

## **NEWS RELEASE**



### **The City of Brockville's Response to COVID-19**

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

From the City of Brockville's Economic Development Department

#### **May 22, 2020 - 3:00 pm - Press Release: Guidelines for Business**

With last week's Provincial announcement that Stage 1 of the *Framework for Reopening our Province* could begin on May 19, 2020 at 12:01 am, some local businesses will be starting to reopen under strict new health and safety guidelines.

In addition to the guidance provided by the Province of Ontario, City of Brockville Economic Development Staff, in partnership with the Brockville & District Chamber of Commerce and the Downtown Business Improvement Area, have compiled a resource guide to assist local businesses as they prepare to reopen. The guide includes relevant government links and resources such as sector guidance documents, best practices, government approved disinfectants and hand sanitizers, downloadable workplace posters, and a list of suppliers to help employers outfit their workplaces with the necessary signage, personal protective equipment, and cleaning agents necessary to reopen safely.

*"Premier Ford stressed during the announcement that businesses should only open when they are prepared to do so safely. We wanted to make it easier for our local businesses to figure out what steps they need to take and to source materials, posters, and personal protective equipment that they will need. The safety of the public is our top priority, and we want to support our business community to get them back up and running safely as swiftly as possible."* – Rob Nolan, Director of Economic & Development Services

The Guide can be accessed on the City of Brockville's website under the COVID-19 section at <https://brockville.com/covid19-business-reopening->

[guidelines](#) and will be updated as needed and as new information or recommendations become available.

The City of Brockville would also like to remind the public that they have a part to play in ensuring that newly reopened businesses remain safe places for the staff and public to inhabit. Guidelines from the Lanark, Leeds & Grenville Health Unit advise the following public health measures to support reopening stores and businesses while ensuring the risk of spreading the coronavirus is minimized:

- Stay home and away from stores and other businesses when sick. Do the symptom screening checklist before going out by using the provincial COVID-19 Assessment Tool. <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/self-assessment/> If you have symptoms of COVID-19, visit the local Assessment Centre.
- Keep a 6 foot distance from others and adhere to all protective measures the store or business has in place. Wear a cloth face covering if the 6 foot distance can't be maintained.
- Practice proper hand hygiene. Have a supply of hand sanitizer with you at all times. Remember if you cough or sneeze to do so into your sleeve and not your hands.
- Additionally, the Provincial Government is now recommending that you use a face covering such as a cloth mask to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 when physical distancing may be challenging or not possible, such as on public transit, in smaller grocery stores or pharmacies, and when receiving essential services.

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:**

[Reopening Safely – A Guide for Business](#)

[News Release – Ontario Announces Additional Workplaces that Can Reopen](#)

[A Framework for Reopening our Province: Stage 1](#)

[Detailed List of Stage 1 Openings](#)

[Business Reopening Guidelines](#)

[Government of Canada](#)

[Health Canada](#)

[Ontario Ministry of Health](#)

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

[World Health Organization](#)