



The Corporation of the Township of Bonnechere Valley

For Immediate Release
RE: Messages to Bonnechere Valley Residents

Township of Bonnechere Valley – April 17, 2020 – On the advice of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and with the approval of the Ontario legislature, the Ontario government has extended the Declaration of Emergency under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* for a further 28 days (until May 12, 2020). This will allow the government to continue to protect the health and safety of the people of Ontario during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Locally in Bonnechere Valley we are continuing to limit the access or have implemented the closing of some of our public spaces. Please note the following:

- Centennial Park in Eganville is closed to the public;
- Legion field is open to the public for walking, however the play areas and ballfields will be closed;
- Rotary Beach the playground is closed;
- Recreational Geology Trail in Eganville is open.
- Buelow Beach walking trail is open but the beach area is closed;
- Foymount Park is open but the playground is off limits;
- Cormac Park is open;
- Opeongo Park is open but the playground is off limits;

Renfrew County ATV Club (RCATV) is asking riders to Stay Home, Stay Safe ... the trails will wait. As we all watch the COVID19 daily changes impacting our lives, safety and priorities, so too are there going to be changes to how we use the trails this spring and summer. First and foremost RCATV is recommending staying at home and not riding until States of Emergency have been cleared! RCATV will be abiding by the guidelines and direction set out by both County of Renfrew and Province of Ontario and keeping their trails closed until such time as restrictions on travel are removed.

The Township of Bonnechere Valley continues to be in a Level 2 Fire Ban/Restrictive Fire Zone as implemented by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for the Province of Ontario. This means NO burning of any kind including campfires. For outdoor cooking only charcoal or gas/propane barbecues are permitted. Once a Restricted Fire Zone is declared, it is illegal to set a fire for any purpose within the affected area. Failure to comply could result in: a fine up to \$25,000.

A reminder to residents to visit the "It Takes a Village" website, www.bvccovid19.ca and facebook page as it has useful resources and information to assist us through the COVID-19 pandemic.

In terms of Council Meetings our next Virtual Committee and Council meetings via ZOOM will take place on Tuesday, April 21, 2020. The agendas are posted on the Bonnechere Valley website for your convenience. A reminder that the public can attend these Committee and Council Meetings virtually through the Township of Bonnechere Valley's YouTube channel as well you can access past meetings on the YouTube channel.

The next press release will be issued on Friday, April 24, 2020 at 10 am.

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