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**Monday Message from the Mayor #7**  
**May 4, 2020**

To the residents and businesses of Arnprior:

This week is Emergency Preparedness Week and today's current situation shows us more than ever how we all have a role to play in emergency preparedness and how important it is for you and your family to prepare for possible emergencies. Emergency Preparedness Week is all about taking actions to be better prepared to protect yourself and your family during emergencies. I encourage you and your family to visit [getprepared.ca](http://getprepared.ca) and "make a plan".

Starting this week, the Town's Operations Department is conducting spring hydrant flushing which will take place throughout the month of May. You may notice a slight discolouration to the water when your area is being flushed. It is not hazardous to your health and can be cleared by running your cold water tap until clear.

Last week, the Premier announced his phased plan on how the province will slowly re-open our communities when the time comes. The framework does not yet speak to any dates. In fact, there are a number of conditions that need to be in place before any re-opening can start. You can read about the criteria Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health and health experts will use to advise the government on the loosening of emergency measures, as well as guiding principles for the safe, gradual reopening of businesses, services and public spaces in [A Framework for Reopening our Province](#).

I once again want to share my thanks and appreciation for everyone's efforts in stopping the spread of COVID-19 in our community. Your efforts in staying home except for essential needs and practicing social distancing when you must go out for essentials is greatly appreciated and truly is making a difference. As we continue to follow the regulations and guidelines set by health care professionals and our Provincial government, we appreciate your cooperation.

I would also like to thank the businesses and their staff that have had to close their non-essential businesses or adapt to a new way of business to help protect our community. I know that great efforts have been made to offer services and products where possible while still respecting the regulations and I encourage residents to support their favourite local businesses in any way they can during these times. Many businesses have made adjustments to operate with shipping, take-out, delivery, or curbside pick-up so I encourage you to look at what options are being offered locally to meet your needs.

I remind you that links to other resources are available on the Town's COVID 19 webpage or by calling or emailing staff, with contact information available on the Contact Us link of the Town's website [www.arnprior.ca/covid](http://www.arnprior.ca/covid).

Walter Stack,  
Mayor