

All City of St. Catharines facilities closing to the public

March 16, 2020 – The City of St. Catharines continues to take COVID-19 seriously, and in following the advice of provincial and federal leaders is making significant changes to services and programming to help protect health and wellbeing of the community.

All City facilities will be closed to the public effective Tuesday, March 17 to April 5 inclusive. St. Catharines City Hall, Lake Street Service Centre, Geneva Street, Buchanan House and the City's fire stations are among the facilities that will close to the public. The decision comes on the heels of Friday's closure of community and recreation centres. A complete list of closures and program disruptions can be found at www.stcatharines.ca/COVID19. All critical services, including fire services, traffic services, water and sewer operations and road operations will continue to operate to support our community.

“The window to flatten the COVID-19 curve is closing and we need to heed this advice of the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada Dr. Theresa Tam,” said CAO Shelley Chemnitz, the City's Emergency Operations Director. “We want to do our part to help protect the public and City staff, and to help minimize the spread of the virus. The City does have essential services to provide and the health and safety of our staff is paramount.”

“The City is taking the necessary steps to keep people safe,” said Mayor Walter Sendzik. “We continue to base our response on public safety and supporting our employees and their families.”

While city facilities will be closed to the public, residents can still access City services online, or contact Citizens First by emailing citizensfirst@stcatharines.ca or calling 905-688-5600, Monday to Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Alternative options for those needing to make a payment can be found at www.stcatharines.ca/paymentoptions.

As the situation evolves, residents are encouraged to watch the City's social media channels and website for updates.

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Contact:
Shelley Chemnitz
Chief Administrative Officer
schemnitz@stcatharines.ca
905.688.5600 ext. 1541