

COVID-19 Update for City Council

March 30, 2020

Michael Prowse, Chief Administrative Officer



Agenda

- Update on current status
- Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
- Barrie Police Service
- Barrie Fire and Emergency Service
- Service Barrie
- Service delivery impacts
- How we are helping residents and taxpayers
- Communications
- Assistance related to garbage collection

Overview of current status

- City of Barrie Emergency Operations Control Group activated on March 13, 2020
- Emergency declared March 23, 2020
- 44 confirmed cases of COVID-19 including 6 recovered, 8 hospitalizations and 4 deaths in Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit area
- Evidence of community transmission
- **If we're very good at physical distancing, mathematical modelling shows we can reduce the cases by up to 95%. Need to act now.**

SMDHU and RVH

- Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit daily updates at noon
<http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Promos/Novel-Coronavirus>
- live Facebook videos with Dr. Gardner daily at approximately 1 pm with additional details



BARRIE POLICE SERVICE COVID-19 RESPONSE

POLICE OPERATIONS CENTRE

- Live March 24, 2020 - Monday to Friday 0800hrs – 1600hrs
- Incident Management System (IMS)
- Sections : Command, Operations, Planning, Logistics, Finance, Communications, and Documentation
- Pandemic Continuity Plan – Phase 1

OBJECTIVE

To provide continuity of public safety core policing services during the pandemic

GOALS

- Strategic deployment of resources
- Ensure member wellness
- Consistent and concise messaging

DAILY BRIEFING CYCLE UPDATES

- | | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| • Human Resources | • Calls for Service | • Threat Assessment |
| • Deployment Model | • Corporate Communications | • Service Risks |

BarriePolice.ca | 705-725-7025 | info@barriepolice.ca



Barrie Fire and Emergency Service

- BFES Pandemic Plan (stage 1 low risk) initiated on March 9th, 2020
- All essential services are being maintained
- Current staffing levels are high
- Emergency Incidents approximately 15% lower
- Screening protocols implemented for members and patients
- Contingency planning underway
- Assistance provided to RVH:
 - 640 N95 masks
 - equipment and staffing loaned to properly fit and test masks



Service Barrie/other City departments

- Standard call volume
- Overall staff levels good
- Water, wastewater, spill response, operational staff levels good
- Staff working remotely where feasible
- Business continuity plans being fully deployed

Service Delivery Impacts

- Recreation Centres, Libraries and Theatres closed and March Break camps cancelled
- City facilities closed to the public
- Transit on hourly (Sunday) service
- Parking enforcement redeployed to safety issues
- Waste collection sorting changes
- Playground/fitness equipment closed
- POA courts matters rescheduled

Service Delivery Impacts - development

- Industry partners informed of resources for development activity
- Development application processing
- Inspections
- Building permits
- Zoning by-law enforcement

How we are helping our taxpayers

- No new late fees or NSF charges - tax and water/wastewater bills until June 30, 2020.
- Option to opt out or suspend pre-authorized payment plans (PAP)
- No water shutoffs will be carried out until June 30, 2020
- Free Barrie Transit
- Recreation memberships extended or cancelled
- Full refunds on program/room/event cancellations without admin fees
- Delegated authority for exceptional circumstances
- Financial impact modelling on further options

Communications

- Mayor Chief Spokesperson during an emergency; re-tweet or re-post official messaging during an emergency
- Key messages:
 - Stay at home
 - Physical distancing of 2m/6ft if outside
 - Wash your hands
 - Self-isolation for 14 days if symptoms, travel or contact of confirmed case
- Numerous communications activities undertaken to support health messaging
- 502% increase in social media followers



MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

COVID-19 OPERATIONS

Stay home.

If you have to go out, stay at least 2 metres away from those not part of your household.

COVID-19 | Flatten the Curve

It's that simple.

Key message development re City services and community safety

Numerous media releases and daily FAQs to ensure consistent messaging from members of Council, Service Barrie, ECG members, and City's digital channels.

Message distribution via print, digital, broadcast, etc.

- Newsletter to residents
- *This Week in Barrie*
- Maintaining, monitoring, & leveraging City's corporate digital channels (website, e-bulletins, social media)
- New webpages: barrie.ca/services
barrie.ca/StayHome
- Digital takeovers on simcoe.com, Barrie Today, Barrie 360
- Additional radio ads purchased on a variety of local radio stations
- Robocall from Mayor to Barrie residents with a landline
- Community leader PSA's (Mayor, Dr. Gardner, Janice Skot, Police Chief & Fire Chief)
- Curbex signs throughout community
- Electronic & Curbex signs at Georgian College
- Georgian Mall digital sign
- Highway 400 digital sign (at Mapleview)

Garbage Collection assistance

Recommendation

- Maximum of 3 free garbage bag tags per unit
- Requests submitted by phone or email
- Tags mailed to requester
- Contractor only able to accommodate 1 additional bag/bi-weekly collection (i.e. 3 bags maximum)

QUESTIONS

