular focus on helping small businesses across the province reopen safely. The on-the-ground assistance includes a comprehensive suite of resources business owners can access at no cost to ensure they are helping prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the workplace.

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**[Stay-at-Home Order Extended in Toronto and Peel Public Health Regions Along with North Bay-Parry Sound](#)** - York Region to return to strengthened COVID-19 Response Framework - In consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the local medical officers of health, the Ontario government is maintaining the shutdown, the [Stay-at-Home order](#) and all existing public health and workplace safety measures for an additional two (2) weeks in the Toronto and Peel Public Health Regions, along with the North Bay-Parry Sound District.

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**[Ontario Administers over Half a Million Doses of COVID-19 Vaccines](#)** - Province ramping up capacity in preparation of vaccinating Phase Two populations - The Ontario government has administered over 500,000 doses of the COVID-19 vaccines to Phase One priority populations, which now includes adults 80 years of age and older. At the same time, the province is working with public health units to build and expand its capacity to immunize Phase Two populations by increasing delivery networks and preparing a booking solution and customer service supports for mass vaccination clinic registrations. Ontario has administered more vaccines than any other province.

## **OTHER UPDATES**

**Vaccine Distribution Plan Rolling out in Leeds, Grenville and Lanark** - The Leeds, Grenville and Lanark (LGL) District Health Unit is pleased to be working with many community partners as it rolls out the LGL COVID-19 Vaccination Plan. With vaccine supply stabilizing in the coming weeks, we will be working hard to increase our access points to the vaccine.

With the completion of first doses for residents in Long Term Care Homes and High Risk Retirement Homes, the plan is to move on to the following priority groups over the next few weeks, depending on availability of the vaccine, and further provincial direction.

- Residents (second doses), staff, and essential caregivers of long-term care, high-risk retirement homes, and any residents of these settings that have not yet received a first dose of vaccine.
- Alternative level of care patients in hospitals who have a confirmed admission to a long-term care home, retirement home or other congregate care home for seniors.

- Highest priority health care workers followed by very high priority health care workers in accordance with the Ministry of Health's guidance on health care worker prioritization.
- Indigenous adults in northern remote and higher risk communities (including on-reserve and urban communities).
- Residents, staff, and caregivers in retirement homes and other congregate care settings for seniors.
- Adults 80 years of age and older.
- Health care workers in the high priority level, in accordance with the Ministry of Health's guidance on health care workers prioritization.
- Adults in First Nations, Metis, and Inuit populations.
- Adult chronic home care recipients.

The Health Unit website will list which of the following groups can access the vaccine, where, and when. This information will also be shared on local radio stations and newspapers and with local organizations and healthcare providers.

Four (4) fixed vaccination clinics in Almonte, Smiths Falls, Brockville and Kemptville will be activated next week. Instructions on how to book appointments and what to expect will be communicated through the place of work or another group representative for the priority groups listed above. When the fixed clinics are able to open to a wider population (including adults 80 years of age and older), booking instructions will be made known on the website, through social media, local radio and newspaper, local organizations, and health care providers.

Operations at all of these clinics will be a combined effort from Public Health and many health care providers around our communities. Without this support, these clinics would not be possible. Going forward, mobile teams will continue to support congregate living facilities and groups where it is difficult for the population to come to the fixed vaccine clinics. They will also provide the vaccine in pop-up clinics in local communities when there is significant vaccine for the general public.

To help ensure the roll out plan continues to meet the needs of our community, the Health Unit has established an Advisory Table. This group is made up of community Health Care Providers, social services partners and our hospitals.

For more information about the vaccine, our vaccine clinics and the status of our roll out plan, please go to <https://healthunit.org/covid-19-vaccine/>. You can also call the Health Unit at 1-800-660-5853 or connect with LGLHealthunit on Facebook and Twitter for important public health updates.

**Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit - [Outbreak declared at Carolina Retirement Residence in Perth](#)** - The Health Unit is working with Carolina Retirement Residence in Perth to manage a COVID-19 outbreak. One (1) resident has tested positive for COVID-19. A single laboratory confirmed case of COVID-19 in a resident or staff member is considered as a confirmed COVID-19 outbreak in the home.

**Enbridge Gas Inc. COVID-19 Energy Assistance Program (CEAP)** - Are you behind on your Enbridge Gas bill as a result of COVID-related work interruptions or slowdown? The [COVID-19 Energy Assistance Program \(CEAP\)](#) can help.

CEAP provides a one-time payment of up to \$750 to qualifying residential customers and up to \$1,500 to qualifying small business or registered charity customers to help pay down energy bill debt incurred since COVID-19 began.

Funds are limited. Applying does not guarantee that CEAP will be provided. If you qualify for CEAP, you will receive an email within two (2) weeks confirming that your bill credit will be applied.

[Visit the Enbridge website to find out more and to apply.](#)