



News Release

For Immediate Release

March 14, 2020 (4:50 pm)

The County of Brant Closes Community Centres, Arenas, the Paris Museum and St. George Lawn Bowling Club

County of Brant, ON - Effective today, March 14, 2020 at 8:30 pm, the County of Brant will be closing all community centres, arenas, the Paris Museum and Historical Society and the St. George Lawn Bowling Club until April 5, 2020. These closures are directly aligned with recommendations from Brant County Medical Officer of Health and the Province of Ontario's Chief Medical Officer.

There are currently no reported cases of COVID-19 in the County of Brant and all cancellations and closures are being implemented as a precautionary measure.

The County of Brant Customer Service Offices in Burford (26 Park Ave., Burford) and Paris (66 Grand River St. N, Paris and 15 Curtis Ave. N., Paris) will remain open for service. Signage is posted requesting visitors to refrain from entering if they are experiencing symptoms of illness. Additional hand sanitization stations are available at the Customer Service Office entrances.

Points of clarification include:

- The Customer Service Offices located within community centers such as Oakland, Onondaga and St. George will be closed until April 5, 2020.
- The Scotland Community Centre entrance used by the independent daycare, Just for Mom's and Kids Children's Centre, will be maintained and available to the daycare users. For questions about the daycare, please contact them directly 519.446.3059.

Re-imbursments for cancelled facility rentals will be generated as quickly as possible. Please be patient with staff.

Yesterday, the County of Brant announced that all recreation programs including March Break camps, registered programs, drop-in programs including drop-in skating and turf programs were cancelled as of March 14, 2020 and will be reassessed prior to April 5, 2020. Additionally, the Paris Seniors Club (located at St. James Anglican Church in Paris) will also be closed until April 5, 2020.

As well, County of Brant Libraries announced that they are closing all branches as of Friday, March 13, 2020 at 5:00 pm. At this time, libraries are anticipated to re-open Monday, April 6, 2020. During the libraries' closure, patrons are encouraged to keep their library materials at home. Please do not return items to the drop box at this time. All due dates will automatically be extended and no lost or overdue fines will be charged. Online service is always available at www.brantlibrary.ca.

“It is unfortunate that we need to cancel programs and close community facilities but are doing so in the best interest of community. These actions are based on the expert medical advice from our local and provincial healthcare authorities,” said Mayor David Bailey. “Please be assured that the County of Brant, with guidance from the Brant County Health Unit, is ready to respond should COVID-19 challenge our community.”

Program, service and facility updates related to COVID-19 will be shared on www.brant.ca/COVID-19. For questions related to County services, please contact info@brant.ca or call 519.44-BRANT.

For health related updates, please follow the Brant County Health Unit at www.bchu.org. Residents are encouraged to educate themselves about COVID-19 and follow the Health Unit's recommendations to help prevent the spread of viruses:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze
- If you don't have a tissue, sneeze or cough into your sleeve or arm
- Avoid touching your face, eyes and mouth to prevent illness
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

For more information on who is at risk, how to protect your family, what to do if you feel ill, and what precautions to take if you've travelled outside of Canada, visit the Brant County Health Unit www.bchu.org.

-30-

Media Contact:

Kathy Ballantyne
Director of Park and Facilities
County of Brant
519.44-BRANT x 3202
Kathy.ballantyne@brant.ca