

VILLAGE OF POINT EDWARD  
COVID-19 UPDATE:  
**Mayor's Message, June 12, 2020**



The Village of Point Edward's response to the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve based on orders issued by the provincial and federal government and the latest information from Lambton Public Health. Please monitor the [Village's website](#) and Facebook Page for updated information as things are changing quickly. Your safety and security remains our top priority.

### **Ontario to Allow Gradual Resumption of Visits at Long-Term Care Homes, Retirement Homes, and Other Residential Care Settings**

Under strict health and safety guidelines, family and friends will be allowed to visit long-term care homes, retirement homes, and other residential care settings beginning June 18, 2020. Long-term care homes will allow outdoor visits of one person per resident each week at a minimum. Retirement homes will resume indoor and outdoor visits in designated areas or resident suites when physical distancing can be maintained. Other residential care settings will be able to allow outdoor visits of two people at time. Physical distancing will be required for all visits. For a list of detailed conditions that must be met before visitors will be welcomed into these settings, please see the province's [news release](#).

### **Provincial Government Unveils Plan to Reopen Postsecondary Education**

In consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Ontario government has developed a plan for the gradual and safe resumption of in-person instruction at postsecondary institutions across the province for the summer term. Starting in July 2020, limited in-person education and training may restart for students who were not able to graduate due to COVID-19 closures.

This first phase will allow institutions to reopen to provide in-person instruction to students in essential, frontline, and high labour market demand areas, such as nursing, personal support workers, engineering, and other critical professions. The province is developing a framework to be released to the sector in the coming days to provide guidance on the summer reopening and on health and safety measures, but institutions that choose to participate in this limited and voluntary summer reopening will be responsible for establishing their own plans in accordance with public health advice and any ministry guidance.

In September, all students will have the opportunity to attend postsecondary education through virtual learning, in-class instruction, or hybrid formats.

### **Limit on Social Gatherings Increases & Places of Worship Permitted to Open**

As of 12:01 a.m., Friday, June 12, the province increased the limit on social gatherings **from five to 10 people across the province, regardless of whether a region has moved to Stage 2**. Gatherings can include up to 10 people with the use of physical distancing when those individuals are from outside your household.

Additionally, all places of worship in Ontario will also be permitted to open with physical distancing in place and attendance limited to no more than 30 per cent of the building capacity to ensure the safety of worshippers.

## Ontario Announces Plan to Reopen Child Care Centres

The province has announced its plan— developed in consultation with Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health and medical leaders at The Hospital for Sick Children—to reopen child care with strict protocols to keep kids and staff safe. Centres will be required to adopt specific rules, which are outlined in the province's [news release](#). Effective immediately, staff can re-enter child care facilities and begin preparation for reopening.

Based on the advice of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and with strict health and safety protocols in place, the government is now enabling summer day camp programs across the province to reopen this summer. At this time, overnight camps are not permitted to operate in the summer of 2020.

## Waterfront Parking Lot Now Open



Point Edward has reopened the parking lot in Waterfront Park (as of Friday, June 12 at 12:00 p.m.). A portable washroom with a washing facility is available, but the buildings with washroom facilities remain closed at this time. Please continue to follow public health advice and practice physical distancing.

## Sarnia Transit to Resume Collecting Fares on June 15, 2020

Beginning Monday, June 15, Sarnia Transit will resume collecting fares from Transit users. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the standard \$3.00 fare has been reduced to \$1.50, which passengers will be required to pay every time they board a bus. No Transfers will be issued to minimize physical interaction. All transit fare prices are listed on the [City's website](#), along with pro-rated pass prices for June 2020.

## Appointment Required for Municipal Office Visits

If you require assistance, please call 519-337-3021. If we cannot resolve your request by phone, we will schedule you an appointment to visit the office. All visitors will be required to complete a screening questionnaire prior to entering the office.

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Our diligent adherence to public health measures has helped to flatten the curve and slow the spread of COVID-19 in our community. Let's continue the physical distancing and healthy practices to support the safety and success of the first stage of our reopening and to continue to demonstrate our readiness for the second stage.

– Mayor Bev Hand