

# Municipality of Killarney

## Council Report on Covid 19

April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Since March 11<sup>th</sup>, Council has been dealing with many issues and concerns with the outbreak of Covid 19.

On social media and via email there have been many ideas, comments and accusations that are clearly not true. That any councillor does not care or has done nothing to try and protect our municipality, is certainly a distortion of the facts and wrong.

Council and staff have had many meetings and conversations in an attempt to protect the community and maintain the services that are supplied by the Municipality (i.e. water, sewer, garbage, ambulance and the Health Centre) and to maintain adequate staffing and financial support for these services.

We along with staff, Emergency Medical Services and the Killarney Health Centre have worked to provide flexible scheduling to ensure these vital services be maintained. We have arranged for Killarney to be included in the Covid 19 mobile testing program along with other social programs that are in development. The Municipal boat launch has been closed and the airport is now closed to nonemergency flights. Press releases are in the works in an attempt to get visitors to stay home.

Some residents are frustrated that we have not closed Highway 637. We do not have the legal authority to do so and feel that closure or blockading of this highway would be detrimental to maintaining the health and safety of residents.

To protect our residents we need not only the Health Centre, but also quick ambulance response times. As you may be aware, the majority of the ambulance crews as well as our nurse are not residents and travel from other communities.

Any delay to staff or extraction time could be catastrophic. Covid 19 is a serious health threat but not the only serious health issue in the community.

Many residents also need access to other outside services, food, doctor appointments or tests.

We of course still require delivery of gas, propane, pharmaceuticals and many other products.

Social distancing and self-isolation are two critical individual responsibilities that appear to be having some positive effects. We are pleased to let you know over Easter weekend the OPP will be in Killarney to enforce Provincial orders on crowd size and social distancing.

We will continue with regular communications that have been reviewed and authored by Council, Health Centre staff and Municipal staff. There is a large team providing input into everything we communicate to help each of us protect each other.

Please stay healthy and safe.