



PORT COLBORNE

CITYHALLNEWS

A newsletter written by Staff for the Residents of Port Colborne

DECEMBER 2020

66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne, ON L3K 3C8 | 905-835-2900 | portcolborne.ca | newsletter@portcolborne.ca

@cityofportcolborne @portcolborne @cityofportcolborne @cityofportcolborne @cityofportcolborne

REOPENING PORT COLBORNE

Effective November 16, Port Colborne along with the Niagara region, moved to Orange–Restrict under the Keeping Ontario Safe and Open Framework. As COVID cases continue to rise, we will work with Niagara Region Public Health to communicate new restrictions to help reduce the spread of COVID-19.



Restrict

NIAGARA REGION PUBLIC HEALTH

**Moving to Orange–Restrict as of
November 16 under the Keeping
Ontario Safe & Open Framework**



Order Under Section 22 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act

An order under Section 22 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act has been issued for food and drink premises in Niagara, including restaurants, bars, banquet halls, wineries, and breweries. This includes limiting dining to four people per table - down from the previous six and dining establishments can't serve alcohol after 9 p.m. and must close at 10 p.m. There is also a capacity limit of 50 people indoors.

Food and drink premises will ask for confirmation of

- No symptoms of illness
- That you are dining with only members of your household and / or a maximum of two persons who are essential to maintaining physical and mental health (e.g. caregivers, social supports to someone who lives alone)



niagararegion.ca/COVID19

Council Meetings

Council meetings will continue to be held virtually. There is only one meeting in December on Monday the 14. This meeting will be live streamed on the City's YouTube channel. Anyone wishing to be a delegate at Council meetings are asked to submit a written delegation that will be circulated to Council members prior to the meeting. Submissions must be received by 12 p.m. on Monday of the Council meeting by emailing deputyclerk@portcolborne.ca, or handwritten delegations can be submitted in the after-hours drop box in front of City Hall, 66 Charlotte Street. For more information, please visit http://portcolborne.ca/page/minutes_and_agendas.

We're Open! By Appointment Only Schedule your appointment today.

We are scheduling appointments at the City's municipal offices at City Hall, 66 Charlotte Street Mondays - Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for residents requiring access to City services. Departments accepting appointments at City Hall include:

- **Corporate Services** (for example, marriage licenses and commissioning). Residents and businesses will not be able to make appointments to pay property taxes or water/wastewater bills.
- **Planning Division**
- **By-law Enforcement Division**
- **Building Division**
- **Mayor's Office**
- **Community Services** (Parks and Recreation)
- **Economic Development**
- **Chief Administrative Officer**

Although the physical doors to City Hall and City facilities are closed, or are offering limited services, staff are continuing to offer customer service support for residents, businesses, and visitors by phone, email, website, and social media channels. To reach our customer service representatives, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., call 905-835-2900 or email customerservice@portcolborne.ca. Looking for a particular staff member? Visit www.portcolborne.ca/page/City_Contacts. For more information and updates about the City's response to COVID-19, visit www.portcolborne.ca/page/covid-19.

Stay healthy & safe while you **#PORTicipate**



Maintain
two metres
physical
separation



Stay home
if you
are sick



Wash or
sanitize
hands
frequently



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WHAT'S HAPPENING IN PORT COLBORNE

Christmas in Port Colborne

We hope you have a Holly Jolly COVID safe Christmas!

Keeping in mind the health and safety of Port Colborne residents and staff, the City's Community and Economic Development Department and the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum have come up with a few creative ideas that are sure to delight, including a Christmas Market hosted on Friday, December 11 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and a home decorating contest open to all residents. For more information, please visit:

http://portcolborne.ca/page/Christmas_in_Port_Colborne



We Want Your Feedback!

The City of Port Colborne is looking for your feedback on business licensing. Business licensing by-laws are currently under review and we want to know how you find the overall process and what we can do to better meet your business needs. Residents and business owners are invited to complete a short survey found here: http://portcolborne.ca/page/licenses_and_permits. Thank you in advance for participating.

It's Time to Talk Trash.....

Garbage collection is now on a bi-weekly schedule. Port Colborne residents are able to put two bags of garbage out for collection every-other-week. Thank you for your cooperation during this transition. **But, you know what's really stinky?** The increase in illegal dumping we've seen. Did you know, illegal dumping is the disposing of material in non-designated areas, such as public roads, ditches, public property, rural areas, vacant lots and in public litter receptacles. It is a crime. This means, you cannot put your personal garbage in City garbage cans, including in downtown areas and parks. These garbage cans welcome small amounts of personal garbage like food wrappers or coffee cups while you are out and about, just not bags of garbage you're bringing from your home. **You know what's even stinkier?** When you have to pay a fine (\$\$) for being caught. Yes, that's right, you can be fined for illegal dumping. There are some exceptions to bi-weekly pick-ups and two bag limits. For more information, please visit Niagara Region's website:

<https://www.niagararegion.ca/waste/collection/schedule/default.aspx>

Fill the Fire Truck Drive-through Toy Drive

- Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services hope to make every child smile this holiday season by hosting the annual fill-the-fire-truck toy drive in support of Port Cares.



Saturday, Nov. 28, 2020

9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Fire Hall: 3 Killaly Street W

- Residents are encouraged to bring new unwrapped toys for children ages 0-18 and non-perishable food items. At no point will participants need to leave their vehicles. Participants are asked to roll down their windows and hand over unwrapped toys and non-perishable food items to fire fighters who will be wearing personal protective equipment or, participants can open their vehicle trunks. There will be other drop-off locations throughout Port Colborne, including:

- Front entrance of the Fire Hall (3 Killaly Street W)
- Port Colborne Christmas Market on Friday, December 11

For more information:

http://portcolborne.ca/page/Christmas_in_Port_Colborne

Fire Safety Message

- If you're planning small dinner parties this holiday season, Port Colborne Fire and Emergency Services wants to remind you to stay alert and stay in the kitchen while cooking.
- If you experience a stove top fire: **PUT A LID ON IT.**
- Don't think it can't happen to you.





PORT COLBORNE
• PUBLIC LIBRARY •

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310 King Street, Port Colborne, ON L3K 4H1 | 905-834-6512 | www.portcolbornelibrary.org

@PortColbornePublicLibrary @PortColborneLib @PortColborneLib PortColbornePublicLibrary

Temporary Hours

Monday - Friday | 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Library staff are onsite to answer your phone calls and to schedule curbside pick up.

Please note the following:

- The book drop is open 24/7 to return your books and library materials
- All returns will be quarantined for 96 hours
- All fines will be waived on items due during the closure
- If you don't have a library card, visit our website to register online
- There are currently no in-person programs or meetings
- If you need help, please call or email us and we will respond to your questions as soon as possible. Stay safe! We will see you soon.
- **NEW: Niagara has moved into Orange-Restrict stage, therefore at this time there will be no in-person book-browsing appointments.**

Contactless curbside pick up is available Monday - Saturday, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

To place your order, give us a call or email us.

Phone: 905-834-6512 • Email: library@portcolborne.ca

Staff will contact you when your items are ready.

Don't know what to borrow? We can make suggestions!

For more information visit, www.portcolbornelibrary.org

WELCOME TO LiNC!

The Port Colborne Public Library is now officially a member of LiNC (Libraries in Niagara Cooperative) and our new online catalogue is live! Check out and start ordering books for pick up now!



Which libraries already belong to LiNC?

- Fort Erie Public Library, Lincoln Public Library, Niagara College Libraries, Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library, Pelham Public Library, Thorold Public Library, West Lincoln Public Library, Grimsby Public Library, & Welland Public Library

What does this mean for Port Colborne Public Library cardholders?

- You can now go to any LiNC library listed above and borrow materials with your Port Colborne Library card
- You can also place a hold on an item from another LiNC library & pick it up there
- All of this means that you will have more reading choices and shorter wait times for holds
- Starting in January 2021, we will start sharing resources between LiNC libraries. Watch for more information on this exciting addition to our library services.

Enjoy Our New Online Catalogue with Updated Features!

- Make carts, book lists, and place holds across all of LiNC with our new online catalogue
- Your carts and lists can be saved, printed, or shared to others
- Check out your new account preferences including the long-requested choice to save your reading history



12 Days of Library Books Giveaways

December 7 - 19, 2020

Celebrate this Holiday Season with the Port Colborne Library, with the 12 Days of Library Books Giveaways. Follow us on social media for more information. More information will be available starting December 7. Thank you to the Port Colborne Optimist Club for their generous book donation!

Universal Class: Free Continuing Education Courses

Enroll in your choice of over 500 personal and professional development courses. Learn at your own pace and print certificates of achievement upon completion. Free with your library card.

NEW RBdigital: E-magazines & Video Streaming Services

With RBdigital you can stream free movies, television shows, documentaries & concerts. RBdigital has over 3,000 digital magazines! Download the RBdigital app to get started. Free with your library card.

Fines and Loan Periods Changing

Some fines and loan periods may change as we align our policies with LiNC standards. Please see our website for a more detailed breakdown of changes to our circulation policy.



PORT COLBORNE
- HISTORICAL & MARINE MUSEUM -

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280 King Street, Port Colborne, ON L3K 5X8 | 905-834-7604 | <http://portcolborne.ca/page/museum>

@PortColborneHistoricalMarineMuseum @PortMuseum @portcolbornemuseum

Christmas at the Museum

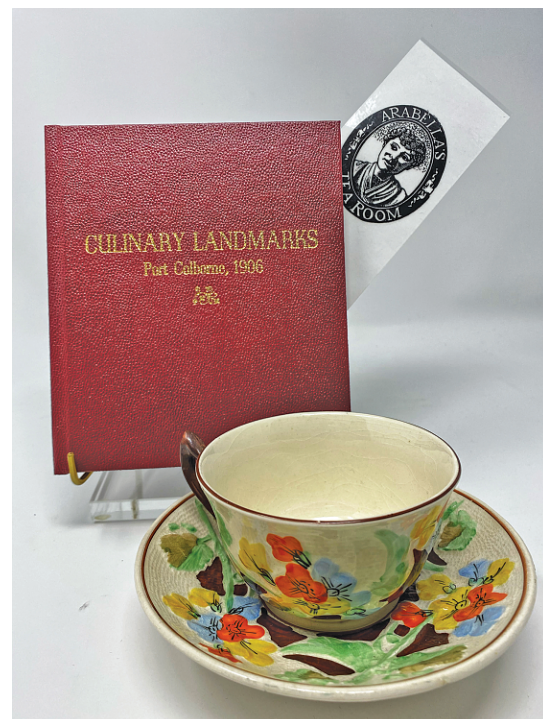
Tis the season for holiday cheer and what better way to celebrate than with the Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum. Although things will be different this year, rest assured the Museum grounds will be decorated and the holiday spirit will be flowing.

Grand Old Christmas Festival Take Out Kits

Port Colborne residents are bringing the holiday spirit home this year, with Grand Old Christmas Festival Take Out Kits. The Museum sold Grand Old Christmas Festival Take Out kits as a fundraiser and we're completely blown away by the community's support. In less than a week the \$10 kits were sold out. On behalf of the Museum Board and Staff, we can't thank you enough for supporting this fundraising initiative. Those who purchased a kit received the following: Christmas card printed with a heritage printing press, a grand Old Christmas Festival candle and globe, and a make your own wreath kit with natural materials. For a Christmas wreath tutorial, check out the quick "How To" video on the City's YouTube channel, created by the wonderful Education Programmer, Abbey.

Christmas Pudding

For those of you wondering about Christmas Pudding, Arabella's Tea Room will not be serving their famous pudding and sauce this holiday season. However, you can support Arabella's Tea Room by purchasing a "Make Your Own Pudding" at home kit. For a \$10 donation, you will receive the 1906 St. James Recipe Book with a modern conversion for the pudding, a fine china tea cup, and spoon wrapped in holiday fashion. All proceeds from the sales will go to help get Arabella's Tea Room ready for the 2021 Season. If you are interested in purchasing a "Make Your Own Pudding" at home kit, please contact the Museum at [905-834-7604](tel:905-834-7604) or email museum@portcolborne.ca. These Christmas Pudding kits are going fast, so don't wait to place your order. Pictured below is an example of what's included in your Christmas Pudding kit.



Christmas Shopping

Look for unique presents this holiday season at the Museum.

The Museum gift shop is now equipped to take credit, debit, cheque or cash. Just in time for Christmas shopping, the tap feature has been installed for a touch free service. Museum publications, jewelry, toys, marine décor and a variety of Port Colborne souvenirs are available. For example, check out this stylish nautical themed purse that's available at the gift shop. Give us a call and let us know when you would like your private browsing session.

Museum Extends the Season

Unique circumstances can sometimes afford unique opportunities. The Museum Board has made the decision to not close during the winter season, but instead welcome the community during these winter months by appointment only.

Book a Safe Service

Book a Safe Service (B.A.S.S.) by calling the Museum at [905-834-7604](tel:905-834-7604). Now you have the chance to book your personalized guided tour. We are booking 45 minute appointments of no more than four guests from the same party and are ensuring sanitization is taking place in between each appointment.



Photo Above

Education Programmer Abbey, showcases what the holiday wreath looks like once completed.





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SnowPORTant Information

A Guide to Winter Control Services in the City of Port Colborne

Winter Control Service Levels

The City of Port Colborne maintains all roads based on a priority system. Roads are classified into Primary Roads, Secondary Roads and Laneways.

Our main objective during a snow event is to keep Primary Roads clear for emergency services and to maintain safe, passable school bus routes. Only after these roads are deemed clear, our plowing and sanding operations commence on Secondary Roads. Laneways are cleared when Primary and Secondary Roads are completed. It is the City's goal to plow all Primary and Secondary Roads in less than 24 hours from the end of a snowfall.

What is a Primary Road?

For the purposes of winter control, a Primary Road is an arterial road upon which higher volume of traffic travels on and provides access to most residential secondary roads.

What is a Secondary Road?

A Secondary Road is any other road not designated as a Primary Road and not a Laneway. These roads carry a low volume of traffic in both urban and rural areas of the City.

What is a Laneway?

A Laneway is a designated municipal rear laneway.

Road Class		Primary Road	Secondary Road	Laneway
Start Winter Control Operations	Snow Depth	8 cm (3 in.)	8 cm (3 in.)	10 cm (4 in.)
Clear Within	Time Frame	12 hours	16 hours	24 hours
Treat Icy Roadways	Time Frame	8 hours	12 hours	16 hours

Know your neighbourhood.

The City clears snow and ice from municipal roads only. Roads owned by the Regional Municipality of Niagara or the Ministry Transportation are cleared by their crews and/or contractors.

Frigid Facts:

- The City of Port Colborne has 279 km of road way (110 km urban and 169 km rural), or 520 lane km.
- For the purpose of snow plowing, the municipality is divided into eight plowing routes with a snow clearing vehicle assigned to each route.
- The total lane km for each route varies from 33 km to 97 km.
- Each plow route takes approximately six to eight hours to complete, depending on weather, traffic available staff, equipment, and the number of vehicles parked on the road ways. For each plow route, the primary roads must be completed before the secondary routes.

CLEAR A SPACE!

Winter Parking – Parked cars make plowing difficult and sometimes impossible. If you park on the road during a snowfall, you could be towed! If your vehicle is parked illegally, you will be issued a \$75 ticket along with a purple tow notice. Towing will occur between one hour to 24 hours after the notice, depending on the severity of the storm and interference with snow removal. With your help, winter maintenance crews can plow snow faster and more efficiently, and reduce the chances of your car getting stuck in a snowdrift. What to do when you don't have a driveway or more cars than off-street parking spaces? Move your vehicle to an alternate location until the streets have been cleared so they do not interfere with plowing.

Note: If you have a utility or mailbox, a catch basin or fire hydrant in front of your property clear a space around it. Accidents and emergencies happen, let's work together to avoid them!



Driveway Snow Clearing – When shoveling your driveway it is suggested you pile the snow on the right side of your driveway when facing the road, if possible. This helps reduce the amount of snow created by the snow plow at the end of your driveway. Snow plows have no place to push the snow except to the curb or shoulder of the road. Sometimes this happens just after you have finished shoveling. City staff appreciate that this can be frustrating, however; we ask your cooperation in clearing the snow without placing it on the roadway. It is illegal to push snow from your property onto the street (Highway Traffic Act

R.S.O. 1990, c. H.8, section 181). If you hire a private contractor to clear your driveway, make sure the contractor does not push snow into the travelled portion of the roadway or fill in the sidewalks.

Sidewalk Snow Removal - In Port Colborne, every Owner or Occupant of a building is responsible for clearing the sidewalks of all snow and ice abutting their property within 24 hours of the completion of a snow event. This allows the safe passage of all pedestrians. If you are renting a property, please make necessary arrangements with your Landlord regarding snow removal. Those who do not comply may face fines or have the snow and ice removed at the owner's expense.

To view our Most Frequently Requested By-Law, visit: <http://portcolborne.ca/page/FrequentlyRequestedBylaws> As always you may call the By-law Department at 905-835-2900 ext. 207 to ask questions or discuss an issue.

To register a complaint, email bylawenforcement@portcolborne.ca with the address of the complaint area and type of complaint. Generalized complaints, including reference to an entire block, cannot be filed.

Consider being a Snow Buddy!

After a snow event, a neighbor might need your help! Snow Buddies is a local organization that is always looking to place volunteers with those who need winter help. Volunteer by calling 905-682-3800 ext. 35.

72 Hours. Is your Family Prepared?

Log on to www.getprepared.ca to make sure you have the tools needed to keep yourself, your loved ones, and your property safe during a winter emergency.

PORTicipate & Tune In

The City of Port Colborne notifies local media about municipal closures and road safety information. Be sure to like us on Facebook and Instagram, follow us on Twitter, and sign up for the news channel on our website by visiting http://portcolborne.ca/page/City_Hall_News to stay up-to-date on all winter control services provided by the City, and more!