

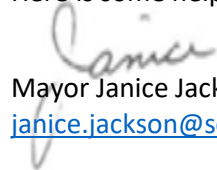


To the Residents of South Bruce Peninsula

March 19, 2020

These are trying times. We're facing a global pandemic like nothing we've seen before. The Federal and Provincial Governments are putting measures in place. As a Municipality, this is hitting home and we're doing everything possible to take proactive measures, relay information and offer advice. I am meeting regularly, via teleconference, with Dr. Ian Arra, our Grey Bruce Chief Medical Officer of Health. Regular teleconferences are also being conducted between all 8 Mayors of Bruce County as well as our own South Bruce Peninsula (SBP) Senior Management Team and Municipal Emergency Management Control Group. This crisis is changing daily, and we must remain ahead of it. Knowledge and vigilance are the keys to finding our way through this. We must take this pandemic seriously and do everything possible to prevent it from spreading but please don't panic. At times, grocery stores are having difficulty keeping items on the shelf. Purchase what you need but please do not hoard. There are others who are in need too and can't find supplies. **We all need to step up and protect our community.** Watch out for each other, insist that those returning home from outside of Canada immediately self-isolate and help our seniors and the vulnerable. We can see our way through this as a community if we work together. When it's all over, I want to be the community that emerged with the fewest cases of novel Coronavirus. We can do this if we all use common sense and look out for one another.

Here is some helpful information. Please stay healthy.



Mayor Janice Jackson

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How to Avoid COVID 19:

Maintain social distance – remain at least 2 metres (7 feet) from people if you absolutely have to go out. Wash your hands frequently. Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth. CNN reports 80% of those infected got it from people who had no idea they had it. They all said they felt fine. **Stay at home as much as possible.** Step out to get fresh air and exercise but please stay away from people.

COVID-19 Symptoms: Fever, cough, shortness of breath. Buy a thermometer and check daily.

Assessment Centres:

Assessment Centres are up and running next to the Owen Sound Hospital (noon to 8pm 7 days/week), Hanover Hospital (10am-4pm 7 days/week) and Kincardine Hospital (9am-5pm 7 days/week).

In the coming weeks, additional centres are being created at the smaller hospitals including Wiarton.

Self-Isolation:

Remain home for 14 days. Monitor your symptoms, avoid contact with others. If you develop mild symptoms, please stay home. If they're moderate to severe, call Public Health at 519-376-9420 x 3000 or go to your nearest Assessment Centre. Call 911 if you're unable to get yourself there. Please don't bog down the Assessment Centres if you don't have symptoms. They won't test you.

Snowbirds and out of Country Travelers:

Our population is growing as our seasonal residents and snowbirds return home. This calls for increased measures of communication. There seems to be a lack of communication at our border entries. I've been hearing that people crossing the border are not being told they must self-isolate for 14 days. We need to help them by getting the word out. If you can, please reach out to your returning friends and family and stress the importance self-isolation. They cannot stop at the grocery store on their way home. They must go straight home and arrange for someone to deliver groceries to them. If you have been out of Canada for any length of time, PLEASE self-isolate for 14 days. I know it isn't always easy but we're all taking precautions. Please don't chance spreading the virus because you feel the need to get out or you believe you're OK. You might feel great today, but you could be hit with symptoms a few days later and in between, you've infected people. Spreading the virus to just one person will cause a ripple effect that could cripple our community. Please stay home. There's lots of help here for you.

The Helping Hands of Our Community:

Our amazing local service groups are joining forces to help our vulnerable and those in isolation. If you need assistance with grocery delivery, ValuMart in Sauble Beach will pack orders 2 days per week and members of the Sauble Lions & the Sauble Men's Club will deliver to you. Please call ValuMart to order at 519-422-1641. Unfortunately, Wiarton Foodland simply doesn't have the staff to pack orders. If you're able to help deliver groceries, please email me. The service groups could use your assistance. Please keep in mind, these folks are volunteering their time and gas so please only request their help if you are truly in need and have no other options.

Closures:

All Municipal and County buildings are closed including Town Hall, Libraries, Recreations Centres, Wiarton Arena, Sauble Beach Community Centre, Daycare Centres, Restaurants, playgrounds, places of worship and Pubs. All sporting events, conventions and concerts are cancelled. All private rentals of our facilities are cancelled, refunds will be issued. Both the County and Town Hall staff will continue to work however no visitors will be permitted to enter either building until further notice. County and SBP Council meetings have been suspended. Emergency Council meetings will be held when necessary.

Town Landfill Site and curb-side garbage pick-up:

Our landfill site will remain open to contractors with Town accounts only and residents using only a "tap" debit card. Contractors needing to open an account can call Town Hall 519-534-1400. All curbside garbage and recycling pick-up will continue as regularly scheduled.

More Information: If you have COVID 19 related questions please call:

TeleHealth: 1-866-797-0000

Grey Bruce Public Health Unit: 519-376-9420 x 3000

GBHS COVID-19 Phone Line: 1-519-378-1466 (Monday-Friday, 12 pm-4pm)