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 Extends Declaration of Emergency to July 15**

The Ontario government, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, has extended the provincial Declaration of Emergency under s.7.0.7 of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act to **July 15, 2020**. The extension was approved by the Ontario Legislature and will provide the province with the additional time, flexibility, and the necessary tools to safely and gradually allow more places to reopen, while continuing to support frontline health care providers in the fight against COVID-19. A list of the emergency orders currently in force is available on the province’s website.

**Province Releases School Safety Plan for the 2020-21 School Year**

The Ontario government released its safety plan for the 2020-21 school year, outlining scenarios for how students, teachers and staff can safely return to classrooms in September. While the decision to return to the normal school day routine will continue to be based on medical advice, boards and schools are being asked to plan for alternative scenarios that may need to be implemented in September depending on the province’s COVID-19 situation.

The scenarios outlined by the province include a normal school day routine, a modified school day routine, and at home learning. Please see the province’s news release for details of the different possibilities.

**Volunteers Needed for Cooling Centre at the Community Hall**

The Village of Point Edward is looking for volunteers to help operate a cooling centre at the Community Hall on days that are declared a heat event by Lambton Public Health. The cooling centre would operate from 10 a.m.– 4 p.m. and volunteers would work in pairs to register visitors and have them answer the required COVID-19 screening questions. The hours of operation for the cooling centre would be divided into two shifts, so volunteers would be asked to commit to a three hour shift when a heat event occurs. If you are interested in volunteering or would like additional information, please email Jim Burns, jburns@villageofpointedward.com, or call the office: (519) 337-3021.

**Sarnia Transit and Care-a-Van Services Not Operating on Canada Day**

Sarnia Transit and Care-a-Van bus service will not operate on Wednesday, July 1, 2020 as the usual Canada Day celebrations have been replaced with virtual events this year.
**Point Edward's Splash Pad to Remain Closed**

Based on the outcome of a risk assessment exercise, and the importance of maintaining public health measures, the Splash Pad in Waterfront Park will remain closed indefinitely.

**Health Canada Recall of Certain Hand Sanitizers**

Certain hand sanitizers are being recalled from the market because they contain industrial-grade ethanol that has not been authorized for use in hand sanitizers in Canada. Industrial-grade ethanol contains impurities that are not found in the type of ethanol approved for use in manufacturing hand sanitizers. In addition, chemicals that may not be approved for use in hand sanitizers are added to industrial-grade ethanol. Frequent use of these products may result in dry skin, causing irritation or cracking.

If you have any of the products listed, you should discontinue use and return the product to a pharmacy for disposal or follow the rules for disposing of chemicals/hazardous waste. Detailed information—including the Natural Product Number (NPN) or Drug Identification Number (DIN)—for the recalled products can be found here. Canadians are encouraged to consult the list regularly for updates.

**Virtual Canada Day Fireworks Celebration for Lambton County**

Tourism Sarnia-Lambton, in partnership with all 11 municipalities in Lambton County, is planning a Virtual Canada Day Celebration that residents can collectively enjoy from a safe distance. The online event will use an augmented reality platform, accessible through the snapd HUB app, to deliver a virtual fireworks experience to commemorate Canada Day right from the comfort of your own backyard, balcony, or living room. **Don't forget to put up your Canadian-themed decorations to help Paint the Town Red & White, then download the snapd HUB app and join us July 1st at 9:30 p.m. for a Virtual Canada Day Fireworks Celebration!**

**Patio Dining Options**

If you're looking for an outdoor dining option, Tourism Sarnia-Lambton has updated their **Support Local** Initiative to indicate which establishments are currently offering patio dining. Visit [https://www.ontbluecoast.com/support-local/](https://www.ontbluecoast.com/support-local/) and look for the picnic table icon to see which Lambton County locations are operating a patio.

**COVID-19 Assessments Broadly Available for Sarnia-Lambton Residents**

COVID-19 testing is now available to all Sarnia-Lambton residents who would like to be tested, regardless of symptoms. Please note that the test can only tell if you have COVID-19 at the time of the test and will not tell you if you had COVID-19 in the past.

A **list of assessment centres**, including contact information and hours of operation, can be found on Lambton Public Health's website. Do not delay testing if you have symptoms.

Even though this year's Canada Day festivities will look a bit different, we hope you all enjoy a day of celebration. Stay safe and have fun!

– Mayor Bev Hand