

# Special City Council Meeting Agenda

Monday, September 21, 2020, 6:00 p.m.

Remote meeting live streamed  
on [guelph.ca/live](http://guelph.ca/live)

Changes to the original agenda are noted with an asterisk "\*".

To contain the spread of COVID-19, City Council meetings are being held electronically and can be live streamed at [guelph.ca/live](http://guelph.ca/live).

For alternate meeting formats, please contact the City Clerk's Office at [clerks@guelph.ca](mailto:clerks@guelph.ca) or 519-822-1260 extension 5603.

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## Pages

### 1. Notice - Electronic Participation

#### 1.1 City Council

This meeting will be held by Electronic Participation in accordance with the City of Guelph Procedural By-law (2020)-20515.

### 2. Delegations to Item 5.1

Members of the public who have an interest in delegating to item 5.1 Proposed Motion Regarding the Extension of Dining Districts may register up until 10:00 a.m. on Monday, September 21, 2020.

You can register as a [delegation](#) or [submit written comments](#) by contacting the City Clerk's office by email or phone:

519-837-5603

TTY 519-826-9771

[clerks@guelph.ca](mailto:clerks@guelph.ca) (attachments must not exceed 20 MB)

When we receive your registration or written comments, we will send you a confirmation message and instructions for participating in the meeting.

### 3. Call to Order

### 4. Open Meeting

#### 4.1 O Canada

#### 4.2 Silent Reflection

#### 4.3 First Nations Acknowledgement

#### 4.4 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

### 5. Items for Discussion

#### 5.1 Proposed Motion Regarding the Extension of Dining Districts

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The following motion has been brought forward by Mayor Guthrie for consideration regarding the extension of dining districts:

1. That in an effort to keep people employed, to encourage physical distancing in-line with Public Health guidelines to fight COVID-19 and to provide additional supports for local restaurants and shops within the City of Guelph, Council directs staff to extend any and all applicable zoning or bylaws that allow sidewalk or on street patios and applicable dining districts within the city's right-of-way spaces until January 1st, 2021.
2. That \$2,500 from The Office of The Mayor budget be allocated to staff within Guelph Tourism to work collaboratively with the Downtown Guelph Business Association for the creation and programming of a pedestrian only "Christmas Market" at an agreed upon date(s) within the upcoming holiday season to encourage local retail spending and hospitality support. And that staff look to leverage this opportunity by seeking private sector sponsorship for further programming or to offset additional costs.

Mayor Guthrie will speak to this item.

#### **Correspondence:**

Deanna Clatworthy  
Amanda Cremasco  
Mikayla Hooper  
Sean Norris  
Thomas ten Kortenaar  
Michelle Conlon  
Rebecca Adam  
Paul Clarke  
Josh Smith  
Samantha Blostein

## 6. Adjournment

## **Proposed Motion Regarding the Extension of Dining Districts**

### **General Correspondence**

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Hello

I am writing to ask that you please consider extending the time that the Downtown Dining District is allowed to remain open. This has allowed our family to go out and spend time together in an environment that feels safe and "normal ". We enjoy getting time to shop in the local stores before we sit down for dinner and plan on enjoying this time outside as long as we can. As a family we don't feel comfortable eating indoors while the pandemic is on and would appreciate if this could be extended. Thank you for your consideration.

Deanna Clatworthy

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Dear city councillors and Mayor,

I am speaking in support of keeping the dining open downtown, but I personally feel they need to have strict and enforceable regulations on proper distancing. Many images of 'over crowded' patios, people socializing at different tables with no masks and no/food/drinks, tables too close together etc.

Please consider if they are permitted to remain open to impose stricter compliance regulations with physical distancing and mask wearing.

Specially in light of the dramatic increase of cases in our community.

Thanks,

Amanda Cremasco

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Hi!

I realize there is a meeting Monday evening regarding downtowns dining district. I think it is the most amazing atmosphere... bringing so many people to enjoy Guelph's beautiful downtown who normally wouldn't have come to enjoy from all areas of the city. Being outdoors is part of being Canadian, and being able to enjoy a meal with people and seeing (from a distance) other civilians is extremely beneficial to mental health during this time.

Hope you consider the extension. Thanks for listening!

Mikayla Hooper

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Leave this downtown dining open..or we will have 100+ employees out of work, as maybe the loss of some of the business..

#leaveitopen

Sean Norris

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Dear Mayor and Councillors,

I am writing you to express my support for extending the Guelph Dining District beyond September 21. As noted in the open letter by the businesses dated September 3rd, it is not only restaurants that enjoy the effects of the Dining District. I have also read that some businesses outside the Dining District feel as though it is unfair to them. Rather than this being a reason to end the Dining District, I'd suggest that this is a reason to start planning an entirely car-free (or low-car) downtown core.

I believe the Dining District is an attraction which draws foot-traffic to downtown Guelph. This foot traffic can also increase business outside the Dining District. As colder weather approaches, there needs to be a reason for people to want to visit the downtown core. People enjoy people-watching, not car-watching. If you don't extend the Dining District for as long as possible I worry that many of these businesses will not be able to survive the pandemic.

Best regards,  
Thomas ten Kortenaar

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Hi there!

I am writing in support of keeping the downtown dining district open for as long as possible. It has been SO nice to feel like I have a safe place to go with my bubble friends and still maintain a sense of normalcy. I do not feel comfortable eating/drinking inside yet, especially with increases in covid cases. I know the businesses within this dining district area NEED this to stay open. Please reconsider your decision not to extend. The people of Guelph need this!!

Thank you kindly,  
Michelle Conlon

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Hi,

I live in the south end of Guelph and want to ask that we keep the dining distance open as long as we can.

It gives them a head start on the winter. I was there eating last weekend and it's such a small area closed... there is no way someone can be that lazy they are upset about the one block they have to walk or drive around.

Let's help the business' AND let the people go safe dine before the long boring winter.

Thank you,

Rebecca Adam

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Hello

I support ongoing patios downtown.

I support #diningdistrict

Regards

Paul Clarke

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To whom it may concern,

I have lived in Guelph for my entire adult life and have lived in or close to downtown for most of it. I have been to mostly all of the events it has had to offer. (art on the street, car shows, craft shows, jazzfest, etc.) Out of all the events the dining district has brought more people downtown daily than any other event I have seen. I frequent downtown regularly to shop and to spend time with friends. It's wonderful having a place to go downtown that has a great atmosphere and that others are enjoying. I have found myself stopping in at places I wouldn't normally go into as I am drawn to the atmosphere the downtown dining district has created and thus, see more downtown has to offer.

This initiative needs to be taken further so businesses involved can plan safer and more secure spaces for their guests. If the businesses knew this would be a seasonal event they would invest more money in their patios, including creating more jobs. Other businesses would slowly follow suit. Clothing stores would bring product out on the streets, take out restaurants would have later hours due to increased traffic after the restaurants have closed. Businesses would flock to downtown in search of a piece of the downtown dining district pie.

Change is hard, but this is change for the better. This change helps businesses who cant sell their products online or through take out. This initiative should have been already happening for years , it only took a global pandemic for it to be finally realised.

A proud citizen of Guelph,

Josh Smith

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Hello,

My name is Samantha, a Guelph citizen and local business owner. My family and I have been enjoying the Dining District and would like it to remain open so we can continue to safely support Guelph businesses and restaurants. Keeping the Dining District open all year is an important part of Guelph's economic development and recovery strategy.

Please contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Best,

Samantha Blostein