

From: Chris Sargent <csargent@collingwood.ca>

Sent: Tuesday, March 2, 2021 3:57 PM

To: Clerk's Distribution List <clerk@collingwood.ca>

Cc: Sara Almas <salmas@collingwood.ca>; Brian Saunderson <bsaunderson@collingwood.ca>; Sonya Skinner <sskinner@collingwood.ca>

Subject: Town of Collingwood - Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Decision to Move Back into 'Lockdown'

March 2, 2021

BY E-MAIL

Re: Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Decision to Move Back into 'Lockdown'

On behalf of the Council for the Corporation of the Town of Collingwood, I write to advise you of the following recommendation approved at its special meeting held on March 1, 2021 for your consideration and support:

WHEREAS the Town of Collingwood recognizes that COVID is a threat, and that it must be managed transparently and effectively to achieve the public's support and compliance and protect people;

AND WHEREAS the Chief Medical Officer of Health for Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit has recommended that Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit area re-enter the 'Grey' Lockdown Zone COVID-19 Protocols effective March 1st, 2021 which was supported by the Province of Ontario;

AND WHEREAS the Town of Collingwood is along the westerly border of the Health Unit area which abuts the Grey Bruce Health Unit designated 'Green' Prevent Zone;

AND WHEREAS the move to modified Grey Zone has had disproportionate effects on businesses serving local clientele, such as hairdressers, gyms and restaurants;

AND WHEREAS there have been two Resolutions from Collingwood Council asking the Province to address inter-regional travel, and there is non-mandatory Provincial and health agencies messaging that travel is not recommended;

AND WHEREAS many of our businesses have undertaken great financial and operational efforts to ensure the protection and safety of their staff and patrons and whom may further choose to operate at a higher restriction based on their comfort and the business or service they provide;

AND WHEREAS local businesses have worked intensely to support each other and the Town through the COVID pandemic, however local businesses are now communicating that many cannot last through another closure;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the Town of Collingwood hereby authorize the following:

1. **THAT** Council support the concerns of the Collingwood Downtown Business Improvement Area Board of Management and all businesses within the Town of Collingwood that have been detrimentally impacted by COVID-19 Lockdown restrictions; and
2. **THAT** Council ask the Premier to publicly explain immediately what factors would move our abutting municipality to the west into the least restrictive 'Green' Prevent Zone as Collingwood was moved into the 'Grey' Lockdown Zone, and how these assessments together decrease COVID risks given that these 2 abutting municipalities are economically and socially intertwined; and
3. **THAT** the Mayor send a letter to the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit Chief Medical Officer of Health, Premier of Ontario and Minister of Health and Long-Term Care requesting that the Town of Collingwood be immediately reinstated to the 'Red' Control Zone or less restrictive to level the playing field between these business communities; and
4. **THAT** the Mayor work collaboratively with our neighbouring municipalities and the County of Simcoe to seek their support and further advocacy efforts in this regard; and
5. **THAT** Council initiate an immediate letter writing campaign to encourage local businesses and residents to speak up and petition the Health Unit and Province regarding their concerns with the COVID-19 restrictions; and
6. **THAT** the Economic Support and Recovery Task Force be reinstated to further explore options that could be considered by Council to support our residents and business community; and
7. **THAT** Council continue to advocate for additional provincial and federal financial supports for Collingwood's businesses as well as continuing our Shop Local Campaigns; and
8. **THAT** a copy of the resolution be circulated to neighbouring municipalities including all municipalities with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, public, business community and any other potentially impacted agencies and organizations.

CARRIED. (recorded vote)

Should you require anything further, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned at 705-445-1030 ext. 3230 or clerk@collingwood.ca .

Yours truly,
TOWN OF COLLINGWOOD

c.c. Lower Tier Municipalities of the County of Simcoe & District Municipality of Muskoka
County of Simcoe
District Municipality of Muskoka
County of Grey
Town of the Blue Mountains
Blue Mountain Village Association
Collingwood Business Development Centre
Collingwood Chamber of Commerce
Collingwood Downtown BIA
Georgian Triangle Tourism Association

RTO 7
South Georgian Bay Small Business Enterprise Centre
Grey Bruce Health Unit
Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
North Simcoe Muskoka LHIN
Mayor Brian Saunderson, Town of Collingwood
Sonya Skinner, CAO, Town of Collingwood
Sara Almas, Clerk, Town of Collingwood



Christopher Sargent B.A.
Coordinator, Clerk's Services

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