



# COUNTY OF WELLINGTON

## Media Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 23, 2020**

### **THE COUNTY AND ALL SEVEN MEMBER MUNICIPALITIES DECLARE EMERGENCIES**

**WELLINGTON COUNTY, ON** – Today, at 2:00 pm, The County of Wellington and all seven of its member municipalities declared emergencies in accordance with the **Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, 1990**, as a result of the global COVID-19 pandemic.

The declaration was made for the following reasons:

- A declaration of emergency provides the Head of Council the authority to take actions or make orders, which are not contrary to law, in order to protect the inhabitants in the area of the emergency;
- If volunteers are being employed by the municipality in support of the emergency, it can provide those volunteers with WSIB protection; or
- It can demonstrate to their residents that the municipality is taking the current situation seriously, and is taking every step that they can to protect them from the threat.

“This afternoon, the County of Wellington and all seven Mayors made the mutual decision to declare emergencies in response to the COVID-19 global pandemic,” said Warden Kelly Linton. “With the recent confirmation of a COVID-19 case in the County, and evidence that the virus is circulating unknowingly within our community, we are taking this public health situation seriously. We need to make some difficult decisions moving forward to continue to effectively and efficiently respond to the situation in all of our municipalities. The health and safety of all of our residents is our top priority.”

The County of Wellington and all seven member municipalities will continue to monitor the situation closely and we will be making all appropriate changes as necessary. For the most

up to date County information, please visit: [www.wellington.ca](http://www.wellington.ca) or check our social media platforms.

For additional information on COVID-19, and how to protect yourself, please visit [www.wdgpulichealth.ca](http://www.wdgpulichealth.ca).

-30-

**Media Contact:**

**Andrea Ravensdale, Communications Manager**

**T 519.546.7578**

**E [andrear@wellington.ca](mailto:andrear@wellington.ca)**

