

Message from Mayor Rob Keffer:
COVID-19 update – September 4, 2020

With school starting next week, I'd like to say that things are getting back to normal, but I think we all know that's not quite the case; however, there are just two active cases of COVID-19 in BWG at this time and we are cautiously opening up more services and programs to serve the public.

The BWG Public Library reopened today for browsing and borrowing, in addition to the computer lab that opened last month. Measures are in place to protect you – click here for hours of operation and safety protocols before you visit: <https://bit.ly/2DygBsE>

The Leisure Centre also begins its staggered reopening schedule this month. Watch our social media or website next week for a detailed announcement. Virtual and outdoor fitness classes have been very popular but, with cooler weather coming, we are looking forward to getting back into the facility this fall.

We continue to look for innovative ways to support local businesses. The temporary patio program has been such a success that the Downtown Revitalization Committee has recommended continuing it in future years. Also, to encourage more people to get back downtown and check out the shops and restaurants, we are hosting a music event on September 11 and 12 in the parking lot of the courthouse. This a pre-registered event with physical distancing and other measures for your protection – for more details visit www.townofbwg.com/music.

If you live in Ward 2 (which is the area east of Barrie St/Simcoe Rd bounded by Line 8 to the north and Line 6 to the south), please watch for more information about the upcoming by-election to fill the vacancy left by the unfortunate passing of Councillor Gary Baynes. We will soon be calling for candidate nominations, and anticipate that voting (by phone and internet) will take place in December. By-elections often don't get as much voter turnout as regular elections, but I strongly encourage you to learn about the candidates and what they could bring to the role and have your say by voting. We will provide more information on our website soon.

Best wishes to everyone going back to school this fall – I know there will be challenges but I'm certain that if anyone can adapt and make the best of a difficult situation it's our youth. Please stay safe and healthy.

Best,
Rob Keffer