

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday, January 14, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City's transit terminal to be used as warming centre

(Barrie, ON) The City of Barrie has created a temporary warming centre downtown that can be accessed day and night during the winter, regardless of the weather, starting Monday January 18, 2021. In light of the current state of emergency, the Barrie Transit terminal, located at 24 Maple Avenue, will be available 24/7 for anyone who needs to get out of the cold during the winter months.

The warming centre is subject to capacity restrictions. Attendees will be limited to 30 minutes at a time to allow others the opportunity to warm up. The warming centre is not intended to be an overnight shelter (no sleeping). Safety protocols will be followed to ensure physical distancing. Screening will take place and face coverings must be worn in all indoor public spaces.

The County of Simcoe provides overnight shelter through their emergency motel system. For more information, visit the <u>County's website</u> or call Service Simcoe at 705-735-6901.

Visit the <u>Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit's website</u> for more information about how to stay safe during extreme cold.

Staff needed for Busby Centre's new shelter space

The Busby Centre is opening new shelter spaces for homeless individuals in our community and needs to hire staff. These are paid positions. Health, social services and related backgrounds is an asset, but all are encouraged to apply. Email <u>getconnected@busbycentre.ca</u> to apply or get more information.

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For more information, please contact: Scott LaMantia Senior Communications Advisor scott.lamantia@barrie.ca 705-794-0517