

The Corporation of the Municipality of Sioux Lookout

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

April 19, 2021

## ~ FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ~

## Municipal Service Changes Under Ontario Stay-at-Home Order

*Sioux Lookout, ON* – In an effort to control the rising number of COVID-19 cases in the third wave, the Province of Ontario has implemented more restrictive lockdown measures. These measures will have an impact on your Municipal services until at least May 20<sup>th</sup>.

All Municipal buildings will be closed to the public until the lockdown order is lifted.

Municipal Clerk, Brian MacKinnon, reminds residents that, "While our doors are closed, we do have staff working in a variety of capacities. Our phone lines are being monitored, and we'll do our best to return calls within two business days."

Currently, these Municipal facilities are **CLOSED** to the public:

- The Municipal Office
- The Recreation Centre and Gymnasium except for vaccination clinics
- The Public Works Garage
- The Fire Hall
- The Airport Administration Building

These Municipal facilities will remain **OPEN** to the public:

- The Airport Terminal Building
- The Hidden Lake Landfill Site
- The Biidaaban and Sioux Mountain Children's Centres
- Outdoor parks and greenspaces with physical distancing being observed

"We were pleased to see the restrictions on parks and playgrounds eased over the weekend," said Sioux Lookout CAO, Michelle Larose. "That said, we ask anyone using our parks or playgrounds to maintain physical distancing from anyone not in your household, wear your masks, and bring hand sanitizer to use after touching any play equipment. Please do your part to keep everyone safe and healthy."

Remember that outdoor events and gatherings are prohibited unless everyone is from the same household, with the exception of one other person who lives alone or is a caregiver for a member of the household.

All outdoor sports facilities and multi-use fields are closed to use, including:

- Baseball diamonds
- Soccer fields
- Golf courses
- Tennis courts
- Basketball courts
- Bike and skate parks

All picnic sites and picnic tables in parks are closed to use during the current lockdown order as well.

While Ontario Provincial Police will not be arbitrarily stopping individuals or vehicles or entering homes specifically to check compliance, they will be focusing on non-compliance in businesses, complaints from the public, and unlawful public gatherings. Officers can disperse gatherings and issue tickets to individuals found to be non-compliant. The fine is \$750.

Please note that **2021 fire permits** can still be purchased during the shutdown. An online application form is available at <a href="https://www.siouxlookout.ca/en/living-here/burning-permits.asp">https://www.siouxlookout.ca/en/living-here/burning-permits.asp</a> and it can be left, with payment, in the drop-box near the entrance to the Municipal office.

We thank you for your continued patience and support as we work to protect the health and safety of our employees and the community.

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## For more information, please contact:

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