



March 31, 2020

Statement from the Mayor and Council – March 31, 2020

Positive Cases: 29

Deaths: 2

Many of you have asked for these updates and so for those that do not wish to read them, I am sorry but getting information out to the public is limited and if you feel that you are being directed or dictated too, it is unfortunate but there are the few that are taking the resources from many of us and they are the ones that put us all at higher risk. Whether it is from the PM or the Premier or the local Mayors, the message is the same, STAY HOME, only go out for basic needs.

The cases are doubling every couple of days and according to our Medical officer and we should not be surprised by those numbers. What we are experiencing today are numbers based on the number of delayed tests and further resulting from activities prior to schools closing and self isolation principles were applied. Do not focus too much on today's numbers as they are tracking the national average and consistent, your attention should be on the numbers over the next couple of weeks as those will be the numbers that reflect all of our efforts this past couple of weeks.

What does self isolation mean? Self-isolation is when you have been instructed to separate yourself from others, with the purpose of preventing the spread of the virus, including those within your home. If you are ill, you should be separated from others in your household to the greatest extent possible.

What does quarantine mean? Quarantine Act is a bid to stop Canadians returning from foreign travel from flouting coronavirus isolation orders. That move made it against the law for returning travellers to defy the order to quarantine themselves for 14 days, full stop — no going for walks, no getting groceries, no checking in on friends to say hi.

Skate parks, tennis courts, etc. are strictly OFF LIMITS.

If anyone fails to with respect to the above and you witness such you have a duty to protect your community and contact the following with names and/or license plates etc. any information that would be helpful. If you are found in contravention of any of the above it comes with a min. of \$750 fine.

1. OPP Hotline 1-888-310-1122
2. H-N Hotline 519-428-8019



Update on Trailer Parks

The trailer parks are non essential service and are subject to the same closure orders as everyone else. Let me be very clear that the our order specifically states that ONLY those that call their trailer their home and have no other place registered in Canada as their home are allowed entry to the parks. We have some of the best park operators around and I have spoken to many of the park owners and they share the same concerns as we all do and will be managing themselves accordingly. Ultimately as owners they have the option to open their park to snowbirds or not, it is their choice. There is no daily or weekend camping and that will be strictly enforced by both the County and the Province.

If you own a cottage in Haldimand, we ask that you not use it. If you rent it we will be reviewing our legal options as a county on rentals. If you are renting your property out on a daily or weekly basis, we ask that you cancel them now until further notice.

As mentioned yesterday by the Premier, if you are 70 or older, STAY HOME, that is the safest place for you, ask or help, there are plenty of volunteers out there that will pick up your groceries etc.

The Haldimand War Memorial Hospital will be operating a COVID Assessment Center as a drive thru at 420 Locke St in the parking lot. It is by appointment only. You must still follow the process, contact your local physician, or through the Heath Unit if you are showing symptoms and through them they will book you an appointment starting Thursday April 2.

I want to take this time to highlight some extraordinary people in your community. There are so many more selfless acts out there and they are all inspiring, Donna Pitcher making home made face masks for the taxi cab drivers in Haldimand. If you are a tax cab operator in need of a mask, contact Donna, or myself and we will get you one.

Toni Hayes Powell who is taking the time to recognize all those wonderful people out on the front lines, putting faces to names and allowing ourselves to learn a little about the great people who put themselves out there risking everything.

Steve Fenton, of Battlefield International volunteering his staff and is currently working with our Chief Medical Officer on recreating a ventilator to help save those precious lives.

I came across this quote that I would like to leave you with, "sometimes we get so caught up in feeling misunderstood that we lose sight of the fact that we may be the ones who are misunderstanding what's being told to us".

In these times words and comments can be so easily misunderstood and I apologize to those that have demonstrated their passions and their frustrations and their fears.



Stay safe.....

Mayor Ken Hewitt

Haldimand County Council

Stewart Patterson

John Metcalfe

Dan Lawrence

Tony Dalimonte

Rob Shirton

Bernie Corbett