



Township of Ignace
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ignace.ca

MEDIA RELEASE

**For Immediate Release
March 14, 2020**

The Township of Ignace is taking practical precautions to help protect our vulnerable residents and our employees. To date, we have been monitoring the response of the World Health Organization's declaration of COVID-19 as a pandemic, and we have been working with our neighbouring municipal partners to share information and resources.

Given the latest developments, we have begun the next phase of our preparation for COVID-19. This includes the consideration of social distancing measures being advised by the World Health Organization. Effective at 2 pm, Saturday, March 14, 2020, we are hereby implementing a temporary, three-week closure of the following Township of Ignace facilities:

The Ignace Recreation Centre, which includes the Arena, Fitness Centre and Bowling Alley, will be closed effective Sunday, March 15, 2020. Employees will continue to work their regularly scheduled shifts.

For Fitness Club users, the Township will add a three-week membership extension to all active memberships. This does not apply to daily or drop-in passes.

The Municipal Office will be closed to all foot traffic until further notice. Residents unable to pay bills online will be provided extensions without penalty, should they be able to demonstrate they are not able to pay their bills online.

The Public Works Garage will remain closed to the public.

For matters related to Cemetery, please call 807-934-2202.

The Ignace Landfill will remain open on Wednesdays and Saturdays. However, this will be monitored on an ongoing basis. Only bags with bag tags will be accepted, no cash transactions will be allowed.

Shoprite Fine Foods has graciously agreed to sell bag tags to our public.

The Township of Ignace Public Library will be closing effective Sunday, March 15, 2020, and will remain closed for three weeks.

All in-home Public Works services shall cease until further notice.

Committee of the Whole and Regular Meetings of Council shall be cancelled until further notice.

Employees who travel outside the country in the next three weeks will be quarantined from their work site for an additional two (2) weeks following their return.

As we continue to monitor the situation and as things change, further updates will be provided.

We encourage our residents and staff to remember that while the virus is very contagious, the effects for most are mild to moderate. There is reason for planning and reasonable precaution, but there is no reason for alarm at this time.

The Township of Ignace further encourages people to follow the advice provided by medical experts including the Northwestern Health Unit to help prevent the spread of germs and viruses like COVID-19:

- Wash your hands often with warm water and soap or an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Sneeze and cough into your sleeve.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus>

Sincerely,

Donald Cunningham

Mayor Donald Cunningham