



**MEDIA RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 18, 2021

Smiths Falls supports small businesses with patio bylaw extension for 2021

Smiths Falls – The Town of Smiths falls is continuing its support for small businesses by extending the flexibility for the expansion of outdoor commercial patios in 2021.

“We are happy to be able to renew this commitment to make it as easy as possible for businesses to operate in the Town of Smiths Falls, said Mayor Shawn Pankow. “Making it easier and less costly for businesses to operate an outdoor patio is yet another way Council and staff are working to support our business community during the pandemic.”

On June 1, 2020, Smiths Falls’ Council adopted a by-law to waive application fees for sidewalk patios for the 2020 season, as well as delegating authority for the execution of patio agreements. On March 8, 2021, Council approved the extension of the patio by-law amendment until December 31, 2021.

In 2021 Town staff are authorized to approve occupancy of on-street parking spaces so long as municipal operations or construction are not impeded, and with the following conditions:

- A 0.5 metre clear zone is maintained between the edge of the patio and the travelled lane.
- 1.2 metre reflective posts are installed at corners facing traffic.
- Sidewalk accessibility is maintained.

Fees will be waived for the rent or use of parking spaces used by commercial patios. Fees for cash-in-lieu of parking will also be waived, so long as the patio is temporary,

and approval is obtained from the property owner. These conditions will remain in effect for the remainder of 2021.

The Town requests that businesses contact the planning department for discussion in advance of building or expanding a patio in Smiths Falls. The planning department can be reached by contacting Senior Planner Karl Grenke at kgrenke@smithsfalls.ca or 613-283-4124 ext. 1116 or Planning Coordinator Mary Remmig at mremmig@smithsfalls.ca or 613-283-4124 ext. 1136.

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For further information, please contact:

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