

COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus) Update

Media Release

Town of Georgina Communications Division communications@georgina.ca







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Town update on COVID-19 impact to service levels

Georgina, ON - The Georgina Mass Vaccination Clinic, now in its third week, continues to provide Georgina and all York Region residents with the COVID-19 vaccine, close to home. York Region Public Health has been leading the clinic, which has been made possible through support from the Town. In order to host a clinic in Georgina, the Town redeployed recreation staff to support the operation of the clinic, fulfilling a variety of roles.

"Pivoting our recreation staff meant we are able to host a vaccination clinic in our community, but it also means some changes to some of our regular programs. This is being done on a temporary basis and we look forward to resuming our regular programs in the future," said Mayor Margaret Quirk. "I would like to acknowledge our recreation team who has risen to this challenge. I ask all residents to continue to focus on the big picture – everyone who wants a vaccine will get one – and you can do that right here in our community."

Supporting the vaccination clinic has meant an adjustment to some service levels as it relates to recreation and aquatic programming, summer camps, events and access to sports fields. The Town is pleased to announce all waterfront parks will be open this summer subject to provincial guidelines. An update to Town programs and services are as follows:

Recreation programs – All in-person summer camps will be suspended for 2021. Where staffing resources are available some virtual sessions may become available.

Outdoor athletic leagues and recreation clubs – Sports fields will be open with limitations. The Town will again offer restricted use of all sports fields. The decision to open sports field and facilities to organized league play will depend on where York Region is placed under the colour-coded zone framework.

Georgina Leisure Pool – Aquatic staff have been redeployed to the vaccination clinic as support staff. The pool will remain closed. The York Region District School Board has confirmed a retrofit of the roof system of the entire multi-use facility in Sutton starting June 30, 2021 and expected to last approximately one month. This project will impact the pool component of the facility.

Events – All special public events will be suspended until July 2, 2021 at which time a review of the COVID-19 situation will be considered by the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC). Some virtual events may be developed where staffing resources are available.

Electronic Waste (E-Waste) events – The E-Waste event and Swap and Sell Event held in the Ice Palace parking lots will be cancelled due to the facility being used as a vaccination clinic. The E-Waste event scheduled for Sept. 11 at the Ice Palace will be re-evaluated in the early August.

Waterfront parks – Staff are working on recruitment of seasonal staff for the 2021 waterfront parks season. It is anticipated the provincial colour-coded zone framework will allow waterfront parks and other passive outdoor recreation amenities to remain open.

The ROC – High Ropes Challenge Course will remain closed at this time as recreation staff have been redeployed to support the Georgina Mass Vaccination Clinic.

The ROC – Bike Park will be opened once ROC staff inspect and perform routine pre-season maintenance requirements. This is always weather dependent. The opening date and hours of operation of the bike park will be posted on ROC website when available.

Parks and trails – Parks, trails and playgrounds remain open. Residents are able to use them while following all health and safety measures as outlined by the province.

Jackson's Point Harbour Marina – The Jackson's Point Harbour will be open and will operate utilizing the same model as the summer of 2020. If more seasonal staff become available some service levels may be increased.

Georgina Public Library – Each of the three library branches continue with curbside pickup and drop off consistent with most of York Region library facilities. Staff will continue to assess service level modifications subject to the provincial colour-coded framework limitations.

The Georgina Civic Centre remains closed to the public, however operating hours are unchanged and staff may be reached Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Many services are available <u>online</u> and residents can call 905-476-4301 for further assistance.

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

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