

**MEETING REPORT
MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH DUNDAS
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
April 16, 2020**

**Municipal Office, Morrisburg
1:00 p.m.**

Present: Cameron Morehouse (Community Emergency Management Coordinator), Mayor Steven Byvelds, Deputy Mayor Kirsten Gardner, Brenda Brunt, Shannon Geraghty, Jeff Hyndman, Danielle Watson, Denis Villeneuve, Ethan Robert, Kalynn Helmer

1. Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update from Dr. Paul Roumeliotis

Dr. Paul Roumeliotis provided an update concerning COVID-19, stating that total infections have risen above 2 million, with over 140,000 deaths recorded globally. He noted that Ontario has 8447 cases and 385 deaths with a total of 15 cases in SDG. No deaths have been recorded within the EOHU jurisdiction. He highlighted that daily cases are seeing a reduction across the province, and noted that current measures have appeared to slow the spread and flatten the curve, noting that Ontario's healthcare system has not been overwhelmed at this point. Dr. Paul Roumeliotis stated while this was positive, social distancing measures, enforcement and the emergency order will be maintained to continue to flatten the curve. He discussed the process related to the relaxation or implementation of further measures in response to data related to the spread of the virus, highlighting that additional measures including a possible curfew and reducing groups of persons from a maximum of 5 to 0-2.

Dr. Paul Roumeliotis provided further explanation regarding what is deemed an essential service, and that he was working with his provincial partners to better understand what is categorized as an essential service. He noted that a blood test is in development to help public health agencies understand infection rates and provide better direction. He noted that additional PPE was being distributed by the province in response to possible shortages. Additional testing capabilities were also being developed in the area to provide additional screening to vulnerable populations and first responders. He stated that the EOHU assessment centers have tested over 800 residents thus far. Additional education and enforcement programs are expected address outstanding concerns next week.

Dr. Paul Roumeliotis provided an explanation regarding the high infection rates and number of deaths in long-term care facilities, noting that established procedures are ineffective at containing the virus within the facility, as there is no vaccine or medication to reduce its effect. He stated that the only protection residents in long-term care facility is effective containment and social distancing within the community.

2. Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update

CEMC Morehouse provided an overview of the call with Dr. Paul Roumeliotis including potential expansion of his Section 22 orders province-wide regarding retail stores implementing proper mitigation procedures, additional social distancing measures, the critical situation regarding long-term care facilities and increased education and enforcement.

Mayor Byvelde provided comments concerning long-term care facilities in the area, noting mitigation procedures are critical.

CAO Geraghty acknowledged the communication and hard work done by the EOHU, noting the proactive approach. He provided an overview of an earlier call with Dr. Paul Roumeliotis regarding long-term care facilities, stating that an inventory had been completed across the EOHU jurisdiction related to PPE supplies and staffing related concerns and that it had been sent to the province. CAO Geraghty discussed a moratorium on municipal events and hall rentals until the end of June with the Committee, though he noted it may be premature.

He highlighted that two staff members will be returning to the office on rotating days to better align service levels. The Committee discussed the required logistics and procedures to ensure that the returning staff are following all public health guidelines concerning COVID-19. He noted that staff are observing public areas and aiding with enforcement, highlighting an increased presence of Ontario Provincial Police on patrol.

Brenda Brunt discussed call volume related to burn permit applications and tax due dates.

Jeff Hyndman stated that Public Works staff will be returning to full staff complement on April 20, 2020, while maintaining social distancing procedures. In consultation with SDG County Road Supervisors, proper procedures for transportation have been developed to ensure staff are protected.

Denis Villeneuve discussed cooperation with the Township of South Stormont regarding an inventory of spare parts for the Water and Wastewater Department.

Deputy Mayor Gardner inquired if masks would be made mandatory in the workplace and if South Dundas had any supplies. CEMC Morehouse stated the municipality has a limited supply currently. CAO Geraghty will follow up with Dr. Paul Roumeliotis and provide an update.

CEMC Morehouse stated that fire and By-law related call volume was lower than usual.

The following actions took place:

| | ITEM | DISCUSSION | ACTION |
|----|-----------------|---|--|
| 1. | Mandatory Masks | The Committee discussed the possibility of mandatory masks in the workplace | CAO to follow up with Dr. Paul Roumeliotis and provide information to the Committee. |
| 3. | Next Meeting | | TBD or Thursday after call with Dr. Paul Roumeliotis on April 16, 2020 and April 23, 2020/ |