

MAYOR URGES 'LOCKDOWN' RESIDENTS NOT TO VISIT

BRYAN MYERS
bmyers@metroland.com

With Toronto and Peel Region in 'lockdown,' there's local concern about an influx of non-residents.

"Let me be clear," said Mayor Rick Bonnette. "I am not going to say that our local borders are shut. This is way above my authority and that of council."

However, Bonnette urged residents — regardless of where they live — to adhere to the health and safety protocols set out by the Minister of Health.

"This means stay at home as much as you can," said the mayor. "I do not want to see Halton Hills in lockdown, which would be devastating to local businesses, sports and leisure activities."

Bonnette also encouraged residents to refrain

from visiting friends and family in Halton Hills until after the 28-day lockdown imposed Nov. 21.

The municipality continues to adhere to its policy which states that the Town of Halton Hills does not limit program participation by address. Non-resident participants are subject to a 20 per cent rate in addition to regular fees for fitness classes, swim lessons, and camps, as laid out in the corporate rates and fees report. There is only one fee for single-admission programs.

More information about the Town's protocols and safety precautions are available at the Town's COVID-19 website.

MORE ONLINE

SIGN UP FOR
OUR WEEKLY NEWSLETTER AT
THEIFP.CA

HOSPITAL INTRODUCES NEW VISITING RESTRICTIONS

MELANIE HENNESSEY
mhennessey@metroland.com

As the pandemic continues, Halton Healthcare (HHC) has rolled out additional restrictions for visitors at its hospitals throughout the region.

All patients at Georgetown, Milton and Oakville hospitals are now being asked to identify a limited number of people who can visit them on a regular basis.

The decision comes in response to increasing COVID-19 cases in the community and Halton's move to the red zone of the provincial framework, say HHC officials.

"Family support is always important, especially at this time," said Judy Linton, HHC senior vice-president of patient experience

and chief nursing executive.

"However, with community cases on the rise, we also need to ensure that we are protecting our patients and our health-care teams. One of the ways we can do this is by reducing the number of people coming into our buildings. These are not decisions that are made lightly."

The visiting restrictions are as follows:

- Most patients will be asked to identify two people who will be allowed to visit them during their hospitalization. These two visitors must co-ordinate their visits as patients will continue to be restricted to one visitor a day within one of the visiting time periods (11 a.m. to 2 p.m. or 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.).

- Patients with exceptional circumstances (i.e.

patients in ICU, at end of life) will be allowed up to four people to be identified as designated visitors who can visit two at a time. Visiting times for patients in these situations are determined on a case-by-case basis.

- Patients who've tested positive for the coronavirus and those waiting for COVID-19 test results are not permitted visitors, unless their medical status changes significantly for the worse.

- Those coming to the emergency department should only be accompanied by a support person, if necessary.

- Individuals attending an outpatient appointment, such as a diagnostic appointment, are encouraged to come alone. If support is required, they may be accompanied by one person.

All visitors to the hospital are screened at the entrances, asked to wear a mask during their visit and follow other COVID-19 pro-

ocols, including physical distancing and good hand hygiene.

"We are relying on those people who are coming to visit to be respectful of the visiting guidelines for when they are in the hospital. We are also asking that they self-monitor and not visit if they are unwell," said Linton. "We don't want to implement further restrictions unless we are compelled to do so."

The hospital's visiting policy has changed throughout this pandemic based on the directions of the provincial government. Halton Healthcare had initially restricted all visiting at the outset of the pandemic and over time has relaxed the policy to reintroduce visitors for patients.

HHC has two programs — Virtual Visiting and Email a Patient — for those who aren't able to visit in person.

For further details visit www.haltonhealthcare.com.

Our 21st Annual

Super WINTER Special

HASSELL AUTOMOTIVE

- Oil & Filter (Includes up to 6 litres regular oil.)
- Complete top to bottom check over.
- Installation of winter tires (already on rims) included.

EXTRAS

- \$5.00 Tim's Card
- Windshield Washer Fluid
- 12 Pack of Pop

NOW ON!
only

\$7495*
Prices are +HST

\$9495*

Synthetic oil
(up to 6 litres)

Call for an
Appointment

*Most Vehicles.



AUTOPRO

HASSELL AUTOMOTIVE

SALES & SERVICE

45 Mountainview Road North, Georgetown, Ontario

905.877.7958

e-mail: hassellsauto@bellnet.ca • www.hassellautomotive.com