## **News Release**



# **COVID-19: Update on North Huron's Services and Amenities**

NORTH HURON, ON (January 24, 2022) – In response to the Ontario Government's News Release outlining steps to ease public health measures, the Township of North Huron has developed a COVID-19 Reopening Strategy to ensure that North Huron is compliant with Provincial requirements enacted to fight the Omicron variant.

In the absence of concerning trends in public health and health care indicators, the Ontario Government announced it will follow a cautious and phased approach to lifting public health measures, with 21 days between each step. The gradual ease of public health measures is set to begin on January 31, 2022.

Effective January 31, 2022 at 12:01 a.m. the Ontario Government will begin the process of gradually easing restrictions, while maintaining protective measures. In light of this announcement, changes to North Huron facilities, programs and services are as follows:

- The North Huron Municipal Office will reopen to the public effective Monday, January 31, 2022. During this time, residents are still strongly encouraged to make use of the drop box located at the front doors of Town Hall and to continue to contact staff by phone or email during regular business hours. All meetings with staff will be scheduled on an appointment basis and will be held through video or telephone participation, where possible.
- All Council, Committee, and Board meetings will continue to be held through electronic participation, until further notice. Instructions on how to join electronic Council, Committee, and Board meetings are available on the <u>Agendas and Minutes</u> page of the Township of North Huron website.
- All indoor sport and recreational facilities including the indoor pool, fitness centre
  and courts will reopen at 50% capacity on Monday, January 31, 2022. As per
  Provincial direction, enhanced proof of vaccination and government issued ID will
  continue to be required for entry and no food or drinks will be permitted on the
  premises.
- The ice surfaces at the Wescast Community Centre and the Blyth Community Centre will reopen for bookings on Monday, January 31, 2022. Spectator areas will be limited to 50% seated capacity and no food or drinks will be permitted on the

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premises. As per Provincial direction, enhanced proof of vaccination and government issued ID will continue to be required for entry.

- The Wingham Town Hall Theatre will reopen for rehearsals and performances at 50% seated capacity on Monday, January 31, 2022. As per Provincial direction, enhanced proof of vaccination and government issued ID will continue to be required for entry and no food or drinks will be permitted on the premises.
- Daycare and Early Learning services for infants, toddlers and preschoolers will
  continue to operate with the existing restrictions remaining in place. Before and
  after school programs will continue to operate in accordance with Ministry of
  Education guidelines.

"I would like to thank all North Huron residents and visitors for their patience and understanding as municipal facilities, programs and services are reopened in a safe and gradual manner. North Huron's number one priority is the safety of our residents and we will continue to follow public health measures and provincial directives to protect the community," says Reeve Bailey. "By following <u>public health measures</u>, <u>advice</u>, <u>and restrictions</u>, we will get through this together."

#### **QUICK FACTS**

As public health measures continue to ease in the upcoming months, the Township of North Huron will provide updates to our residents on any changes to municipal facilities, programs and services.

Information regarding dates and locations for upcoming vaccination clinics offered by Huron-Perth Public Health is available on the Huron-Perth Public Health website.

#### **LEARN MORE**

For more information and to stay up-to-date on North Huron news and notices related to COVID-19, Council and Township services, please refer to the <u>News and Updates</u> section of the North Huron website.

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**MEDIA CONTACT:** Carson Lamb, Clerk

T: 519-357-3550 | E: clamb@northhuron.ca

