



The Corporation of the Township of Bonnechere Valley

RE: Joint Message from Bonnechere Valley Mayor Jennifer Murphy and North Algona Wilberforce Mayor James Brose

We both worked very hard at getting the message out (to stay home) last week. Huge thanks to the people from Ottawa, Toronto and surrounding municipalities outside Renfrew County for listening to the message and staying at home in your own community.

Every year we look forward to the return of our seasonal residents and visitors. However, at this time our supplies are limited and cannot take the additional strain. If there were any kind of accident or emergency, our first responders here would be limited in providing additional assistance with the current challenges we are facing under Covid-19.

At the same time that we are asking seasonal residents not to visit, we are asking our residents not to travel. When residents leave and come back, they are potentially becoming carriers of the virus when they interact with others. The federal government and the province is very firmly telling all of us to stay home.

If you think you may have COVID-19 symptoms or have been in close contact with someone who has it, first self-isolate and then use Ontario's Self-Assessment Tool to see if you need to seek further care.

If you need further assistance, call Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-000, or Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre at 1-844-727-6406. You can also call RCDHU at 613-735-8654

Both of our Townships are striving to maintain all essential services as we continue to monitor the situation with guidance from the County and other levels of government. For the safety and health of our communities, all municipal buildings are closed to the public at this time however staff will be available by phone or email and the staff directory is on the Township's website. Please check our social media pages for regular updates. On Tuesdays and Fridays BV posts a scheduled update and NAW does the same on Tuesdays and Friday. Check your mailbox for our newsletter coming directly to your home next week.

Essential services such as the landfill, transfer stations, curbside pick-up and routine road maintenance are not impacted at this time. To protect the safety of our employees and residents we are waiving the need for garbage tags for collection and/or waste cards when you attend any of our municipal waste sites.

For Residents on municipal sewer services; please be mindful that item such as wipes, hygiene products dental floss, and even hair should not be flushed as they can create blockages in both the homeowner's pipe as well as municipal sewer pipe. Please only flush products that will breakdown. Doing this will reduce maintenance and eliminate emergency repairs by municipal crews.

Keeping distance from others, residents can still stroll through our parks. The province has mandated that play structures are to be closed so please keep children away. The Bonnechere Union Public Library is offering online services for children and adults.

We will continue to provide the essential services you rely on. Our Councils will continue to meet and even though our municipal buildings are closed to the public during the Covid 19 pandemic the public will still be able to attend Committee and Council meetings virtually on line, check our web pages for details. Agendas will continue to be available on our website, or via email, fax or regular mail upon request.

We are so grateful to all the essential businesses, health care professionals and volunteers for continuing to support the community and it's most vulnerable. Further we are very proud of our own dedicated staff that adjust daily to the ongoing changes in their workplace through this difficult time.

We thank you all for your patience and understanding as we continue to deliver services in these challenging times. If you have questions please contact the municipal office by phone or email. Stay Renfrew County Strong. We are in this together.