

## For Immediate Release

### City to close all City facilities in response to COVID-19 concerns

**Port Colborne, ON (March 16, 2020)** – In an effort to minimize the spread of COVID-19, keeping the health and safety of City staff and residents a top-priority, the City has made the decision to close all City facilities.

The following City facilities will be closed to the public, effective today, March 16, at close of business (unless previously closed), until further notice:

- City Hall
- Operations Centre
- Fire Hall
- 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
- Bethel Community Centre
- Sherkston Community Centre
- Sugarloaf Marina
- L.R. Wilson Heritage Research Archives

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

During these closures, City staff continue to be available to assist residents Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., by calling 905-835-2900. Customer Service Representatives will either answer resident questions, or direct to the staff member that can assist. For a complete city hall contact list, visit [http://portcolborne.ca/page/City\\_Contacts](http://portcolborne.ca/page/City_Contacts). Limited services will be available, by appointment only, for residents requiring planning, building and cemeteries.

For after-hours emergencies, including road or wastewater emergencies, residents are to call 905-835-5079.

All Committee of Council meetings have also been cancelled. 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](http://portcolborne.ca/page/minutes_and_agendas)

The following City events are cancelled:

- Port Colborne's Mariners Service, March 22, 2020
- Port Colborne's Top Hat Ceremony, March 24, 2020
- Port Colborne's Easter Eggstravaganza, April 11, 2020

At the present time, Welland Transit is operating all routes as per their normal schedule, which includes Welland Transit municipal routes, our WellTrans service, the inter-municipal routes, and the Port Colborne Community service. For a complete schedule, visit [www.welland.ca/transit](http://www.welland.ca/transit). If there are any changes in the provision of these services, a notification will be posted on [www.welland.ca/transit](http://www.welland.ca/transit).

The City's Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), Council and Staff will continue to monitor the situation and update residents accordingly.

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

**-30-**

### **For more information, contact:**

Michelle Idzenga  
Corporate Communications Officer  
905-835-2900 ext. 307  
[michelleidzenga@portcolborne.ca](mailto:michelleidzenga@portcolborne.ca)