



## Media Release

# Mid-Pen Transit operators keeping the towns moving during a difficult time; riders encouraged to wear face coverings

May 22, 2020 – Over the past two months there have been numerous facilities, businesses and services throughout our community shut down to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. However, throughout these challenging times, Mid-Pen Transit operators have been there to ensure residents have a way to make essential trips throughout the pandemic.

“Our operators have gone above and beyond to ensure the Mid-Pen Transit Service has continued to run,” said Shawn Berriault, Director of Community Service. “Not only have they put themselves at risk, they have had to adjust to several adjustments in daily routines, service schedules and staffing. Through it all, they continue to keep Midland and Penetanguishene moving.”

With the Ontario Government recommending anyone travelling on public transit use a face covering to help prevent the spread of COVID-19, the Town of Midland and Town of Penetanguishene are encouraging all Mid-Pen Transit riders to wear a face covering on the bus. All transit users will be required to sanitize their hands when entering the bus. In addition to these steps, transit operators have been sanitizing the buses throughout the day, ensuring all touch points are cleaned regularly.

“These added precautions not only help ensure the safety of transit riders, it will help protect our transit operators,” added Berriault. “Our operators just want to work, and the more we can do to protect them, the more we can ensure the Mid-Pen Transit service continues to operate effectively.”

Mid-Pen Transit Service will remain free for riders, and continue to operate Monday to Friday, using the “Saturday” schedule, until further notice. Riders are asked to board and deboard using the rear doors when it is an option, to maintain physical distance from transit operators. Riders with disabilities may still use the front door if needed. For more details on the schedule, please visit:

[www.midland.ca/Pages/transit.aspx](http://www.midland.ca/Pages/transit.aspx)

The Town of Midland will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and provide updates on the Town of Midland website at [Midland.ca/COVID-19](http://Midland.ca/COVID-19), and we encourage residents to follow our social media channels for updates as well, [@MidlandON](https://twitter.com/MidlandON) on Twitter, and [@townofmidland](https://www.facebook.com/townofmidland) on Facebook.

For more information on the state of COVID-19 in our area, please visit the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit website at [simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://simcoemuskokahealth.org).



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