



SMITHS FALLS

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

February 12, 2021

Smiths Falls lifts municipal restrictions following the lifting of provincial lockdown

Smiths Falls – In response to the province of Ontario’s announcement of provincial reopening following stay-at-home orders, the Town of Smiths Falls is pleased to announce the lifting of restrictions for the use of municipal assets.

“While the news of provincial re-opening is exciting, it by no means indicates that the situation with COVID-19 has been resolved. We have done the hard work needed to get us here, and it’s now up to all of us to ensure that the spread of COVID-19 does not resume in the community,” said Shawn Pankow, Mayor of the Town of Smiths Falls. “Now is the time to stay the course: wear a mask when indoors in public spaces, wash your hands and keep socializing within your household. Stay home when possible, stay safe, and save lives.”

On Dec. 26, the province of Ontario’s announced the lockdown of most businesses in Ontario, followed by the implementation of a stay-at-home restriction.

The Child Development Centre has provided service to the community right through the lockdown in conjunction with the Province and the County and will continue to provide high quality care for families in the community. To register for a space at the daycare please email Judy Arthur at jarthur@smithsfalls.ca or call 613-284-8425 for registration information.

The arena will be open for services as of February 16th. Groups must contact

Box 695, 77 Beckwith St. N., Smiths Falls, Ontario K7A 4T6
Phone: 613-283-4124 Fax: 613-283-4764 Website at www.smithsfalls.ca.

Community Services at 613-283-4124 ext. 6103 or ext. 6105 to book space and discuss plans to resume activities.

The walking track will also be available for public use.

The Smiths Falls Public 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.

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

Use of any of these locations is permitted so long as physical distancing of at least two metres is maintained at all times with those outside your household.

The requirement to wear a mask while in an enclosed public space remains in effect.

It's anticipated that the province will continue to evaluate the situation relating to COVID-19 in our region and across the province, particularly in relation to new and emerging strains of the virus. As the COVID-19 situation changes, additional restrictions could be introduced or changed at any time.

The Town of Smiths Falls' Emergency Control Group will continue to provide updates to provincial orders as changes are made, and the Community Emergency Management Coordinator will continue to work in conjunction with the Leeds Grenville Lanark District Health Unit.

Stop the spread of COVID-19

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, please keep in mind that it's up to all of us to keep our community safe. Remember to continue:

- Staying home when feeling unwell.
- Avoiding touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Observing physical distancing rules and maintaining at least two metres between yourself and others at all times.
- Being patient and following store procedures to maintain physical distancing.
- Wearing a cloth face covering indoors or when maintaining distance is difficult.
- Practicing good hand hygiene, carrying hand wipes or hand sanitizer at all times.

The Town of Smiths Falls offers resources for businesses and residents on its **COVID-19 resource page** at <https://www.smithsfalls.ca/public-safety/covid-19-coronavirus/>

Businesses requiring additional information for re-opening guidelines can call the province of Ontario's **Stop the Spread Business Information Line** at 1-888-444-3659.

For further information, please contact:

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