

GEORGETOWN • ACTON

THURSDAY
JULY 16, 2020

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Graham Paine/Torstar

Mayor Rick Bonnette and Councillor Jane Fogal are both in favour of masks being mandatory for enclosed public spaces.

MANDATORY MASK BYLAW DRAWS MIXED REVIEWS

MELANIE HENNESSEY
mhennessey@metroland.com

BRYAN MYERS
bmyers@metroland.com

It's the piece of apparel on everyone's minds lately, and a source of debate for both politicians and citizens alike.

Halton Hills Council has voted unanimously to require masks or face coverings in enclosed public spaces to help stop the spread of COVID-19, effective today (July 16).

The verdict saw the local municipality become the first in the region to enact such a temporary bylaw, which stipulates a fine of up to \$500 for those who contravene.

There are a few exemptions to the rules, including children under five years old and individuals with an underlying medical condition or disability who are unable to put on or remove a mask without assistance.

"Our council felt strongly that we needed to take decisive action on this issue, and we felt that the

Premier lent support in tackling this at the municipal level," said Mayor Rick Bonnette. "Even though Dr. Meghani, Halton's medical officer of health, did not feel an order was necessary, she is in support of the Town's direction to pass a bylaw."

See DECISION, page 7

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