



MEDIA RELEASE
March 26, 2020

Township of Perth East Declared an Emergency due to COVID -19 Pandemic

PERTH EAST, ON – March 26, 2020 at 9:30 am, the Township of Perth East Declared an Emergency in accordance with the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, 1990*, as a result of the global Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Declaring an emergency will give our municipality opportunities to further protect the health and safety of all individuals, families and businesses. This declaration also aligns with the Government of Ontario's Declaration of Emergency made on March 17, 2020.

"With the recent confirmation of a COVID-19 cases and evidence that the virus is circulating unknowingly, we are taking this public health situation seriously. We need to make some difficult decisions moving forward to continue to effectively and efficiently respond to the situation in our municipalities. The health and safety of all of our communities, residents and employees are top priority" said Mayor Rhonda Ehgoetz.

Municipalities across Perth County and the City of Stratford are making similar declarations and with collective priorities. The declaration also supports Public Health recommendations that reinforce the importance of acting now to help flatten the curve of spread of COVID-19.

The declaration was made for the following reasons:

- It can raise awareness of the seriousness of COVID-19 and demonstrate to their residents that the municipality is taking the current situation seriously, and is taking every step that they can to protect them from the threat;
- A declaration of emergency provides the Head of Council the authority to take actions or make orders, which are not contrary to law, in order to protect the inhabitants in the area of the emergency;
- To protect volunteers that may be called to assist;
- To preserve the rights of the Municipality for future compensation should it become available, and
- To ensure the organization can quickly respond to other unforeseen events should they arise.

Corporation of the Township of Perth East
25 Mill Street East
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The Township continues to encourage residents to stay informed about COVID-19 and follow the guidance of health professionals, including Huron Perth Public Health at www.hpph.ca, to reduce the risk of infection

For further information, please contact;

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