

Town announces BWG COVID-19 Temporary Patio Program

Bradford West Gwillimbury, ON (*June 18, 2020*) – The Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury has launched a program to allow local businesses to expand outside of their normal footprint to take advantage of permissions granted under the Province of Ontario’s Stage 2 reopening guidelines.

At their June 16 meeting, Town of BWG Council approved the “BWG COVID-19 Temporary Patio Program”, which provides restaurant owners operating in BWG with an opportunity to expand existing outdoor patios or establish temporary outdoor patios. These expansions may take place within parking lots on private property, or onto sidewalks in the downtown core, with pedestrian traffic rerouted onto safely barricaded walkways created on the inside lane of the road. Council also passed measures to reduce truck traffic and lower the speed limit to 40 km/h in these areas.

The goal of the program is to assist businesses in their recovery from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and to allow them to take advantage of the summer weather to offer outdoor dining to their customers.

“Council moved quickly and decisively to expedite a process to create outdoor patios for restaurants and other eateries in Bradford West Gwillimbury, once the province deemed it safe to do so,” said Mayor Rob Keffer. “The effects of COVID-19 have taken a decidedly tough toll on our merchants, and I am pleased to announce the BWG COVID-19 Temporary Patio Program as the most recent measure we have undertaken to help get business owners back on their feet.”

For business owners looking to add a patio on private property, an online form has been created to grant immediate authorization to proceed. The form is available at www.gotobwg.ca/patios/.

A separate form for business owners looking to add a patio in the downtown core will be available on the site shortly.

For more information, or for other types of businesses that may be interested in operating outdoors, please contact the Office of Economic Development at 905-775-5366 ext. 1310 or ecdev@townofbwg.com.