



## New restrictions in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19

**Port Colborne, ON (April 19, 2021)** – Effective April 17 at 12:01 a.m., additional provincewide restrictions were implemented to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and help save lives. This includes extending the stay-at-home order for an additional two weeks, closing outdoor facilities like golf courses, soccer fields, basketball courts and marinas, and stopping all non-essential construction.

During the Stay-at-Home order, the City of Port Colborne will implement the following changes to City-run outdoor amenities:

- **Skate park closed**
- **Beaches closed**
- **Sports fields, courts, picnic tables and pavilions closed**
- **Parks and trails will remain open for passive use only, allowing for walkthrough access.**
  - Individuals can travel through parks on foot or bicycle; however, gatherings, sports or loitering will be prohibited. To support the intended local use of City parks, access to parking lots have been restricted.
- **Boat ramp & Sugarloaf Marina closed**
  - Residents should only leave their house for essential purposes such as accessing food and pharmacies; exercise; medical appointments; vaccine appointments; and essential work that cannot be done remotely. Participating in boating activities for leisure purposes has been deemed non-essential by the Ontario government and is not considered outdoor exercise. After consulting with other municipalities, the City of Port Colborne will be following *Section 4 (1) of Ontario Regulation 2021.04.*, which states “each person responsible for an outdoor recreational amenity shall ensure it is closed,” and Section 37 (3), which states “the person who operates the marina shall not permit it to be used for recreational boating purposes.” As such, Sugarloaf Marina, including the public boat launch, will be closed until such time that these regulations change.

The Ontario government revised the recently announced playground restrictions, and playground equipment is now available for use; City staff have removed all barriers/fencing. Playgrounds, play structures, and equipment can be used by children if both the children and their parents can maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from others (other than a person who is a member of the same household, a member of one other household who lives alone, or a caregiver for any member of either household).

“Now, more than ever we need to do our part to prevent the spread of COVID-19,” said Mayor Bill Steele. “We understand everyone’s frustrations, but it’s essential we follow provincial direction and stay home. We are committed to ensuring the health and safety of this community and will continue to make necessary changes to daily operations as provincial guidelines change.”

Members of the public are reminded of the following:

- Restrict close contacts to your household members only and essential supports. Those who live alone may join with another household for support.
- Wear a face covering when around others from another household, out in public places, or outdoors when unable to stay physically distant
- Wash hands often
- If you have any COVID-19 symptoms or are not feeling well, stay isolated at home and get tested for COVID-19

For more information, please visit [www.portcolborne.ca](http://www.portcolborne.ca).

### **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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