



Mayor's Report

February 22, 2022 Council Meeting

COVID-19 Update

While the provincial government started easing COVID-19 restrictions across the province yesterday, we ask that everyone remain vigilant with their personal precautions. The Vale Health & Wellness Centre is now open including the walking track, YMCA and ice rinks. Expect more openings soon.

Niagara Region Public Health will be holding a pop-up vaccination in Port Colborne on Friday, February 25th at the Port Colborne Visitors Centre, 76 Main Street West. It will operate from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. You can go online and book an appointment or just walk in.

Children 5 and up can get their first or second dose and those 18 and over can get any dose.

Please do your part to keep safe and get your vaccination.

Population Growth

The latest census data released February 9th revealed what City of Port Colborne council and staff have been experiencing and planning for: the municipality has grown by almost 10 percent, making it the second fastest growing municipality in Niagara.

We now have a confirmed population over 20,000.

In the last four years the planning department's statistics have been the city's key indicators for growth and development, seeing:

- A 300 per cent increase in official plan amendments;
- A 236 per cent increase in zoning by-law amendments;
- A 65 per cent increase in site plan control/development agreements;
- A 139 per cent increase in pre-consultation requests; and
- Most recently, servicing to 77 lots in the Meadow Heights subdivision.

Since 2016, the building department has processed 1,839 permit applications, 768 (42 per cent) of those being residential permits.

If you recall during the budget presentation to council, it is estimated that Port Colborne's population could increase even more, estimating almost 13,000 new residents over the next 10-15 years.

We will continue to support growth and investment with our city development team of key staff created along with service delivery process improvements designed to streamline the review and approvals process and align them with business timelines for decision-making.

We're looking forward to the 2026 census.

[Family Day](#)

Yesterday was Family Day and what a beautiful day. It was so nice to see so many families out enjoying the spring-like weather and well as partaking in activities at the Vale Health & Wellness Centre. Thanks to the YMCA for offering a great deal for families to swim and play in the gymnasium.

This was a sure sign that spring is just around the corner.

[Ontario Heritage Week](#)

To celebrate Ontario Heritage Week, the Museum has created a GooseChase scavenger hunt for you to enjoy. Spend a safe and fun afternoon discovering our local heritage with the "Humberstone Hunt" scavenger hunt, learning some interesting history about the Village of Humberstone. Details on how to play are available on our social media accounts. If you would prefer to do an offline version, call the Museum at 905-834-7604 to arrange for a paper copy.

Thank you and stay safe.