

Press Release – March 18th, 2021 – Dysart et al Emergency Control Group

Dysart et al has just confirmed with the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge District Health Unit that Haliburton County will soon see the second permanent vaccination site opening at the A.J. LaRue Arena in Haliburton. We will be reaching out to ask for support and volunteers to assist with the vaccination clinic in the coming weeks, as we know more about what we need to complete this program and ensure our public safety.

It is necessary to close the facility now in order to have the facility ready to become a vaccination site by early April. To accommodate this, all bookings at the A.J. LaRue Arena and Community Centre are cancelled effective Saturday, March 20th, 2021 through to the end of September 2021. We will be contacting groups to discuss refunds, but if you need more information about arena bookings, please email amueller@dysartetal.ca for assistance.

The other Haliburton County approved site will be located in the SG Nesbitt Arena in Minden. Appointments for both sites will be booked online through the Provincial website at <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine/>

Due to recent increases in COVID-19 cases in Haliburton County, and in an effort to reduce the impact of community spread through large gatherings, the Emergency Control Group has directed that no event approvals will be provided for Head Lake Park, other parks or our local community centers until at least July 1st, 2021. The decision to extend this closure, or to lift the suspension of activities will be reviewed regularly.

Parking metres will be put back into service again in the downtown area of Haliburton on April 1st. Dysart has provided significant relief on parking during the pandemic to support local business.

The AGCO has extended the provision for temporary restaurant patios which will enhance the downtown outdoor experience again this summer. The Control Group is supportive of permitting this initiative again this year, and we anticipate participation from our local restaurants again for 2021.

The Covid-19 Assessment Centre continues to operate at the Haliburton Medical Centre on Gelert Road. An appointment is necessary and can be arranged by going to the website <https://www.haliburtoncares.ca/>

Health Services staff and first responders are being vaccinated this week.

With our recent outbreak and introduction of the Covid-19 variant to the County, the public is reminded to be extra cautious, to stay home when they can and take advantage of the alternative delivery and pick up services that our local businesses have been providing throughout this pandemic.

In the coming months, we are hopeful that we will reach the goal of 70% of the local population immunized to protect against Covid-19.

For the most up to date information, please go to the Haliburton Kawartha Pine Ridge Health Unit website www.hkpr.on.ca