

COVID-19

Managing the impacts of COVID-19

Update #7

March 1, 2021

COVID-19 update #7

- Supporting the community
- Supporting Guelph's workforce
- Supporting our organization
- Financial implications and recovery



Supporting the community



Supporting the community

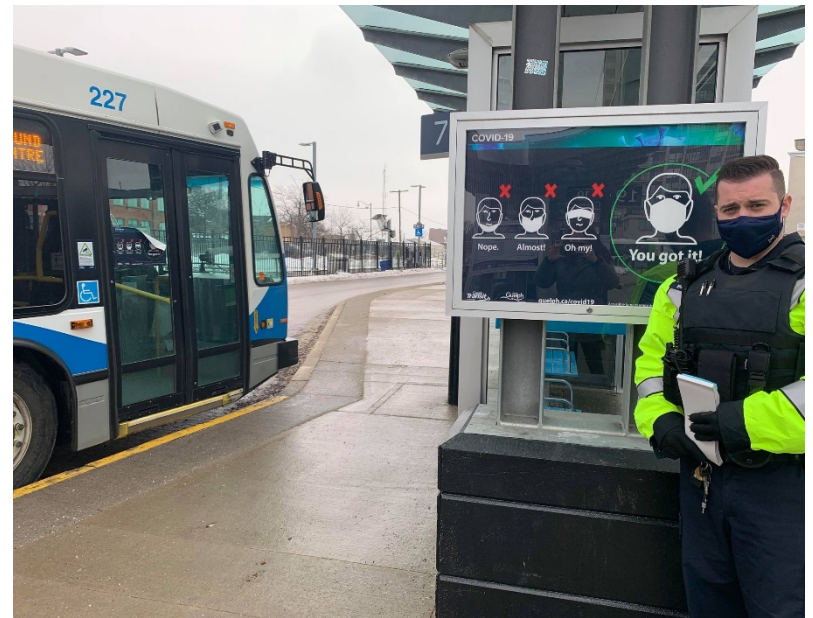
- All vaccination appointments arranged through Public Health
- City task force supporting with logistics, traffic, transit, temporary structures, communication as needed.

Supporting the community

- Contributing to Vital Focus series to build awareness of the secondary impacts of COVID-19
 - Guelph's Community Plan will provide the framework for an upcoming summit to help the community turn this data into action

Supporting the community

- Ongoing education and communication
 - City services, provincial regulations, public health measures, vaccines etc.
- Responding to inquiries
- Proactively enforcing COVID-19 guidelines



Supporting the community

- **Serving** the community during the second wave
 - City Council and committee meeting schedule was uninterrupted
 - City Hall, Provincial Offences Court maintained some in-person services
 - Waste drop-off and Guelph Farmers' Market remained open
 - Guelph Public Library maintained online programming and curbside pickup
 - Guelph Museums and tourism and ran several virtual experiences
 - Building permits and inspections for essential construction projects continued

Supporting the community

- Staying **active** during the second wave
 - City maintains several winter trails, with improved parking and access
 - Riverside Park remained open and has been animated through a community collaboration
 - Market Square rink remained open – 45-minute sessions up to 25 people
 - Volunteers maintained rinks in City parks
 - Hockey equipment was not allowed during shut down
 - **Now you can** use hockey equipment, but games are not allowed. City provides low pond-style nets for community rinks.

Supporting the community

- Celebrating **arts, entertainment and tourism** during the second wave
 - Glow Guelph animated lighting displays continues daily.
 - Tourism Services was **awarded over \$100,000** for several projects that encourage local tourism; four projects underway
 - Launching a “staycation” campaign for Guelph residents to encourage local shopping and dining
 - **Tourism Recovery Initiative offers \$350,000** in funding for Guelph tourism operators and partners

Supporting the community

- **Deliver 900 meals a week** to seniors, neighbourhood groups and emergency shelters through the Evergreen meal program



Supporting Guelph's workforce



Supporting Guelph's workforce

- Established community return to work through a working table – with Guelph Chamber of Commerce and University of Guelph
- Partnering with Chamber of Commerce to understand the impacts of COVID-19 restrictions on restaurants
- Funding part of the Guelph Arts Apprenticeship Program
- Sponsored a Cooperative Education Session on benefits of hiring a co-op student

Supporting Guelph's workforce

- Working with Workforce Planning Board of Waterloo Wellington Dufferin to identify key factors and external forces impacting workforce development
- Promoting Findyourjob.ca which launched in May 2020
- Participating in virtual job fairs

Supporting Guelph's workforce

- Continue promoting Guelph Shops campaign; **received \$12,000** through Community Collaboration Funding from Innovation Guelph
- Planning the 2021 seasonal patio program
- Promoting Ontario Chamber of Commerce Business Confidence Survey

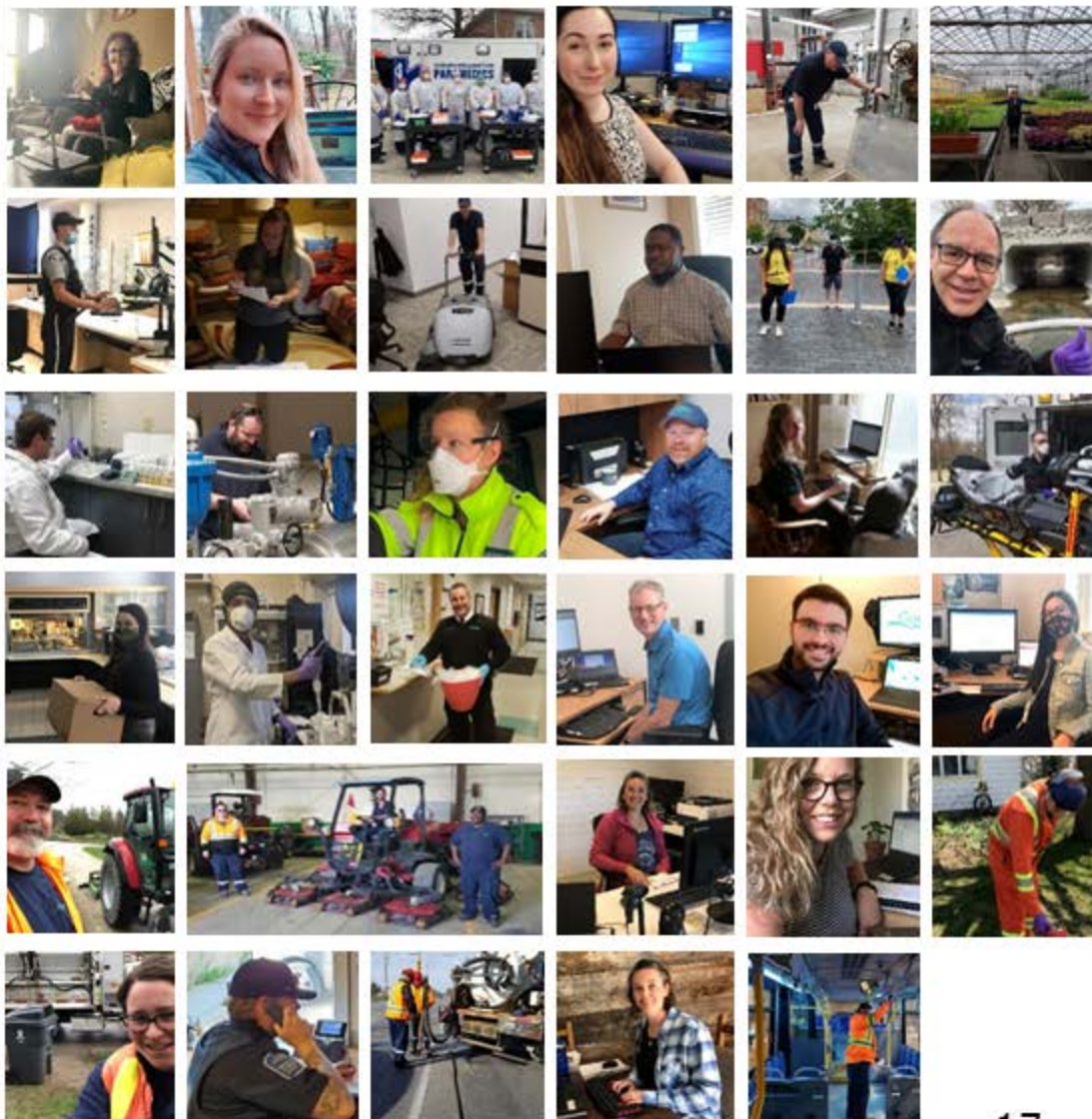
Supporting Guelph's workforce

- Grow Back Better
 - the SEED's Emergency Food Home Delivery program delivered **35,678 more boxes of groceries and meals** to 1,100 households most affected by COVID-19
 - Our Food Future **matched another \$15,830 in community funding** for a total contribution of \$71,6000 to date to support the Emergency Food Home Delivery program
 - **Awarded \$106,000 to ten projects** through the Guelph-Wellington Urban Agriculture Challenge
 - Launched a Food System Resiliency Table
 - Launching the ReSource Exchange

Supporting Guelph's workforce

- Providing \$350,000 through COVID-19 Emergency Grants in 2021
 - Offered in two rounds: spring and fall
 - Available to not-for-profit organizations, unincorporated groups and individuals to adapt services or programs or strengthen capacity in response to COVID-19

Supporting our organization



Supporting our organization

- Refining COVID-19 screening for employees and visitors to ensure everyone's safety and continuity of service
- Investing in additional mental health support and resources for all employees

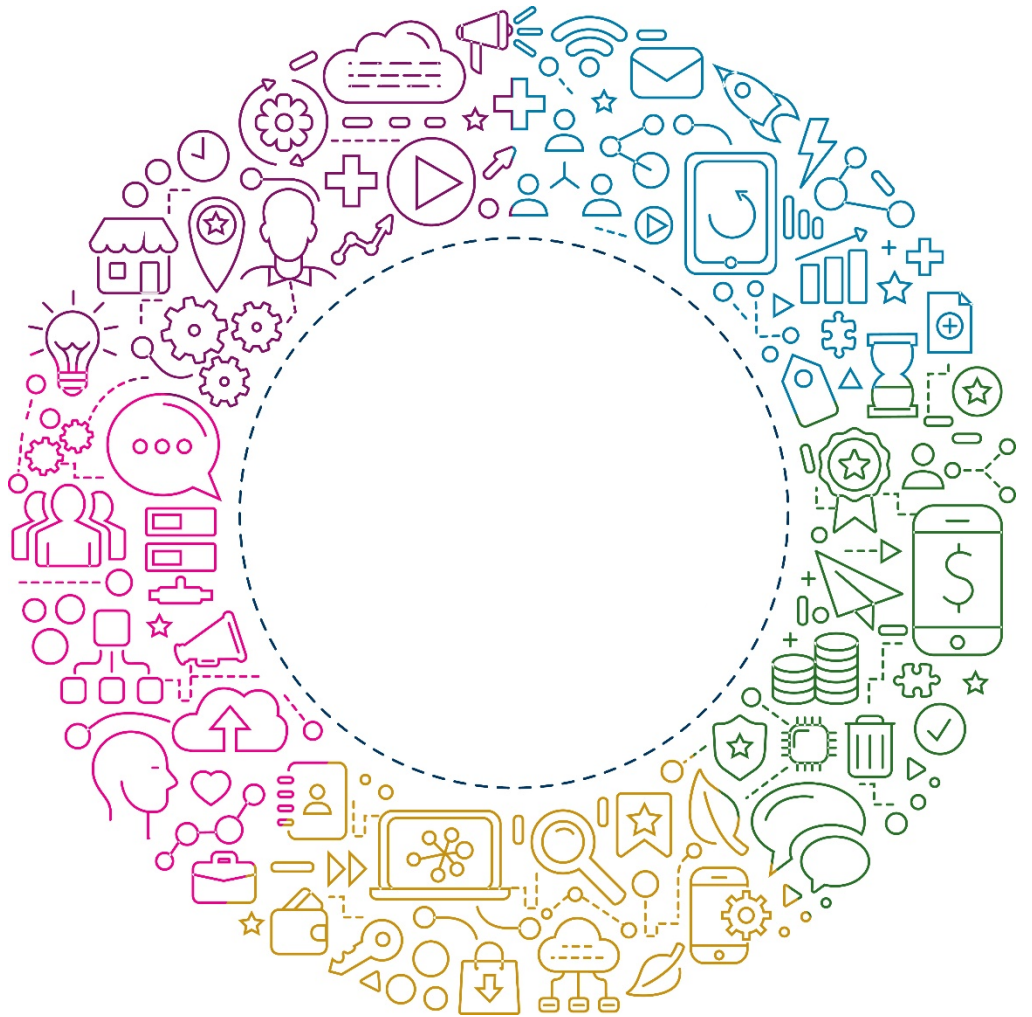
Supporting our organization

- Continue implementing City's 2021 advocacy plan emphasizing Guelph's economic and social recovery from the pandemic focused on
 - prioritizing emergency operating and transit relief funding
 - stimulating economic recovery in Guelph by supporting local businesses
 - investing in job-creating municipal infrastructure projects

Supporting our organization

- Supporting a consistent message from Ontario's municipalities with respect to budget shortfalls, municipal involvement in mass vaccination plans and securing enhanced sick pay for workers

Financial implications and recovery



Financial implications and recovery

- As presented in the Third Quarter Operating Variance Report
 - \$19.5 million shortfall in revenue related to COVID-19-related impacts
 - \$4.8 million cost increase for COVID-19 expenses
 - \$20.7 million corresponding cost reduction through mitigation efforts

Financial implications and recovery

- Safe Restart
 - Awarded \$6.4 million through Phase 1 and Phase 2
 - Awaiting decision on Phase 2 Transit Stream – Safe Restart; could receive up to \$10.2 million based on actual revenue losses
- COVID-related grant funding through the Ministry of Health and Long-term Care confirmed
 - Awarded \$879,202 for GW Paramedic Service
- COVID-19 Resilience Local Government Infrastructure Stream
 - Allocated \$945,162

Recommendation

That report “Managing the Impacts of COVID-19: Update 7” dated March 1, 2021 be forwarded to the local MP and MPP, FCM, AMO, OBCM and the Federal Minister of Finance and the Ministers of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Minister of Finance for the Province of Ontario.