



Arran-Elderslie COVID-19 Update

May 7, 2020

Municipal Facility and Programming Status

Municipality of Arran-Elderslie facilities are closed to the public until further notice. **Please note that operations will continue and staff can be reached by telephone or email during this time.** We are committed to slowing the spread of the COVID-19 virus while at the same time continuing to provide quality service to our residents.

The impacted Municipal facilities that are closed to the public:

- The Municipal Administration Office
- Paisley, Tara and Chesley Community Centres
- Arkwright Hall
- Paisley Treasure Chest Museum
- All parks and playground structures
- Chesley Trailer Park
- Public Works facilities
- Chesley and Tara Firehall Rental Rooms

The Arran and Chesley Landfills are open. No cash transactions will be permitted and debit tap will be the only accepted form of payment. Please note that waste is only accepted from Arran-Elderslie residents. There is a 5 car limit in the landfill.

Taxes and other Municipal payments can be paid by mail, drop box at the Municipal Office in Chesley, online and telephone banking.

Garbage and recycling curbside collection is continuing as usual. Please expect delays in pickup as there is an increased volume of waste.

Council meetings continue by way of teleconference during the Covid-19 emergency declaration. There is limited spacing available for residents who wish to attend the meetings in person and practice safe social distancing. Procedures are in place to accommodate public input at upcoming Public Planning Meetings. For information on how to participate in the public meeting, please visit the municipal website at www.arran-elderslie.com under "Municipal Services" then "Zoning and Planning"

The Municipality of Arran-Elderslie Open Air Fire Ban Exemption for Agricultural Purposes

The Open Air Fire Ban in Arran-Elderslie and throughout Bruce County continues to remain in force and effect. **An exemption to the "Open Air Fire Ban" will apply to all agricultural zoned properties in the Municipality of Arran-Elderslie** between the dates of May 1 to May 15, 2020. During this period agricultural zoned properties may conduct open air burning to prevent any interference with the planting of crops.

We will also note: These exemptions will be very limited and must prove a need, not a convenience only.

To apply for an exemption for agricultural purposes:

- Farmers are required to fill out and abide by the conditions listed in the open air burn permit application. View permit application on the [Arran-Elderslie website](http://www.arran-elderslie.com). (note that sections 3 and 4 are not applicable or permitted). For those who do not have access to internet, please call the Municipal Office 519-363-3030 and staff will document the required information.
- Burn Permit Forms will be reviewed and approved by the Fire Chief.

Recreational fires are restricted to protect firefighters from being exposed to COVID-19 unnecessarily should they be called to any responses involving people not following the conditions of the permit. The conditions of recreational burns are as follows:

1. Fire can be no larger than 24" or 62cm in diameter and must be supervised at all times.
2. Fires must be at least 5m or 16' from any building or other thing that could be ignited by sparks.
3. No fires are permitted between 6am and 8pm.
4. No burning of prohibited materials including leaves, garden refuse or construction materials. We have compost bins for this material.

The fines under the Open Air Burn Bylaw can be as high as \$485/hour/truck responding.

Grey Bruce Huron Strong

Shop local during COVID-19! Check out the Grey Bruce Huron Strong website and app to view businesses open and offering modified services during COVID-19. You can also purchase gift cards to local businesses, discover things to do from home, find ways to help the community and stay informed on the latest COVID-19 news.

Garage and Yard Sale Information

During the COVID-19 pandemic, residents in Arran-Elderslie may want to sell private property and second-hand items. At this time, garage and yard sales are strongly discouraged, and if more than 5 people are present would be prohibited. This is in accordance with the extended emergency order issued by the Government of Ontario which prohibits public and social gatherings of more than five people. View more information on the Grey Bruce Health Unit website.

Municipal lawn care during COVID-19

Staff are beginning outdoor maintenance of municipal properties including cemeteries, parks and sports fields. This work being done is for the purposes of safety, security and sanitization. Modifications in services are being made to protect health staff and contractors during the COVID-19 pandemic. While residents will see work underway at parks, please remember that all parks, playgrounds and sports fields are closed until further notice in an effort to help slow the spread of COVID-19.

Construction in Arran-Elderslie Update

The Municipality of Arran-Elderslie will continue to accept, review and issue building permits. However, the issuance of a building permit will give the authority to start construction when permitted in accordance with COVID-19 regulations. If you require any further information on whether you can start construction please call 1-888-444-3659. If you fail to reach the above hotline because of the very large volume of calls, then we are prepared to assist you in your determination as to whether you are an essential business, please call the CBO at 519-363-3039.

Thank You!

The Municipality of Arran-Elderslie would like to thank Bruce Power and Chapman's Ice Cream for their donations of PPE to the Grey Bruce Health Unit. Thanks to their donations, our three Arran-Elderslie fire departments received PPE to keep our volunteer firefighters safe.

May 6, 2020

To the Chesley Community,

On September 21, 2019, the Emergency Department (ED) at the Chesley Hospital moved to reduced hours due to a nursing staff shortage, closing overnight, and operating from 8:00 AM-8:00 PM daily since that time.

Making this decision weighed heavily on our Board of Directors, as like you, we are community members that rely on having our hospital there for us when we need it. However, for the safety of our patients and staff, it was a necessary step.

In September, and again in January, we gathered for a public meeting at the Chesley Community Centre to explain the challenge we are facing – a need for Registered Nurses with ED experience that are confident in their skills and abilities to safely operate the department during the overnight hours when there are limited staff in the building. Our Leadership Team, alongside Dr. Jacqui Wong, Dr. Adam Winterton, and Bruce County EMS Director Steve Schaus, answered questions, heard your concerns, and outlined the efforts being made to find a solution to this problem. At the end of the January meeting, we committed to providing an update on our progress at another public meeting to be held in May.

As you can imagine, the events that have unfolded in the last two months have shifted the focus of the SBGHC team entirely. In response to this public health crisis, the efforts of our Leadership Team and Staff have been dedicated to ensuring that our four hospital sites are prepared to respond to the needs of our patients relating to COVID-19.

With our efforts focused on protecting our communities from the COVID-19 pandemic, we have unfortunately not been able to dedicate the level of effort which is required to respond to the nursing shortage in Chesley. The challenges facing the Chesley ED last fall and winter have continued, and we are not yet in a position to reopen the ED to 24/7 service.

However, our commitment to ensuring that the Chesley ED returns to 24/7 service remains strong. At our February 2020 meeting, a motion was passed by our Board of Directors to have this issue as a standing agenda item, to ensure that it continues to be a top priority. Our President & CEO, Michael Barrett, is also meeting weekly with Arran-Elderslie Mayor Steve Hammell and CAO Bill Jones to keep them informed on the hospital's COVID-19 response efforts, and I know that Mayor Hammell continues to engage Michael on the reopening of the Chesley ED to 24/7 service.

Given the current restrictions in place regarding large public gatherings, we will be unable to hold a public meeting in May. However, when the time comes that we are able to hold the public meeting, we will. Until such time, we are here to answer your questions by email (patientrelations@sbghc.on.ca) or by phone (519-370-2400 ext. 2281). The questions and answers will be compiled and shared publicly.

Your patience and understanding is appreciated. Stay safe.

Sincerely,



John Gilbert
Chair, Board of Directors

c: Michael Barrett, President and CEO

QUALITY HEALTH CARE – CLOSE TO HOME

Parkview Manor COVID-19 Response

COVID-19 has impacted all Canadians, especially our vulnerable populations. Parkview Manor took proactive steps early on to protect the health and wellbeing of our residents, care staff, their families and our Chesley community. We are so grateful for our staff, who have consistently gone above and beyond to care for residents during this unprecedented time. We are amazed by their commitment to put others first every day.

Protecting the health and well-being of everyone within the Southbridge community is always our top priority. We have strengthened our existing protocols, and have established a number of new protective measures. These include staffing, infection control and care, personal protective equipment usage, connection to outside and testing.

We are overwhelmed by the outpouring of support from our Chesley community. We cannot thank you enough. The ladies of Saugeen Shores sewed and donated more than 1,200 caps to hospitals and long-term care homes, including Parkview Manor. Bombshell Stella's and Moores Meats provided a large donation of delicious warm meals to our frontline heroes. We are receiving support from our community partners that is helping us ensure that we continue to have everything we need to keep our residents safe in their homes, and we would like to thank them for helping all of us through these challenging times. Bruce Grey Public Health has been working closely with us since the onset of the pandemic, providing support and guidance. We are also being supported by Bruce Grey Health Centre. To view more about our response to COVID-19, visit our website at <https://www.parkview-manor.ca/>.

Assessment Centre Locations (appointments not necessary):

Grey Bruce Health Services – Owen Sound Regional Hospital
Hours of Operation: 12:00 PM – 8:00 PM, 7 days per week

South Bruce Grey Health Centre – Kincardine Hospital
Hours of Operation: 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM, Monday-Friday

Hanover & District Hospital- Hours of Operation: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM, 7 days per week

Important Resources for Residents

Province of Ontario-COVID-19 Website: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus> Telehealth: 1-866-797-0000

Grey Bruce Public Health Unit: <https://www.publichealthgreybruce.on.ca/>

Arran-Elderslie Website: www.arran-elderslie.com

Bruce County COVID-19 Information Page: <https://brucecounty.on.ca/covid19>

South Grey Bruce Health Centre Chesley Site: 519- 363-2340

did you know?

