



PORT COLBORNE

Mayor's Report

August 9, 2021 Council Meeting
COVID-19

Ontario marked three weeks on Friday since entering the third step of its pandemic reopening plan but it has yet to hit the vaccination targets set for restrictions to roll back further.

The province previously progressed through earlier phases of its reopening within 21 days, but the government has established three firm thresholds that must be met before nearly all public health measures drop away.

Eighty per cent of all Ontarians aged 12 and older must have at least one shot, 75 per cent need to be fully immunized and all public health units must have fully vaccinated 70 per cent of eligible residents before the province can move on from Step 3.

The first condition is the only one that has been met so far.

Did you know, you don't need to book an appointment to get vaccinated at a Public Health clinic? Walk-ins are welcome for first and second doses for anyone 12 years of age and older. Clinics are open from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Walk-in vaccinations depend on vaccine supply and aren't guaranteed. To ensure vaccine will be available, people are still encouraged to book an appointment at www.ontario.ca.

Please watch our social media pages for complete updates as we receive them from the province. At this time, it will still be important for you to wear a mask and maintain social distancing.

City staff are working on a plan to reopen City Hall in the coming weeks. Staff are continuing to offer customer service support for residents, businesses, and visitors by phone, email, website, and social media channels.

More information regarding the safe and gradual reopening of City Hall for walk-in appointments and services, including paying water and tax bills, will be available in the coming weeks. The goal, as always, is to ensure the health and safety of both employees and

residents are being met. Once City Hall reopens, screening protocols will be in place and all visitors will be required to wear a mask. Residents, however, will still be encouraged to pre-schedule an appointment to ensure the appropriate staff member is available to assist them.

If you have questions in regards to City Hall services or would like to report a concern, you can contact a Customer Service representative Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. by calling 905-835-2900 or via email CustomerService@portcolborne.ca.

Alternatively, you can visit our website www.portcolborne.ca and submit a service request or inquiry by clicking on the “Request A Service” tab, located on the top right corner of our website page.

Association of Municipalities of Ontario

Next week myself, CAO Scott Luey and Manager of Strategic Projects Gary Long will be attending the Association of Municipalities of Ontario conference virtually.

We are fortunate to have been able to set up appointments to meet with six of Ontario’s ministers to discuss issues that are important to Port Colborne and to seek the province’s support.

NPCA Strategic Plan

The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority will be holding their 2021-2031 Strategic Plan Virtual Information Session on August 19 at 6:30 p.m.

At this session, participants will have a first look at key components of the new 10-year Strategic Plan, developed through the recent involvement of all partners in conservation.

With all strategic planning activities completed, the NPCA is now seeking feedback on the key components of the draft strategic plan before it is completed and presented to the Board of Directors in the fall.

Visit the [Get Involved NPCA](#) online engagement portal to register for this meeting, view supporting documents, or to leave a comment or question for staff.

The session will be recorded and made available on the portal for those who are unable to attend. Questions and written feedback will be accepted through the Get Involved NPCA portal until Sept. 3.

Here's your chance to the WIN the Ultimate Port Colborne Staycation

For the month of August, the City of Port Colborne is offering you the chance to win the Ultimate Port Colborne Staycation prize package including two cruiser bikes, \$500 in gift cards and other special prizes.

Port Colborne is a popular destination to discover, and we want you to have the opportunity to experience it for yourself. For the month of August, find a photo frames set up around Port Colborne at various popular destinations including:

- H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park
- Port Colborne Promenade
- Nickel Beach
- Centennial Cedar-Bay Beach
- Lock 8 Park
- The Sugarloaf Marina
- City Hall
- The Public Library
- The Port Colborne Historic and Marine Museum

Snap a photo at one of these photo frames, post it to either Facebook, Instagram or Twitter using hash tag Port Colborne Staycation and you're entered to win. If you discover multiple spots in Port Colborne, snap a photo and tag us to be entered more than once.

Complete contest rules and how to enter can be found on our website. Interested in PORTicipating, but don't use social media? No problem. Participants can submit their photos by emailing your entries to communicationsofficer@portcolborne.ca.

H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park Redesign

The City of Port Colborne is seeking resident input on a redesign of the entrance parkette at H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park as part of a strategy to enhance recreational spaces for residents and attract business investment and tourists to the city.

Last year the mini-putt course and concession building located at the parkette were removed, which has allowed for two food trucks to operate in that location for the 2021 summer season.

Residents are encouraged to complete a short online poll that asks which of the four concept plans they like the best. City staff will collect and review the poll's results to determine the most preferred concept. This poll is open now until Friday, August 20 at 11:59 p.m. More information can be found on our website.

Lockview Park Redevelopment

Just a reminder, the City of Port Colborne is seeking resident input on the redevelopment of Lockview Park as part of the implementation of the 2020-2030 Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

The next virtual public open house is this Wednesday, August 11 at 6:30 p.m. Individuals interested in joining the virtual open house are asked to email lockviewpark@portcolborne.ca for more information. The meeting will be hosted through Zoom and more information can be found on the City's website.

Clear Your Great Initiative at Sugarloaf Marina

Sugarloaf Marina is excited to launch the 'Clear Your Gear' initiative that aims to prevent improperly discarded fishing line that could potentially cause entanglement concerns for people, boats, and wildlife.

The 'Clear Your Gear' initiative originated in Iowa, U.S.A. before making its way to Canada.

The goal is to collect and recycle used fishing line by providing cannisters throughout marinas and boat docks to prevent fish, shorebirds, water wildlife, scuba divers and boat propellers from getting tangled in it.

Most fishing line bought today is made of non-biodegradable monofilament, and if not disposed of properly, can remain in the environment for years.

With the help of local avid fisherman and community environmental advocate, Mike Cooper, the 'Clear Your Gear' initiative is now available at Sugarloaf Marina.

Mike first approached the City about this project in the new year, emphasizing the importance of being environmentally conscience and proposed alternative recycling solutions.

With a little help from volunteers and City staff, four cannisters have been strategically placed at Sugarloaf Marina, the public boat ramp, and H.H. Knoll Lakeview Park, to allow for easy recycling of used fishing line.

For more information, visit [clear your gear dot ca](http://clearyourgear.ca).

Free Comic Book Day at the Library

This Saturday August 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. the Port Colborne Public Library is hosting their free comic book day. Drop by the library to pick up your free comic book!

Spin the prize wheel to win an extra prize!

Feeling SUPER?

Dress up like your favourite Superhero or wear a cape, and get your photo taken with a local superhero! Thanks to our friends at Sketchbook Comics & Games for the comics. This free event is for all ages. We hope to see you there.

Thank you and stay safe.