



The Corporation of the Town of Tecumseh

Corporate Services & Clerk

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Laura Moy, Director Corporate Services & Clerk

Date to Council: August 11, 2020

Report Number: CS-2020-25

Subject: Face Covering Policy for Visitors and Contractors

Recommendations

It is recommended:

That CS-2020-25 entitled “Face Covering Policy for Visitors and Contractors” **be received;**

And that That By-law No. 2020-55 being a by-law to approve a Face Covering Policy for Visitors and Contractors, **be adopted.**

Background

The Town Hall and Arena Customer Service areas opened to the public for in-person, drop-in traffic during the hours of 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday and to scheduled in-person appointments, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., as reported at the July 14, 2020, Regular Meeting of Council under CAO-2020-04 entitled “Town Hall Reopening.”

As previously reported, the reopening of Town Facilities is being carried out in accordance with the guidance on how to safely return to an open state for public services provided by Public Health and Ontario Health.

Use of face coverings during the pandemic has been recommended by the Chief Medical Officer of Health of Ontario and the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada in situations where physical distancing (spatial separation of individuals by at least 2 metres) is difficult to maintain.

The purpose of this report is to recommend the adoption of a policy prohibiting members of the public and contractors from entering Town Facilities during a pandemic, if the person is not wearing a face covering.

Comments

Face coverings are an additional step to help slow the spread of COVID-19 when combined with every day preventive actions and physical distancing in public settings. Though face coverings may not protect the wearer, it may keep the wearer from spreading the virus to others.

As the Town of Tecumseh is committed to taking all precautions reasonable in the circumstances to protect our workers, a Face Covering Policy for Visitors and Contractors, accompanying this report as [Attachment 1](#), has been prepared for consideration and adoption.

The Policy states that a customer, patron, contractor or visitor (person), who is not wearing a face covering, will not be permitted entry into a Town Facility, except those with an exemption as set out by the Medical Officer of Health. It further states a face covering must be worn by persons at all times outside a Town Facility where a minimum physical distance of 2 m (6 ft) cannot be maintained.

Once adopted, the Policy will come into effect immediately, and in the future upon the proclamation of a pandemic for any type of viral respiratory illness for which the Medical Officer of Health recommends or orders wearing face coverings/masks as a protective measure and/or a Declaration of Provincial and/or Local Emergency is made. The Policy will remain in effect for the duration of such Provincial and/or Local Declarations of Emergency and/or advice or order of the Medical Officer of Health.

Effective on June 26th, the local Medical Officer of Health issued a Class Order made pursuant to Section 22 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.H.7. This order requires all persons entering commercial establishments in Windsor and Essex County to wear a face covering/mask. This Order remains in effect and the Medical Officer of Health has advised that municipalities may make additional provision for mask wearing within their facilities even though they are not commercial establishments.

While on July 24, 2020, [Bill 195, Re-opening Ontario \(A Flexible Response to COVID-19\) Act, 2020](#) ("Bill 195") came into force and has officially brought an end to the declared State of Emergency in Ontario, locally, Mayor McNamara's declaration remains in effect.

On August 4, 2020, the Province announced that, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the local medical officer of health, other health experts, and local authorities, the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit will remain in Stage 2, under the [Reopening-Ontario Plan](#), as the province continues to monitor local transmission of COVID-19 and support efforts to contain its spread.

As the virus is still among us within the community, the Town is endeavoring to take measures to ensure our employees' safety at work and when interacting with each other and the public. By adopting the attached Policy, it will demonstrate the Town's commitment to each

employee's health and safety and obligation to keep the public safe while on the Town's premises, and support efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19.

Consultations

All Departments
CUPE Local 702
Joint Health and Safety Advisory Committee

Financial Implications

An update on the financial implications of COVID-19 will be included in the upcoming second quarter variance report to Council at the Regular Council Meeting of August 11, 2020.

Link to Strategic Priorities

Applicable	2019-22 Strategic Priorities
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- Make the Town of Tecumseh an even better place to live, work and invest through a shared vision for our residents and newcomers.
- Ensure that Tecumseh's current and future growth is built upon the principles of sustainability and strategic decision-making.
- Integrate the principles of health and wellness into all of Tecumseh's plans and priorities.
- Steward the Town's "continuous improvement" approach to municipal service delivery to residents and businesses.
- Demonstrate the Town's leadership role in the community by promoting good governance and community engagement, by bringing together organizations serving the Town and the region to pursue common goals.

Communications

Not applicable

Website Social Media News Release Local Newspaper

This report has been reviewed by Senior Administration as indicated below and recommended for submission by the Chief Administrative Officer.

Prepared by:

Laura Moy, Dipl. M.M., CMMIII HR Professional
Director Corporate Services & Clerk

Recommended by:

Margaret Misek-Evans, MCIP, RPP
Chief Administrative Officer

**Attachment
Number**

**Attachment
Name**

1

Draft Policy 105 – Face Covering Policy for Visitors and Contractors