



March 15, 2020

COVID-19 – Message from Mayor and Administration

The World Health Organization declared COVID-19 to be a global pandemic. In doing so, they call for communities to take aggressive and urgent action to prevent the spread of the disease.

After careful consideration and closely monitoring COVID-19 related closures and cancellations in our community and around the region, we have made the decision that effective Monday, March 16, 2020 a number of programs will be cancelled and the facilities where those programs run will be closed until further notice. This includes the following:

- Community centres
- Arena
- Recreation and programming
- Community rentals

The County of Middlesex Libraries have cancelled all programming. Basic and enhanced libraries (Wardsville and Melbourne) are closed, and comprehensive libraries (Glencoe Library) will remain open for the use of social service employees. Please visit the County of Middlesex Library website for its most up-to-date information.

We realize the difficulty this will cause for many people in our community. We are in an extraordinary time when each of us has a responsibility to do as much as we can to slow the spread of COVID-19. Health agencies agree that large gatherings put people at risk; these cancellations and closures come because there is nothing more important than the health and well-being of your families and ours.

Additionally, as social distancing is one of the preventative measures that we are all being asked to take right now, we request that you limit attendance at the municipal office for appointments only, and essential business.

If you have a request or need to report an urgent issue, please contact the office via phone (519) 287-2015 or online at <https://southwestmiddlesex.ca/Public/Report-It>

We know that many people will have questions about how this impacts them personally. We will be providing information directly to those impacted throughout the next few days and will provide as much information as we can as quickly as possible. As information evolves, we will make it available to our region.

Mayor Allan Mayhew and the Administration of Southwest Middlesex.