

## For Immediate Release

### **Patio season is popping up in Port Colborne**

#### ***Businesses eager to PORTicipate in City's new pop-up patio program this summer***

**Port Colborne, ON (May 1, 2019)** – From May 1 to Oct. 31, 2019 patios will be popping up around Port Colborne as businesses are eager to PORTicipate in patio season. New this year, eligible businesses can extend to sidewalks and parking stalls for the patio season. The City of Port Colborne estimates six pop-up patios this summer, with plans already in motion for Green Apple Coffee House and Breakwall Brewing Company.

“Pop-up patios will encourage residents and visitors to come and enjoy the amazing restaurants, coffee shops and establishments we have here in Port Colborne, while also enjoying the nice weather, and in some cases the scenic views of the canal,” said Mayor Bill Steele. “It’s great to see the excitement and initiative our business community already has for this new project.”

For businesses to participate in the upcoming patio season the following processes and guidelines must be abided by before approval:

- Completion of an encroachment application form;
- Five-million liability insurance, naming the City of Port Colborne as additional insured;
- Fee payment of \$350, or if in the Community Improvement Plan (CIP) Area, a fee of \$175;
- Site plan and overview of patio concept;
- Final review and approval by Director of Planning, after circulation among City divisions;
- If on West Street, approval from The St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation is required;
- If serving alcohol, AGCO license is required;
- Electricity is not permitted;
- Open flames are not permitted including; tiki torches, citronella candles, and outdoor heaters;
- Sidewalks require a five foot unobstructed corridor;
- If the sidewalk is used for the pop-up patio, a sidewalk transition is to continue in to the existing parking stall and to return to sidewalk;
- Access to public washroom; and
- Businesses cannot open patios until May 1, 2019 and must close by Oct. 31, 2019, once application is approved.

Once approved by council, one of the first applications received by the City was from the Green Apple Coffee House. “Our pop up patio plans are already underway,” said Jesse Boles, owner of Green Apple Coffee House. “We have some exciting plans for our patio and we can’t wait to share it with our coffee-loving community.”

Fred Davies, owner of Breakwall Brewing Company originally brought the idea of pop-up patios forward to City staff, drawing inspiration from the City of Peterborough.

“We’re looking forward to the summer weather and hope to see patio’s popping up all over our downtown,” said Fred Davies, owner of Breakwall Brewing Company. “These patios will be a great magnet to bring people downtown, creating an even more inviting and welcoming place for visitors.”

Breakwall Brewing Company will be taking advantage of a pre-fabricated patio that is built and ready for install in front of the brewery, once their application is approved.

City staff are asking drivers and pedestrians to proceed with caution and to be aware of the structures that will be popping up in the parking stalls, beginning as early as May 1, 2019.

To assist with driver and pedestrian safety there are a few things that will not be permitted, or limited, on the patios, including:

- Cooking or barbequing;
- Signage, advertisements or logos, with the exception of standardized traffic signs and reflective tape.
- No electrical cords.
- Landscaping will be allowed, however minimal to not cause visibility issues.
- Staff are also currently investigating use of ariel awnings and umbrellas.

After the end of patio season on Oct. 31, staff will be assessing the project and making recommendations for moving forward into 2020.

If you are interested in applying for a pop-up patio, have suggestions, or any questions, contact Sherry Hanson, Manager of By-law Services at 905-835-2900 ext.210 or [sherryhanson@portcolborne.ca](mailto:sherryhanson@portcolborne.ca).

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### **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.

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

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