

From: Denonville, Alex

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To: CouncilMembers <CouncilMembers@essex.ca>

Subject: Community Update, April 8: Town of Essex By-law Officer to conduct enforcement of provincial orders



Media Release

April 8, 2020

Update on COVID-19 Response

Town By-law Officers to conduct enforcement of provincial orders

Essex- Town of Essex By-law Officers are working with the Ontario Provincial Police to conduct regular patrols to ensure members of the public follow the provincial orders made under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act.

The emergency orders prohibit organized public events and social gatherings of more than five, as well as restrict the use of recreational amenities in public spaces. The orders also call for the closure of all non-essential businesses.

"We expect and hope that all of our residents take these orders seriously to help stop the spread of the virus in our community," said Mayor Larry Snively. "However, it is clear that some are not getting the message to stay home, if you can, and avoid gathering. For these cases, enforcement is the next step to ensure the health and safety of everyone in our community."

During regular business hours, the Town's by-law enforcement team will conduct regular patrols and follow up on complaints from the public. When enforcing the orders, individuals may be required to provide their name, date of birth, and address. Failure to comply with an emergency order can carry fines for individuals between \$750 to \$100,000, and up to one year imprisonment. For more details on the enforcement of provincial orders, visit [the Ministry of the Solicitor General's news update](#).

During regular business hours, residents with concerns about large groups or non-essential businesses continuing to operate can contact the Town's By-law Enforcement Team at bylaw@essex.ca or 519-776-7336 ext 1400. Alternatively, residents can contact the Ontario Provincial Police non-emergency line at 1-888 310-1122, which is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

For guidance on what individuals can do to reduce their risk of contracting the virus, or what to do if they display symptoms, please visit the [Ontario Ministry of Health's COVID-19 resource page](#). For local updates, please visit [Windsor Essex County Health Unit's Novel Coronavirus page](#).

Media Contact

Alex Denonville

Manager, Communications

adenonville@essex.ca

519-990-7546