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Message from the Mayor #8
May 12, 2020

To the residents and businesses of Arnprior:

With the Province's recent release of guiding principles to reopening the Province, the Town has started focusing on a Recovery and Re-opening Plan for town facilities and programs. This plan will include risk assessments for each location, standard operating procedures and communications to ensure that when the Province relaxes restrictions, the municipality is organized and equipped to ensure the health and safety of all facility users.

I know one of the key priority of many of our residents is to re-open in the Arnprior Landfill. While garbage collection, an essential service, has continued to be provided to our residents, including the raising of the number of bags collected weekly, the closure of the landfill facility has been a concern raised by the public. Proactive measures are being taken to arrange for appropriate workplace safety protocols onsite and alternate payment arrangements for vouchers which will help facilitate opening of the facility within approximately two weeks. Please watch for updates on the timing coming soon. Until the site is open, I remind our residents that bag collection remains at 4 bags instead of 2 during this time and leaf and yard waste collection is proceeding as scheduled this Wednesday, May 13th.

With the continued need for physical distancing due to COVID-19, the Town of Arnprior Council meetings have been live streamed since March 25th. I encourage you to watch these meetings live or watch the recording at your convenience, to learn more about what measures your municipality is undertaking to adapt and continue offering essential services during COVID-19. These videos can be found at www.arnprior.ca/youtube.

This week is National Nurses Week and I want to send the thanks of Council and the residents of Arnprior to our local nurses who are on the front line of the pandemic and assist in all regular medical requirements. They face these challenges and lend their assistance with unquestioning devotion to their vocation and we appreciate that.

In my thoughts this week are all the seniors and older adults in our community who may be feeling more isolated during this time. I am so impressed with the organizations who have come together to form Seniors' Centre Without Walls. This program provides free telephone-based senior and community activities, removing barriers to loneliness and isolation. I encourage our seniors to get involved. More information can be found at <https://cssagency.ca/seniors-centre-without-walls-2/>.

Council has made the difficult decision to cancel or postponed all event until June 30th including our annual Priorpalooza celebration held every year on the first Saturday in June. Staff have been working to offer a virtual version of Priorpalooza on Saturday,

June 6th so that residents can still enjoy the many talents of the Ottawa Valley from the comfort of their own home. Please watch our social media and website for more information closer to the date.

For all other COVID related links and resources please visit the Town's COVID 19 webpage or by call or email staff, with contact information available on the Contact Us link of the Town's website www.arnprior.ca/covid.

Walter Stack,
Mayor