



**Downtown Port Colborne BIA
STAFF REPORT
Monday, June 21, 2021**

- Jason McKnight (Niagara Region Police Services) will be a guest speaker today regarding the increase in theft, property damage and mental health issues.
- COVID-19 Vaccine Booking Expanding to everyone as of today. Visit: www.ontario.ca/pharmacycovidvaccine to find a pharmacy offering a COVID-19 vaccine and to book an appointment.
- When you receive the weekly E-Blast, do make sure someone from your staff team reviews it as there is time sensitive information and many grant opportunities.
- There is a good possibility that both the Harvest Festival (September 24 & 25) and the Lift Festival of Public Art will be scheduled for the Fall season.
- The Governance Committee has finalized the Finance, Health & Safety, Personnel and Volunteer Policies.
- Office Hours are: Monday (closed), Tuesday and Thursday, in the Office with regular hours. On Friday staff will be at the market from 6:00 AM to 1:00 PM.
- Bram Cotton, the City's Economic Development Officer has a summer student updating records on property owners and business owners during the summer. Rob Fucile will be around to visit you during the summer months.
- A new Niagara BIA Group will be meeting to discuss issues and form event partnership i.e., Passport to Niagara. This group is a combination of BIA, Tourism and Economic Development staff working together.
- Port Colborne Farmers Market is open and has been received by the public very well. Currently there are 40 regular vendors and 5 days vendors. Only a few artisans and crafters will be grandfathered into the market this year, as the Guild Hall will be operating their handmade and crafters market as soon as Ontario moves step #2. At the present time six volunteers are assisting with the market operation. Covid-19 protocols are in place and masks will be required while shopping at the market. To date revenue generated is \$14,000.00. <https://www.facebook.com/portcolbornefarmersmarket>
- Canada Day Market is Friday, June 25, 2021 so, share your Canada Day Pride!

- Looking for summer time radio advertising, we have a few spots open if businesses are interested. Bookings are accepted on a first come first serve basis.
- Both the City and the BIA are doing a variety of promotions to bring people back downtown, a market video has been completed and Mayor Steele has visited businesses to promote shopping local. It will be released later this week.

Submitted by:

Mary-Lou Ambrose-Little, Executive Director
Downtown Port Colborne BIA