



The Corporation of the Township of Bonnechere Valley

For Immediate Release

RE: Closure of All Municipal Buildings, Garbage Tags and Dump Cards, Fire Permits, Building Permits, Bonnechere Union Public Library, Outdoor Rink, and Ice Fishing.

Township of Bonnechere Valley – January 15, 2021 - As a result of the Provincial Government issuing a stay-at-home order requiring everyone to remain at home with “exceptions for permitted purposes or activities, such as going to the grocery store or pharmacy, accessing health care services, for exercise or for work where cannot be done remotely” the Township of Bonnechere Valley would like to inform our residents on how this order affects you in Bonnechere Valley.

Effective Monday, January 18, 2021 **all** municipal buildings will be closed for walk-ins until February 10, 2021. Residents are encouraged to make payments for water and taxes online and utilize the afterhours drop box. Dog Tag purchases will be extended to a date to be determined and the early bird rate will continue to be honoured. All staff will be available by phone or email and the staff directory is on the Township’s website at www.bonnecherevalleytwp.com.

Council meetings will continue virtually and be available via the Township of Bonnechere Valley YouTube page.

Essential services such as the landfill, curbside pick-up and routine road maintenance are not impacted at this time. To protect the safety of our employees and residents we are once again waiving the need for garbage tags and/or a waste cards when you attend any of our municipal waste sites. Bulky waste as well as Construction and Demolition materials must be taken to the Sno Drifters site only and at this time there is no charge at Sno Drifters to dispose of your materials. You are asked to refrain from attending municipal sites if you are sick and keep a 2m or 6ft distance from others.

Since the Municipal Office will be closed if are wanting to obtain an open air fire permit, residents may complete and submit the online application form located on our website at <https://www.bonnecherevalleytwp.com/departments/fire-department/open-air-burns/>.

The Province of Ontario has declared an emergency in the province under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act. The Ontario Government issued an Order (O. Reg. 10/21) under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to Covid-19) Act, 2020 with respect to the closure of non-essential business including in the construction industry. The issuance of building permits should not be taken as approval to commence construction activities unless in accordance with the Orders issued by the Province of Ontario. The building department is moving forward with inspections for permits issued prior to January 12, 2021 for open air inspection. We request that nobody is on site for the enclosed indoor inspections for at least three days before the date of inspection. Applications are being accepted electronically and Permits will continue to be issued. The issuance of Building Permits after January 12, 2021 however should not be construed as a statement that the construction of the building described in the permit is permitted as an essential business pursuant to the Order. All non-essential construction must be deferred until the government of Ontario has lifted the Order or enacted further changes to permit non-essential construction activities. For further information please contact Chief Building Official Mark Schroeder at 613.281.2200 during our regular office hours or via email at cbo@eganville.com.

The Bonnechere Union Public Library is closed to the public. However, they will continue to offer curbside pick-up and phone services on Wednesdays and Thursday from 10:30 am to 5:30 pm. Their phone lines will be closed the rest of the week, but you can email your reserve requests to info@bonnechereupl.com.

The Outdoor Rink in Eganville's Centennial Park located at 149 John Street will remain open depending on weather conditions and social distancing protocols are in effect, maximum 25 people and no hockey or other team sports will be permitted.

Bonnechere Valley is known for its various lakes and rivers and we know that many of you have questions related to the impact this situation may have on your outdoor ice fishing. Ice Fishing can still occur. Gathering inside an ice fishing shack with people other than members of your household are prohibited. Anglers are being encouraged to follow physical distancing rules and stay two metres apart from others. As well anglers are being advised to fish as local as possible and to only fish with members of your household.

It has been a tough few month for our local businesses, and we want to encourage you to continue to shop local. Take advantage of our local restaurants and retailers that are offering curbside pickup.

Do you require COVID-19 Testing? Please self-isolate and contact the Renfrew County Virtual Triage and Assessment Centre at 1.844.727.6404.

We appreciate your cooperation and understanding as we work to together to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. "We will, we can, we must, then we can be fine!" Stay safe and stay Bonnechere Valley strong!

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