

Managing the impacts of COVID-19

Update #10

December 6, 2021

COVID-19 update #10

- Taking care of the community
- Supporting Guelph businesses and economic recovery
- Supporting our organization
- Financial implications and recovery



Taking care of the community



Taking care of the community

- Proof of vaccination or medical exemption
 - Required for visitors 12 years and older at high-risk indoor City facilities starting September.
 - Anyone under 18 participating in organized sports is exempt
 - Contract security staff are stationed outside entrances



Taking care of the community

- The Corporate and Community Safety division has attended 65 calls for service and issued 10 charges in the last quarter.
- Unsanctioned gathering on September 25 at Chancellor's Way with 1,200 people resulted in:
 - 20 calls for Guelph-Wellington Paramedic Services
 - 300 calls to Guelph Police Services
 - 65 calls to City bylaw for noise complaints
 - 10 noise bylaw and nuisance party charges



Taking care of the community

- Enhanced vaccine certificates
 - Announced by the Province on October 16 and available for download two days later
 - City facilities requiring proof of vaccination are using the Verify Ontario app to scan enhanced vaccine certificates at the door



Taking care of the community

- Vaccinations
 - 90% of people 12 years and older are vaccinated!
- Guelph Wellington Paramedic Services continue to assist WDG Public Health to provide:
 - in-home vaccinations and testing for residents with limited mobility
 - vaccinations for residents in long-term care
 - tests for the local coroner on people who have passed away
 - in-home monitoring of COVID-19 patients



Taking care of the community

- Our Food Future’s Grow Back Better campaign milestones:
 - \$1.6 million dollars in Infrastructure Canada funding to support the community relief effort
 - \$1.5 million in community donations and in-kind contributions
 - \$6.5 million in public and private sector funding leveraged



Supporting Guelph businesses and economic recovery

Supporting Guelph businesses

- The seasonal patio program ended October 31.
 - 36 public patios downtown
 - 25 private patios

- Staff are working with Guelph Chamber of Commerce on amplifying the Guelph Shops message for the holidays
 - Guelph Shops wishbook
 - Local print and digital advertising
 - Launch of a Guelph Shops Instagram account



Supporting economic recovery

- Phase one of the Tourism Recovery Initiative offers \$475,000 in funds available for two streams:
 - Operating expenses: rent, utilities, payroll
 - Physical and technological adaptation supports: patio beautification, safety modifications, digital upgrades



Supporting economic recovery

- Phase two of the Tourism Recovery Initiative offers \$230,000 in funds to create:
 - Marketing campaigns to encourage locals and visitors to explore what Guelph has to offer
 - Food truck Tuesdays
 - Digital information kiosk



Supporting Guelph businesses and economic recovery

- The City has granted \$178,700 in Emergency Grant funding to 18 organizations, unincorporated groups and individuals in the second phase of the 2021 granting process
- The deadline for the next round of applications closed November 8
- Recipients will be notified by the end of December 2021.



Supporting our organization

Supporting our organization

- The COVID-19 Vaccination Policy has resulted in 94 per cent of City employees submitting proof of vaccination
- Mandatory testing for unvaccinated employees started October 18



Supporting our organization

- Mayor Cam Guthrie announced plans to lift the City's state of emergency by December 31, if key conditions are met
- Quarterly reports of COVID-19 updates to Council will move to an 'as-needed' basis to coincide with lifting the City's state of emergency



Financial implications and recovery

Financial implications and recovery

- The City is projecting a year-end deficit of \$9.9 million before Safe Restart grant funding.
- Budget pressures are being experienced in Parking, Culture and Recreation, IT, Legal, Realty and Court Services and Guelph Transit.
- Some departments are projecting increased COVID-19 related operating expenses for cleaning, sanitization and personal protective equipment (PPE).



Financial implications and recovery

- Significant supply chain volatility
- In some individual projects where budget has been reallocated or paused to re-evaluate scheduling, staff are seeing drastic increases to procurement costs beyond approved budgets
- Staff are monitoring this trend and may seek delegated authority from Council to use reserve funds within a procurement limit



Recommendation

That the report “Managing the Impacts of COVID-19: Update 10” dated December 6, 2021 be forwarded to the local Member of Parliament and Member of Provincial Parliament, Federation of Canadian Municipalities, Association of Municipalities Ontario, Ontario Big City Mayors and the Federal Minister of Finance and the Ministers of Municipal Affairs and Housing and Minister of Finance for the Province of Ontario.

