

For Immediate Release

City closing recreational and cultural facilities in response to COVID-19 concerns

Port Colborne, ON (March 13, 2020) – Niagara Region Public Health are closely monitoring COVID-19 and have reported that the risks surrounding COVID-19 remain low in Niagara. The health and well-being of City staff and Port Colborne residents is our top priority. The City is exercising extreme caution, moving forward with closures of recreational and community facilities to limit the spread of the virus.

The following City facilities will be closed to the public at the end of operating day today, March 13, 2020 (which is different for each facility) until April 5, 2020:

- The Vale Health & Wellness Centre, which includes the Port Colborne YMCA
- The Roselawn Centre
- The Port Colborne Public Library
- The Port Colborne Farmer's Market

Due to these closures, all programs, including March Break programming, permits, and third-party events will be cancelled.

The following meetings will also be cancelled until April 5, 2020:

- Committees of Council, including Seniors Advisory Committee, Accessibility Committee, etc.

Upcoming council meetings and budget meetings are continuing as planned. The City streams all council meetings live on our YouTube Channel. Alternatively, council meetings are available the following Thursday at 9 a.m. on YourTV Niagara. For agendas, reports, budget packages, and links to view meetings online, visit http://portcolborne.ca/page/minutes_and_agendas. Residents can receive all council information directly to their email inbox by subscribing online at http://portcolborne.ca/page/subscribe_newsletter

City Hall and our Operations Centre will remain open. The City is taking steps to protect staff and the community and reminding residents of City services that are already in place that residents can access without leaving their home or visiting a municipal building, including:

Customer Service

- Did you know? We live answer our phone lines. Call 905-835-2900 and one of our Customer Service Representatives would be happy to answer your questions, or direct you to the staff member that can assist you.
- Know the staff member you are looking for but not sure of their email or phone number? Click here for our City Hall Contact List: http://portcolborne.ca/page/City_Contacts

Public Library

- Did you know your Port Colborne Public Library has a digital library?

With OverDrive, or the smartphone app Libby, you can browse the online category for a variety of e-books or audio books. All you need is your library card number.

Visit OverDrive online: <https://odmc.overdrive.com/>

- Want to read the latest magazines? Use Flipster, an online magazine database available on the library's website: https://olco.ent.sirsiidynix.net/client/en_US/portcolborne/
- Don't have a Library card? You can register for that online too.

Visit the Port Colborne Public Library online at www.portcolbornelibrary.org or call 905-834-6512.

City Hall

- Do you need to pay your property taxes or water bills? No need to come to City Hall. Now is a good time to arrange for pre-authorized payments.

To register for pre-authorized payments, visit http://portcolborne.ca/fileBin/library/PC%20Pre-Auth%20Form%20Front%20&%20Back_1707.pdf

Do you want to pay electronically but not ready to sign-up for pre-authorized payments? You can pay using telephone or online banking from most banks and credit unions.

You can also receive your bills via email. To sign up for e billing, visit

<http://portcolborne.ca/fileBin/library/Tax%20and%20Water%20Ebilling%20Fillable.pdf>

For more information about tax bills,

Visit www.portcolborne.ca/page/taxes

Call 905-835-2900 ext. 123

Email taxes@portcolborne.ca

For more information about water bills,

Visit www.portcolborne.ca/page/water

Call 905-835-2900 ext. 125

Email water@portcolborne.ca

- Want to stay up-to-date on City news? Subscribe to our newsletter:
http://portcolborne.ca/page/subscribe_newsletter

City employees at residents' homes

- If residents are expecting a City staff member at their private residence (i.e. Water department, building inspector, etc.), as a precaution city staff members will ask a few Health & Safety questions over the phone before attending a residents home.

For more information about City's efforts to minimize the spread of COVID-19, including facility closures, visit www.portcolborne.ca/page/covid-19.

For more information about COVID-19, including updates, frequently asked questions and prevention tips, visit <https://www.niagararegion.ca/health/COVID-19/default.aspx>

About City of Port Colborne

Located on the south coast of the scenic Niagara Region, Niagara's Port of Call has found the perfect balance – successful industrial and commercial sectors, comfortable and scenic residential areas, white sand beaches, unique culinary choices, the world class Sugarloaf Marina, fishing, golfing, trails,



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shopping districts along the historic Welland Canal and an energized festival and entertainment scene that includes live theatre – truly a community that adds to the overall Niagara Experience.

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