

NEWS RELEASE



The City of Brockville's Response to COVID-19

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 8, 2020 - 2:30 pm - Press Release: COVID-19 Emergency Response Team

Earlier last week the City of Brockville issued a call to local organizations to step up and lead the charge to help get groceries and essentials into the hands of our most vulnerable residents or those who are self-isolating and don't have supports in the community to access these items.

The number of organizations who reached out to offer support and assistance for this initiative was above and beyond the response that was anticipated.

Community organizations like the Rotary Clubs of Brockville and 1000 Islands, the Volunteer Centre of St. Lawrence-Rideau, the United Way of Leeds Grenville, BDACI, Leeds Grenville Victim Services, Leeds Grenville Addictions and Mental Health, Centennial Road Church, Kinsmen Club of Brockville, and the YMCA have all reached out to supply volunteers and to help coordinate the effort.

"We would like to thank all of the organizations who stepped up to answer the call, as well as the many individuals who reached out to offer their assistance. There were a number of elements to consider and obstacles to overcome, and by connecting multiple organizations and businesses to each other all of the pieces of the puzzle were able to come together. We really are Community Strong and I'm proud to be part of such a giving community." – Mayor Jason Baker

Through a partnership between the Volunteer Centre of St. Lawrence-Rideau the Rotary Clubs of Brockville and 1000 Islands, and the United Way of

Leeds and Grenville, volunteers will be available to help those in need of assistance placing their first online order through PC Express or Walmart.

Volunteer drivers will be able to pick up and deliver pre-purchased grocery orders from The Noshery, Real Canadian Superstore, Walmart, The Butcher Shop, Cutting Edge Meat Shop, and frozen meals from Brockberry Food to Go.

“In times of community distress, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, we are fortunate that our community always wants to help where there is need. The Volunteer Centre of St. Lawrence-Rideau is pleased to partner with community partners as we engage volunteers to help our neighbours who are isolated or in need.” – Harold Hess, Manager of the Volunteer Centre of St. Lawrence-Rideau

“The Rotary Clubs of Brockville and the 1000 Islands are pleased to be a partner on this initiative to help provide essential food services to the Leeds Grenville community for those who aren’t able to do for themselves. In keeping with our Service Above Self principle, we want to be able to keep out community members safe and healthy” – Shelley McCaffrey, Rotary Club President

Anyone interested in volunteering for this effort should register with the Volunteer Centre of St. Lawrence-Rideau for the Leeds Grenville COVID-19 Volunteer Response Team by emailing workshops@volunteercentre.ca or by calling 613-498-5035. You can register to help with phone support, deliveries, or to be connected with other volunteer needs in the community.

Anyone requiring use of this service should also reach out to the Volunteer Centre at coordinator@volunteercentre.ca or by calling 613-498-2111 x226 or x376 in order to access these services.

In an effort to protect both those in need and our community volunteers, no exchange of cash or other payment avenues will be processed by the volunteers, and all drop offs of groceries and other essential items will be onto a porch or an end of a driveway.

The City of Brockville will provide hand sanitizer, wipes and gloves for the volunteer drivers in order to aid in this effort and to keep both the drivers and those in isolation safe.

The community should also be aware that [CPHC staff are available](#) to help deliver frozen meals and pre-packaged essentials to those in need at very reasonable prices. You do not need to be registered to take advantage of

these services; they are committed to helping our community in its time of need. Their priority is to assist those who are aged 60+ and their team can be reached at 613-342-3693. All local pharmacies are offering delivery of prescriptions and are encouraging seniors and the most vulnerable to take advantage of this service.

The City would also like to remind and encourage everyone to follow the recommendations of our public health agency.

- Properly wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Engage in proper cough or sneeze etiquette, including but not limited to covering your mouth and nose with your bent elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze and disposing of used tissues immediately
- Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth
- Refrain from shaking hands with another person
- Practice social distancing of at least 2 metres
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces

If you have symptoms of a respiratory illness of any kind (e.g. fever, coughing, shortness of breath, etc.) you are asked to stay home and seek medical treatment.

The City of Brockville continues to review the situation on a day to day basis while we take all necessary precautions towards the spread of COVID-19.

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Visit our Website for more information <https://brockville.com/covid19>
or Follow us on Twitter for notifications: <https://twitter.com/BrockvilleON>

Additional Resources:

[Press Release – Ontario Extends COVID-19 Emergency and Closes Outdoor Recreational Amenities](#)

[Government of Canada](#)

[Health Canada](#)

[Ontario Ministry of Health](#)

[Leeds, Grenville & Lanark District Health Unit](#)

[World Health Organization](#)