

Message from Mayor Rob Keffer:
COVID-19 update – August 14, 2020

I want to start this message by thanking all of you who have been so diligent in your efforts to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in our community. The Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit reports that there are currently NO active cases reported in Bradford West Gwillimbury, which is a tremendous relief.

Of course, now that travel between communities has increased, we need to keep up precautions including physical distancing and wearing face coverings, but it is nonetheless heartening to know that our efforts have made a difference.

The thing that I – and I'm sure many of you – find so difficult as the months go on is the isolation. I continue to “see” my coworkers through my computer screen, and I run into people in stores (at least I think I recognize some of you from the nose up), but it's a strain on the heart and mind to go so long without seeing familiar faces and having social interaction.

If you are a senior, or if you have a senior in your life, I hope that you take advantage of those activities you can safely do in order to stay engaged and stimulated. The Danube Centre remains closed, but they are planning a drive-through event for Seniors' Day on October 1st. The Bradford Legion has resumed offering \$10 Friday night social dinners, with seating on the patio or indoors at appropriately distanced tables. There are now at least 18 local restaurants offering patio seating and using precautions to protect you so that you can dine with people in your family or immediate social circle. And we will soon be taking registration for summer drive-in movies to take place in the Library parking lot. In the coming weeks, we will have more to announce regarding increased use of Town facilities.

Those of us whose jobs have moved to an online platform may be suffering from Zoom exhaustion; however, on the positive side, I think we all picked up the technology pretty quickly. If you haven't tried Zoom, Skype or Facetime to communicate with family members that you can't yet see in person, I encourage you to give it a try. Grandma and Grandpa may be more tech-savvy than you think, and they would love to see your face.

Finally, don't forget that this weekend is Virtual Carrot Fest! You can pick up free carrots at the Library parking lot on Saturday from 9 am to noon, and check out virtual buskers and more on our @townofbwg Facebook and Instagram pages.

Best,
Rob Keffer