

# Media Release 3

**From:** Township of South Algonquin

**Date:** March 18, 2020 12:26 pm

COVID-19 Update and Information Sources

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Ontario Premier Doug Ford declared a Provincial emergency on March 17, 2020 due to the Novel Coronavirus COVID-19 describing it as, “a danger of major proportions to Ontarians”. The declaration allows the Province and municipalities to take extraordinary measures to mitigate the pandemic. The response is being led by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care at the provincial level and locally by the Renfrew County and District Health Unit.

South Algonquin Mayor Jane Dumas describes the current situation as, “serious but stable” in South Algonquin as there has not been a single case of COVID-19 reported here, or in Renfrew County. Mayor Dumas thanks all residents for their co-operation during this unprecedented emergency:

*“All activities at present are aimed at stopping the spread of COVID-19 and the municipality is taking unprecedented actions to ensure the safety of resident and visitors in South Algonquin”.*

Chief Administrative Officer/Clerk Treasurer Holly Hayes reports that all municipal essential services (Police, Fire, EMS, Public Works and Administrative Services) remain operational.

The following closures are in effect:

- Municipal Office and Municipal facilities are closed to the Public,
- Staff are available at the Municipal office to take your phone calls and respond to email and will continue to maintain as many services as possible during the closure, staff directory available at <http://www.southalgonquin.ca/administration.php> or call (613) 637-2650
- Municipal landfill sites are closed; curbside collection will continue as normal (domestic garbage only). Wednesday collection at Aylen Lake continues.
- “non-essential” businesses are closed per our Medical Officer of Health. This includes all bars, restaurants, hair salons etc.
- Essential businesses such as grocery stores, gas stations, pharmacies and healthcare facilities remain open.
- Gatherings of more than 10 persons are discouraged by the Chief Medical Officer of Health for the Renfrew County & District Health Unit. A minimum distance of 2 metres between persons is recommended.

**The South Algonquin Family Health Team remains open. Call prior to going the office so that they can help determine your best course of action. 613-637-2170**

Contact Telehealth Ontario 1-866-797-0007 if you have symptoms,

Renfrew County and District Health unit is the main contact regarding COVID19 and are providing regular updates on their website <https://www.rcdhu.com/>

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>