HALTON HEALTHCARE GETS \$5.2 MILLION IN PROVINCIAL FUNDING

Halton Healthcare Services will get \$5.2 million in operational funding for 2020/21 as part of Ontario's \$935 million investments in hospitals across the province.

In a media release, Oakville MPP Stephen Crawford said that the funding will help in part to "mitigate the effects of CO-VID-19."

"We sincerely appreciate this additional funding to ensure our health-care system in Halton continues to be effective for everyone at present and in the future," he said.

Milton MPP Parm Gill said that "extraordinary times" call for "extraordinary measures."

"We are going to protect



Graham Paine/Torstar

Halton Healthcare Services' hospitals have received a major financial boost from the Otario government.

the health of Ontarians by building a sustainable and connected health care system," Gill said.

"The front-line staff of Halton Healthcare and Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital are at the heart of our community's health care," said Oakville North-Burlington MPP Effie Triantafilopoulos.

"By investing \$5.2 million more in Halton Healthcare we are helping our health workers do their jobs keeping us safe and healthy."

USE OF FACE MASKS IN PUBLIC 'STRONGLY' ENCOURAGED

BAMBANG SADEWO

bsadewo@metroland.com

As the communities and economy reopen, Halton leaders are calling for residents to wear non-medical masks or face coverings in indoor public settings and for businesses to require them as a way to protect the community from the spread of COVID-19.

In a joint statement issued Tuesday evening, Halton Regional Chair Gary Carr and mayors from all four Halton municipalities said they continue to urge "voluntary compliance" in following the guidelines of public health officials, in-



CanadaMask photo

Masks are readily available at numerous places across the region and are strongly recommended when in public places.

cluding the wearing of masks as advised.

"Throughout the pandemic, the Halton community has done an incredible job flattening the curve by taking actions such as physical distancing, washing your hands regularly and staying at home as much as possible and when you are ill. These voluntary actions have produced the good results we are seeing today lower daily cases, sustained hospital capacity and the ability to reopen parts of our economy," the statement reads.

As noted in the media release, it's part of the reason why Halton isn't following in the footsteps of other municipalities with higher CO-VID-19 cases that plan to make wearing a mask mandatory in certain situations.

The release also said that wearing mask is an additional protective measure on top of the other safety precautions.

"We all need to continue working together to ensure we don't lose the significant progress we have made as a community," the statement further reads.



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