



CP SCOOP – December 17th, 2020

MUNICIPAL UPDATES

2020 Holiday Waste Collection Schedule - Please note the following changes to waste collection this holiday season:

- **Friday, December 25th – collection will instead occur Saturday, December 26th**
- **Friday, January 1st - collection will instead occur Saturday, January 2nd**

Residents are permitted **3 unstickered bags of waste** on their day of collection from **December 26th to December 31st**.

All materials must be at the curb by **7:00 a.m.** on the day of collection.

Wrapping paper is to be folded and placed in your blue box. Foil wrapping material, ribbons, and tags are not permitted for recycling.

The curbside collection of Christmas trees will occur from January 11th to January 22nd. Please place your tree curbside and ensure it is free of any decorations. No waste collection stickers are required for the disposal of Christmas trees.

FEDERAL UPDATES

[Government of Canada Announces Funding for New COVID-19 Safe Voluntary Isolation Centre in Ottawa](#) - Today, the Honourable Mona Fortier, Minister of Middle Class Prosperity and Associate Minister of Finance, and the Honourable Catherine McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, on behalf of the Honourable Patty Hajdu, Minister of Health, announced \$4.7 million over seven (7) months for Ottawa Public Health to establish a safe, voluntary isolation site. This site will help Canadians in Ottawa who have COVID-19, or have been exposed to it, access accommodations to keep themselves and their community safe.

PROVINCIAL UPDATES

[Ontario Increasing Mental Health and Addictions Services](#) - **Additional funding will make it easier for people to access supports now** - The Ontario government is providing over \$147 million to immediately expand access to the provincial mental health and addictions system for people of all ages and address capacity issues in response to COVID-19. This funding builds upon the \$176 million provided earlier this year as part of [Roadmap to Wellness](#), the government's comprehensive plan to deliver high-quality care and build a modern,

connected and comprehensive mental health and addictions system.

[Ontario Launches Historic Long-Term Care Staffing Plan](#) - Province to Invest up to \$1.9 Billion

Annually by 2024-25 to Achieve Average of Four Hours of Daily Direct Care - The Ontario government is launching one of the largest recruitment and training drives in the province's history to deliver on its commitment to improve care for seniors in long-term care homes. The province released its long-term care staffing plan that sets out actions to hire more staff, improve working conditions for existing staff, drive effective and accountable leadership, and implement retention strategies.

[Ontario Declares Santa Claus an Essential Service](#) - Premier Doug Ford issued the following statement on Santa Claus' annual delivery of gifts:

"As children across Ontario count down the days to Christmas with excitement, I want to reassure all the boys and girls out there that Santa is still coming this year despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

As Premier, I have officially designated Santa Claus as an essential service provider and authorized to deliver toys, treats and good cheer to the children of Ontario. I have also designated the Elves' Toy Workshop as an essential manufacturing business and authorized to supply Santa Claus with toys and gifts. Finally, Santa's Reindeer, including Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen and Rudolph, are proclaimed essential transportation service providers and permitted to pull Santa's sleigh across every part of Ontario.

Santa and his reindeer have one of the most essential jobs of all, delivering toys to all the good children in Ontario and around the world every Christmas Eve. While this Christmas is different than any other, Santa is taking every safety precaution necessary and will continue to make his rounds.

I would like to thank Santa Claus, the elves, reindeer and all of Ontario's essential workers this holiday season. From nurses to construction workers, personal care workers to grocery store clerks and so many other essential workers, we are grateful for the hard work you have done all year long.

From my family to yours, I want to wish everyone a healthy and safe Merry Christmas and a wonderful holiday season!"

OTHER UPDATES

Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit Holiday Hours - The Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit will continue to provide essential services related to COVID-19 throughout the holiday period. The Health Unit offices are closed to the walk-in public but phone lines, case and contact management, and emergency on call services will continue throughout the holiday period. As well, local Assessment Centres will continue to operate throughout the holiday period, with varying hours. Some non-COVID-19 services will be unavailable during the stat holidays (December 24th, 25th, 28th, 31st and January 1st).

Our surveillance report will be available online at 4:00 p.m. on December 23rd, 28th, 29th, 30th and then will resume Monday to Friday on January 4th, 2021.

[Our website will provide a complete list of services:](#)

- Health Unit phone lines – including questions about symptoms, isolation, testing and school issues (Call 1-800-660-5853 extension 2222)
- Hours of operation of Assessment Centres – Centres have varying hours over the holidays.
- Well water bottle pick-up and drop off
- Sexual Health Clinics - To book appointments, please call 1-800-660-5853.
- Immunization Clinics - To book appointments, please call 1-800-660-5853.
- Smart works harm reduction services
- For a public health emergency, call 613-345-5685

Visit our website for information about [recommendations for holiday gatherings](#).

Paramedic Memorial Bell Arrives in Montague Township - On December 17th, 2020, the Lanark County Paramedic Service (LCPS) hosted a private ‘Remember the Fallen’ ceremony as the Paramedic Memorial Bell arrived at the Lorne Street Paramedic Headquarters in Montague Township.

The Memorial Bell was constructed in 2015 by Ottawa Paramedic Michael Dunlop and normally travels between Toronto and Ottawa as part of the Paramedic Ride. This annual event raises money in support of the Canadian Paramedic Memorial Foundation to build a monument in Ottawa commemorating fallen Paramedics across Canada. This year due to COVID-19, the Memorial Bell is taking a winding route across Ontario and all 52 land and air ambulance services will host a ceremony to remember.

At 10:00 a.m., Paramedics read aloud the names of 51 Canadian Paramedics who have lost their life in the line of duty, tolling the Memorial Bell after each. The Bell rang once more to honour those who are struggling with, or who have lost their battle with PTSD. While there are no line of duty death names on the Memorial Bell from Lanark County, PTSD has touched our Paramedic family. It was an incredibly special ceremony to remember one of our own who is dearly missed.

Lanark County Paramedic Chief Travis Mellema noted: “We appreciate being able to honour these fallen Paramedics who lost their lives in the line of duty. We also see this as a great opportunity to raise awareness surrounding PTSD and the occupational mental strain that can affect first responders. Lanark County Paramedic Service is committed to providing a healthy workplace for our staff, and we are proud of the work that our Peer Support Team does to promote resiliency and well-being.”

To view the names of the fallen, or to make a donation to the Canadian Paramedic Memorial Foundation, please visit www.paramedicride.ca