



Update – April 9, 2020

1) Premier Ford announces closures to give essential workers a break

- The Premier announced on Wednesday that grocery stores and pharmacies will close on Good Friday and Easter Sunday in order to give essential workers a much-needed break so they can spend some quality time with their families. And he has also declared the Easter Bunny is an essential service!

2) Premier calls for increased COVID-19 testing

- Premier Doug Ford discussed COVID-19 testing in Ontario on Wednesday, saying the numbers (of completed tests) are unacceptable.
- Ontario now has the supplies needed (e.g. reagents – chemicals needed for testing) to perform 13,000 tests per day rather than 2,000 to 3,000 tests per day.
- Increased testing starts today.

3) Public Health Agency of Canada on wearing non-medical masks

- The Public Health Agency of Canada is advising that wearing a non-medical mask (for example a homemade cloth mask) is an additional measure individuals can take to **protect others around them**, especially when they are unable to physically distance themselves.
- It is important to understand that **non-medical masks have limitations and need to be used safely.**

More information is available at: [Considerations in the use of homemade masks](#)

4) Mid-Pen Transit Service to shut down over Easter Weekend

- The Mid-Pen Transit Service will not be running on Good Friday (April 10), Saturday, April 11, Sunday, April 12 (as usual) or on Easter Monday (April 12). Normally the service runs on the Saturday of Easter Weekend, however, due to the reduced transit staff available the decision has been made to shut down service over the long weekend to give transit operators a much-needed break to spend with their families.
- Service will resume on Tuesday, April 14 and will operate on the reduced hour "Saturday" service at least through Saturday, April 25. Transit will remain free to use, but we ask that riders limit their use of the service to essential trips only.

5) Downtown Dig, Great News Story!

- The 2020 downtown dig has begun and with that came a field visit from the Ministry of Labour (MOL). The visit went well, the contractors are diligent with ensuring the extra measures required on a construction site for COVID-19 are in place.
- Mitch Sobil, the Town's project manager is very pleased with how seriously the contractors are taking their responsibility during this pandemic, including physical distancing on site.

For full details & news on the King Street Rejuvenation project, visit: [Engaging Midland - King St](#)

If you think you may have COVID-19 symptoms or have been in close contact with someone who has it, first self-isolate and then use [Ontario's Self-Assessment Tool](#) to see if you need to seek further care.

Remember to pre-screen daily when entering any Town building.

Any changes within a department will now be provided to Randy to be included in an update and copied to HR@midland.ca for tracking.