
HALDIMAND COUNTY

Memorandum CAO-M02-2020 Declared Emergency Update For Consideration by Council on May 19, 2020



To: Mayor Hewitt and Members of Council
From: Craig Manley, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

Use of Delegated Authority:

At the Council Meeting of April 21, 2020 Council approved Report CAO-03-2020 which temporarily provided additional delegated authority to the CAO to ensure business continuity and to manage the response to the COVID-19 pandemic emergency. In the intervening time this authority was used for the following purposes:

1. Approval of Flexible Working Arrangements Policy to allow remote work by staff and enforcement activity.
2. Grandview Lodge Agreements:
 - Dr. Ahmed Kamouna Attending Physician Agreement.
 - Dr. Omar Ezzat Attending Physician Agreement
 - Medical Director Agreement Dr. Kamouna May 2020
 - Melanie Kippen, Consultant Registered Dietitian (CRD)

These administrative agreements are required ensure continuity of medical support for the residents of Grandview Lodge.

3. Water Agreement Extension – a six month extension of an existing agreement which was set to expire which will ensure continuity of essential operations and the ability to complete an on-going competitive bid process for a long term contract to provide water supply operations to the County.
4. Caledonia Intersection Improvement and Road Overlay – reallocation of funds between projects to facilitate the construction and signalization of Argyle/Haddington and the urban overlay of Orkney Street East. The expenditure remains under the overall allotted budget.
5. Funding of Temporary Community Paramedic – provision of Provincial funding for a temporary community paramedic to assist with COVID-19 testing within Haldimand County.

Municipal Government Reopening Strategy:

As part of extraordinary efforts to stem the spread of the COVID-19 virus, in-person services at the County were temporarily discontinued as of March 18th and in mid-April in response to extended closures and the suspension of non-essential services by the Province, the County temporarily scaled back its workforce to only provide critical essential community services.

Over the past several months substantial efforts by all levels of government and its citizen's to 'flatten the curve' by promoting social distancing are having a positive effect to the point that it is time to start developing plans to reopen the economy and move toward restoring full municipal services.

On April 27th the Province issued a framework for reopening the Provincial economy. This framework outlines key principles the Province will use to reopen business, services and public spaces in gradual

stages based on advice from health authorities. While no timing has been provided, the intent is to take a careful stage by stage approach in 2 – 4 week increments while assessing the evolution of the COVID-19 outbreak using an evidence based approach. This includes a consistent decrease in number of new cases over 2 - 4 weeks, the ability to test and capacity in the health care system. The Province is only now just entering the first of three defined stages to open up portions of the economy and public spaces. It is anticipated that public health measures will ease over a number of weeks (6-12 weeks) and that requirements for on-going social distancing will be a fact of life for many months to come. Currently the Provincial State of Emergency is to be extended at least to June 2, 2020.

Senior Management has met recently to develop a road map to help guide the reopening of full municipal services for Haldimand County that is gradual and staged and which aligns with and is tied to the Provincial approach. The proposed timing is associated with the stages of the Provincial reopening framework but could be subject to change.

Attachment 1 outlines the proposed strategy, the opening criteria and anticipated safety requirements to be put in place to support the functions. Generally the proposed reopening strategy recommends a transition through the following 4 stages:

Stage 1 – Current Situation: Essential Services and Limited Support Functions

Stage 2 – Supporting Construction and Reopening of Outdoor Spaces (mid May to June)

Stage 3 – Resumption of In-Person Services (end of June)

Stage 4 – Resumption of Full Municipal Services (tbd)

Staff teams are currently developing specific safety programs and are sourcing equipment and other materials to ensure that the County can quickly transition to each stage of reopening quickly.

Attachments:

1. Haldimand County COVID-19 Reopening Strategy.