

# COVID-19: A MARATHON NEWS EVENT



CATHERINE O'HARA  
Column

It's about trust. Our relationship with our readers is built on transparency, honesty and integrity. As such, we have launched a trust initiative to tell you who we are and how and why we do what we do. This column is part of that project.

Nine months.

Every day for nine months, our journalists have been reporting on the COVID-19 pandemic.

That's some 300 days of coverage on a public health crisis that has upended our way of life, added stress to

an already taxed health-care system and contributed to a staggering number of deaths — nearly 1.7 million souls worldwide.

Hundreds of thousands of words have been carefully chosen and professionally written by our team of journalists here in Halton. Through our ongoing coverage of the pandemic, we have delivered timely information on a rapidly evolving situation. It is our hope that our stories have helped you make sense of the world around you, stay healthy and safe.

Never in a million years did we think we'd be covering a story of this magnitude. We feel privileged to be in a position where we can document the community during these unprecedented times.

Week after week, we've dug deep to provide answers to the questions on every-

one's minds. As new information about the virus and safety measures emerges, so too did a new line of questioning.

While reporting on the valiant efforts of health-care workers battling an invisible and deadly threat, our journalists have also been working on the front lines to provide you — our loyal readers — with information you can rely on and trust.

COVID-19 has dominated headlines and has kept us busier than ever. But it's not the only story developing in our community. There are many other news items that have deserved and demanded our attention. We were there, reporting on those. And we'll keep at it, no matter how challenging a feat.

Our team has the grit and determination needed to get the job done. This was made

evident in the early days of the pandemic, when we shifted to a remote-work environment; debated whether we should be wearing masks, gloves and other personal protective equipment in public; stood in long queues to enter the grocery store only to discover they were sold out of all the staples: flour, yeast, toilet paper, soap and disinfectant. We knew then that we were in for a long run.

With a new year at our doorstep, we've laced up our sneakers for the second leg of this marathon and we'll continue to pound the pavement to keep you informed. But for everyone's sake, here's to hoping the finish line is near.

*Catherine O'Hara is the regional managing editor for Metroland Media's newspapers in Halton, Peel, Niagara and Hamilton. We welcome your questions and value your comments. Email our trust committee at [trust@metroland.com](mailto:trust@metroland.com).*



By Cory Soal  
R.H.A.D.

**... Lend Me Your Ears**

**BUSINESS (NOT QUITE) AS USUAL..**

Dear people of Halton Hills;

During these uncertain times, rest assured we remain open to serve you. We have adjusted services according to the guidance by Health Canada.

Please call for an appointment. We are not accepting walk ins at this time.

We handle every call on an individual basis to best handle each person's needs.

Social distancing in clinic with one appointment per time slot in waiting room.

If necessary, I offer mailbox drops as well!

Take care, be safe and know this will pass.

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