



April 9, 2020

Dear Citizens of the Municipality of Temagami:

We all are living through a challenging time dealing with this COVID-19 pandemic. It is affecting everyone in many different ways. My Easter message to everyone is simple; enjoy yourself during this difficult time and stay safe. As Mayor I am concerned about our Community and whether we are doing enough to keep everyone safe and informed. As we enter the Easter long weekend, this in itself will bring new challenges and concerns. I cannot emphasize this enough. **Staying Home is the safest thing to do for You and Your FAMILY and this will SAVE LIVES.** Travel only for essential reasons and follow the directives and guidelines set out by the Province and our Public Health Unit. Thanks to everyone who has taken this threat seriously. We ask you to continue as we move forward towards the better days ahead.

To our Seniors I know this is hard on you but please stay home and stay safe. If you have concerns or needs, please reach out by phone to your friends and neighbors for assistance. The local Family Health Team is available by phone if you need any medical attention. We are also fortunate to have a local pharmacy that also can be called upon. If there is something else we can do let us know. Together we can get through this, so feel free to ask for assistance or advice.

Our Community has not yet declared an Emergency mainly because the Provincial Emergency order already put in place has given us the ability to continue as we have been doing. The directives and guidelines put out by the Province seem to be working. In the event where I think we are not following the Rules or Directives as set out and/or if there is a local feeling that ALL People are not taking this threat seriously, I will then have an obligation to declare an Emergency for the Municipality of Temagami and find ways to make this happen! We are dealing with protecting the lives of **every citizen** so please act accordingly. The Mayor's role during an Emergency is not an easy task and when elected I took an oath to protect the Community. I will do my part, however to reiterate again, I need your HELP!

What the summer of 2020 in the Temagami and Marten River area will be like basically depends on how everyone reacts today and in the future. We still have a lot to do to get COVID-19 under control but it all depends on each one of us following the directives, like frequent hand washing with soap and water and keeping 2 meters apart, that are designed to deal with this virus. There are no easy answers however, together we can make a difference.

My message to our Seasonal Residents who are important to us, is clear. STAY HOME and we look forward to seeing everyone as soon as it becomes safe to do so! This becomes even more important as we head into spring. Conditions and travel on lakes and rivers become a real challenge and emergency response cannot be guaranteed. Having to deal with these types of events also pulls valued resources away from protecting the people who live here year round. Our local services including Health Care are also limited. "When will we be able to visit Temagami?" is a question that is being asked daily and the answer will be determined by what everyone does today and over the next few weeks. So keep informed by reading our updates, and checking our website and Facebook posts. If you are not on our Communicate email list send us your email address to communicate@temagami.ca.

Again, Stay Home, Stay Safe and Happy Easter to everyone.

Dan O'Mara
MAYOR