



Update – June 5, 2020

We are looking to share positive news about staff! If you've had some good news, please email rfee@midland.ca to include in a future update!

1) Ontario Extends Declaration of Emergency until June 30

Extension Key to Protecting Ontarians as Province Safely Reopens

- As Ontario charts a path to recovery, the Declaration will support the continued enforcement of emergency orders that give hospitals and long-term care homes the necessary flexibility to respond to COVID-19 and protect vulnerable populations and the public as the province reopens.
- Current emergency orders include allowing frontline care providers to redeploy staff where they are needed most, enabling public health units to redeploy or hire staff to support case management and contact tracing, limiting long-term care and retirement home staff to working at one home, and preventing unfair pricing of necessary goods.

To read the full media release, visit: [Emergency Declaration extended until June 30](#)

2) Recovery Framework Update

- Our new Executive Director of Community & Development Services, Robert Elliott will begin with the Town on Monday. Welcome Rob!
- We are finalizing Stage 1 of our internal Town of Midland Recovery Framework for execution. Reminder you can still submit your comments/feedback on the [Employee Survey - Returning to Work](#). The survey closes today (June 5), so if you haven't yet, please take a few minutes to provide your comments/input. Thank you all for your feedback.
- Additional SOP's and guides are in the process of completion which will include Employee/Management Duties & Responsibilities during COVID-19, Vehicle Use SOP, Work Remote Policy and more.
- Early June we will have a CAO & Senior Leadership team virtual staff meeting on Recovery Framework and COVID-19.

3) Ontario Appoints Special Advisor to Develop Health Data Platform

New tool will help researchers detect, plan and respond to COVID-19

- The Ontario government has appointed Dr. Jane Philpott as the special advisor to support the design and implementation of the new Ontario Health Data Platform (formerly known as PANTHR). This data platform will provide recognized researchers and health system partners with access to anonymized health data that will allow them to better detect, plan, and respond to COVID-19. As well, this platform will support projects from the Ontario COVID-19 Rapid Research Fund.
- The Ontario Health Data Platform is being developed in consultation with the Ontario Privacy Commissioner. The information gathered will help break down long-standing barriers and allow researchers to help with:
 - Increasing detection of COVID-19;
 - Discovering risk factors for vulnerable populations;
 - Predicting when and where outbreaks may happen;
 - Evaluating how preventative and treatment measures are working; and
 - Identifying where to allocate equipment and other resources.

To read the full media release, visit: [Ontario developing new Health Data Platform](#)



4) Chigamik Waypoint Community Health Hub opened on June 1

- The new Chigamik Waypoint Community Health Hub officially opened on Monday.
- Located at 287 Bayshore Drive, Midland.
- This new building will consolidate many healthcare services in our community under one roof including primary care and mental health supports, youth programming, traditional healing and walk-in services.

For more details, visit: [Community Health Hub Officially Open!](#)

5) COVID-19 vaccines being tested around the world

- The WHO's most recent update on global vaccine development projects, published Tuesday, showed there are currently at least 133 vaccines being tested around the world.
- U.S. institutions are working on the highest number of these — 42 — according to the WHO's list, and Chinese research facilities are working on 19, meaning China is developing the second-highest number of vaccines. Canada has 12 vaccines in development.
- Of the 133 vaccines, 10 vaccines are in the clinical trial phase (meaning they are being tested on human volunteers) and 123 vaccines are in the preclinical trial phase.
- At least 123 further potential vaccines are being investigated around the world, according to the WHO, but these are in the earlier "preclinical evaluation" phase of trials — meaning they may never be tested on humans.

For the full CNBC article and map showing where vaccines are being tested visit: [Map of World Vaccine Testing](#)

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 Clerks@midland.ca for tracking.