



For Immediate Release

Minden, Ontario
Wednesday March 25, 2020
1:00 PM
Release #20-17

Subject: Minden Hills COVID-19 Service Provision Reductions Update

The Provincial Government has announced the mandatory closure of all non-essential businesses effective March 25th for a period of 14 days. A list of those business affected has also been released by the Province and can be reviewed at <https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/03/ontario-closing-at-risk-workplaces-to-protect-health-and-safety.html>.

A reminder that all Township facilities remain closed to the public, until further notice. Administrative call answering services will remain available between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM Monday to Friday, 705-286-1260 x 200 or admin@mindenhills.ca.

Please provide your name, contact information (phone and/or email) and a clear and brief message regarding the reason for your call.

The public can be assured that essential services will be maintained as much as possible.

We are asking the public to restrict inquiries to Township priority requests only and please understand that it may take longer to reply to messages as Staff handle increased phone and email inquiries.

We are also asking the public for their patience during this time and to observe our request to contact the Township for municipal related inquiries by the following methods only:

Telephone: 705-286-1260 x. 200

Email: admin@mindenhills.ca

Please do not call or email the various Departments or their related extensions or submit inquiries though the Minden Hills website Contact Us form.

Please refer to the list below for **NEW and/or UPDATED** service provision reductions.

For a complete list of all Township service provision reductions, please go to:

<https://www.mindenhills.ca/covid-19-information/>

Meetings

All Council, Committee of the Whole, Public, Advisory Committee and Local Board regularly scheduled meetings have been suspended until further notice.

Staff are working diligently to find a solution for moving forward the business of Council and to resume meetings as soon as possible; by means that meet legislative requirements, provides transparency to the public, and adheres to all safety measures for Staff, Council and members of the Public.

Waste Sites (Landfills)

Reduced services at waste sites to the acceptance of bagged garbage and household recycling only was undertaken in response to the rapidly evolving COVID-19 pandemic.

Since the announcement of these reductions on March 18, 2020, site traffic has not reduced. Residents are attending waste sites in higher volumes than is typical for this time of year, and many are attending with minimal amounts of waste.

The Township of Minden Hills is urging residents to avoid waste sites as much as possible, in order reduce the number of individuals on site at any given time.

Do not attend waste sites unless you have accumulated 3 full bags of garbage

When attending waste sites, please adhere to the following:

- **Do not** bring passengers to waste sites unless you need physical assistance unloading your vehicle or have no other arrangements made for watching a dependant (child, elderly, etc.).
- **Do not** cross any physical barriers put in place at each site.
- **Do not** approach attendants for assistance unless you are in physical distress.
- **Do not** attend the site with any materials beyond bagged household waste and recycling.
- **Do not** enter the site attendant's shelter or bring food or beverages for the site attendants.
- **Do not** exit your vehicle with the exception of unloading your vehicle at the household waste bin and recycling bins.
- All communication with site staff shall be completed through the window of your vehicle, and shall be limited to discussions regarding the disposal of your waste.
- When you have exited your vehicle, ensure that you are practicing social/physical distancing with a minimum of 2m (6 feet) between yourself and members of the public.

Any person verbally harassing or abusing site staff and/or failing to comply with the above requirements or regular waste facility rules/regulations **will be** suspended from attending the site for the remainder of the Provincial and Municipal declared COVID-19 Pandemic Emergency.

Please remember that these are **temporary** measures put in place to stop the transmission of COVID-19 and **a return to normal operations will require the immediate and full cooperation of the public.**

Water Testing (Laboratory testing of well water)

The **Haliburton** HKPR District Health Unit is closed to the public, however water bottles can be picked up, and returned samples can be dropped off, outside the office located at 191 Highland Street, Unit 301, Haliburton, Monday to Thursday - 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. All returned water samples are to be placed in the cooler provided outside of the building. Ensure that you are practicing social/physical distancing.

Please call ahead as pick up/drop off times may change -1-866-888-4577, ext. 5006.

The Township of Minden Hills encourages social and physical distancing measures as a way to minimize COVID-19 transmission in the community. This means minimizing close contact with others during this outbreak. The health and safety of the community is our priority and we will continue to provide updates as information becomes available to us. We encourage everyone to visit our website at www.mindenhills.ca, as well as the following websites, for up to date news and information:

- Public Health Ontario - <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/respiratory-diseases/novel-coronavirus/public-resources>
- Ministry of Health - <https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus?amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;amp;qid=95944921>
- Health Canada - <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html?amp%3Bamp%3Bamp%3Bamp%3Bqid=96637021>
- County of Haliburton - <https://haliburtoncounty.ca/covid-19/>

Thank you for your understanding as we work toward keeping our community safe and healthy.

To receive important information and updates, including in the event of an emergency, please ensure that you are subscribed to the Minden Hills website. Do this by simply clicking the **Subscribe Here** button, located at the bottom of the Minden Hills website, and complete the following:

- Name and email address
- Select any or all of the options listed to receive notifications.
- You will receive a confirmation email thanking you for subscribing.
IMPORTANT: Check your spam folder if you do not receive the confirmation email.

Subscribe Here
To receive important Minden
Hills Alerts, News &
Information

The Municipality will continue to communicate all information by means of media broadcasting and media releases to radio stations, local newspapers and our website.

For Municipal Emergency contact after hours call: 1-866-856-3247

For Emergency Services call: 911

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Contact Information:

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