



**MEDIA RELEASE
STATE OF EMERGENCY UPDATE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 20, 2020

Smiths Falls Public Library to reopen July 22

Smiths Falls – The Town of Smiths Falls is pleased to announce the public library will be reopening to the public as of Wednesday July 22, 2020.

The library was closed on March 17 in response to the provincial State of Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. On Friday, July 17 the province of Ontario moved into Stage 3 of reopening.

“The announcement of the launch of Stage 3 of recovery in Ontario means we are able to begin opening our municipal assets like the Smiths Falls Public Library,” said Art Manhire, Director of Community Services for the Town of Smiths Falls. “The library services will be a good resource for parents at home with children over the summer, and we’re looking forward to welcoming the public back on Wednesday.”

The library will reopen for public access using regular scheduled hours of Monday to Thursday from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m., Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. In-library programming will not resume at this time however virtual programming will continue to be made available to library users.

Due to COVID-19 safety protocols there will be some changes to library service moving forward. As per guidelines recently announced by the Leeds Grenville and Lanark Health Unit, face coverings will be required in order to access library services. The front door of the library will be the only entrance with the exception of those requiring accessibility; hand sanitizer will be available inside the front entrance.

There will also be a limit to the number of people allowed inside the building at one time. Visitors may be required to wait before entering the library to ensure physical distancing requirements are able to be maintained.

Computers will be available for use and bookings can be made in advance by telephone or in person. Computers will be disinfected between appointments.

The library will have increased cleaning protocols along with limited seating inside to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-1o. Despite the resumption of library services, curbside pick-up on Wednesdays and Thursdays will remain available upon request.

Please contact the library at 613-283-2911 for more information or visit www.smithsfallslibrary.ca.

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For further information, please contact:

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