

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) Update Media Release

Town of Georgina Communications Division communications@georgina.ca



For Immediate Release Feb. 19, 2021

Town enters 'Red' control classification under the COVID-19 response framework

Georgina, ON – York Region, including the Town of Georgina, will enter the red control classification level within the tiered <u>COVID-19 response framework</u> as of 12:01 a.m. on Feb. 22, 2021, no longer subject to the stay-at-home order. Under the red control classification, residents are reminded to limit contact to your household (the people you live with) and stay at least two metres apart from everyone else. All events and social gatherings are limited to five people indoors and 25 people outdoors.

"As we start to see some improvements in the COVID-19 data indicators we are seeing, it is no time to let down our guard. We know how quickly this can change and we can be placed right back into lockdown," said Mayor Margaret Quirk. "We still have a long road, but I am happy that local businesses can begin to open up slowly. We need to continue to be there to support our local businesses, this has been particularly hard for them. But above all, remain vigilant in your actions, wear a mask, keep your distance and only make essential trips."

With the lifting of the stay-at-home order, plans to reopen the tobogganing hill at the ROC are underway and are scheduled for Feb. 22, 2021. Residents are asked to adhere to the posted safety protocols and the number of users on the hill will be monitored. With the recent announcement Georgina will host a static vaccination clinic in early spring, the Town's priority moving forward will be ensuring the clinic is ready to open when called upon. As recreation staff work toward this new priority, the tube and terrain hill at the Recreational Outdoor Campus (ROC) will remain closed for the rest of the winter season. The balance of the ROC property will remain open for permitted use. Georgina parks, trails, and playgrounds remain open for permitted activities such as tobogganing (unless signed otherwise), cross country skiing, snow shoeing and walking. Residents must follow all health and safety measures as outlined by the province when engaging in any of these activities.

The <u>Pefferlaw Ice Pad</u> remains open. It is an artificial outdoor ice surface and controlled environment with strict capacity limits. All participants are required to complete a health screening and pre-book skating sessions in advance. Public skating is the only permitted activity at the PIP, with hockey and shinny games not allowed (no sticks and no pucks). Physical distancing of two metres must be maintained and masks/face coverings are required to be worn at all times.

Access to the three Georgina Public Library branches will continue for contactless pickup of holds and drop boxes. No in-person services will be available at this time. More information can be found at <u>georginalibrary.ca/ServiceUpdates</u>.

Residents are reminded you can help stop the spread of COVID-19:

- Avoid close contact with anyone other than members of your household
- Maintain physical distancing of at least two metres from others
- Wear a mask or face covering

- Wash your hands thoroughly and often
- Stay home if you're sick, even with mild symptoms

For the latest information, news and updates on COVID-19 in Georgina, visit georgina.ca/COVID-19.

-30-

Media Contact: Tanya Thompson | Communications Manager | Office of the CAO

Phone: 905-476-4305, Ext. 2446 | Email: tathompson@georgina.ca | georgina.ca