



## Planning and Building Service Update

On March 20, 2020, the Ontario Government passed Regulation 73/20 to suspend any limitation periods outlined in provincial law for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency, which includes the following:

- *Planning Act* limitation periods for processing applications and making decisions regarding Subdivisions, Development Permit, Official Plan and Zoning By-law Amendments etc.;
- *Building Code Act* timeframes for the municipality to conduct inspections

### **Planning Services**

Planning staff continue to be available by phone and email to respond to inquiries and assist the public.

While the Province has passed legislation permitting Councils to conduct business by teleconference, at this time no direction has been given for alternative procedures for public meetings under the Planning Act. As such, in order to ensure the safety of staff, committee members and our public, statutory public meetings and committee meetings are postponed until further notice.

We encourage applicants to continue to submit applications for review and we can be reached for pre-consultation by telephone or email. We will be pleased to continue to review, circulate files to prescribed agencies for comments and prepare technical reports in preparation for future meetings as resources permit. If you are in the process of submitting an application, please contact staff regarding submission requirements and payment options.

Should you have questions regarding the status of a specific planning file, please do not hesitate to contact us.

For more information regarding how to submit new applications please email Planning Coordinator Mary Remmig at [mremmig@smithsfalls.ca](mailto:mremmig@smithsfalls.ca).

### **Building Services**

Building inspections will be carried out depending on resources and the type of project undertaken. We regret to advise that we are unable to undertake inspections of occupied spaces at this time. In the event this causes any delay, please advise when giving notice for inspection. Please email [building@smithsfalls.ca](mailto:building@smithsfalls.ca) to request an inspection and determine inspection eligibility.

**Please Note:** The Municipal Office remains closed to the public until further notice, however staff are committed to ensuring the continuity of development services operations as resources permit.

We thank you for your patience and understanding during this challenging and unpredictable time. Stay safe and stay healthy!

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