

ST. JOHN'S

COVID-19 UPDATE

Changes in The City of St. John's (City) - Impacting Residents and Businesses:

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of St. John's is activating its **Business Continuity Plan** and taking measures to proactively help prevent the spread of the virus. Following advice from public health officials, the City will be concentrating on work-from-home and remote deployment solutions for our staff to ensure social distancing.

The City of St. John's is working to provide residents and businesses impacted by the global COVID-19 pandemic with important City news and resources from governments and organizations during this difficult and uncertain time. This newsletter will be updated and released frequently.

What businesses are open during the COVID-19 pandemic?



Retail/repair businesses that sell the following products/essential services are permitted to remain open:

- Food (including discount stores);
- Restaurants and hotel kitchens for take-out, drive-thru, or delivery only;
- Pharmacies, medicine, and medical devices;
- Personal hygiene products;
- Cleaning products;
- Baby and child products;
- Gas stations; and
- Hardware stores.

Repair services: telecommunications devices, plumbing, electrical, construction, heating, appliances, vehicles, emergency household cleaning and restoration and medical devices and equipment.

All non-retail businesses can stay open, as long as workers can maintain physical distancing.

Workers cannot be within six feet of each other or the clients they serve.

These closures affect in-person service. Where possible, all businesses can explore options to continue business operations online.

- Gyms and fitness/recreational centres, including yoga studios, tennis and squash facilities;
- Restaurant dining rooms, craft breweries, bars;
- Dance studios and performance spaces;
- Cannabis and vape product retail stores;
- Movie theatres;
- Arenas;
- Spas, esthetic services, hair salons;
- Body piercing, tattooing and tanning salons;
- Private clinics of dentists, audiologists, physiotherapists, chiropractors, massage therapists, and other allied health professionals;
- Bingo halls; and,
- Retail stores, including those in shopping centres unless they provide essential services.

Visiting long-term care and personal care homes has stopped, unless there are exceptional circumstances including visitation to end of life residents.

Funerals, visitation/wakes and weddings are not permitted to have more than 10 people in attendance.

To review what businesses are permitted to operate, under the Provincial (NL) order, during the Covid-19 pandemic – [CLICK HERE](#)

For up-to-date announcements on City of St. John's services, during the Covid-19 pandemic - [CLICK HERE](#)

Residents can continue to contact the City:

To book a phone apt with a City representative contact Access St. John's

- Dial 311 or 709-754-CITY (2489)
- Email: access@stjohns.ca

Residents may report issues via 311 or submit a service request online - [Click here](#)

What is Closed to the Public?

City Hall and all public facilities operated by the City of St. John's are closed to the public.

Council meetings are closed to the public.

Council meetings will occur via webcast until further notice - [Click here](#)

All community centres and recreation facilities are closed.

All City parks and playgrounds, including The Loop, ball fields, skate parks, hard surface courts, and dog parks are closed.

The City Archives, 15 Terra Nova Road and the Railway Coastal Museum, 495 Water Street are closed.

We're here:

While The Welcome Centre, at 348 Water Street is closed to the public -

Businesses may continue to contact - business@stjohns.ca or dial 709-576-8107

Tourists may continue to contact - tourism@stjohns.ca or dial: 709-576-8106

All public meetings and special events hosted by the City are suspended. For information on special events contact - speialevents@stjohns.ca

The Animal Care & Adoption Centre is closed. For emergencies - contact Access St. John's or humaneservices@stjohns.ca

Impact Support for Residents & Businesses from the City of St. John's

City of St. John's, Tax Relief:

Effective immediately, the City will not be charging interest on residential and commercial property taxes and water tax (Up to and including August 31, 2020).

Commercial property vacancy allowance claim has been extended. Claims for the first quarter, typically due on April 30th are not due until May 31, 2020.

Commercial tax bills for the second quarter normally sent in May, will now be sent in June.

If you have questions about these tax relief measures,

Call: 709-576-8251

Email: taxation@stjohns.ca

The City will continue to issue tax bills, however there will be no interest charges on late payments.

Property owners that have their tax and mortgage payments combined must contact their banking institutions to discuss options regarding tax relief and or mortgage deferrals.

Support & Resources for Newcomers to the City of St. John's

[Association for New Canadians](#)

AXIS, Programs & Services
Email: axis@nfld.net

[Jacob Puddister Memorial Foundation](#)
(Counselling)

[Food First NL](#)

To contact the St. John's Local Immigration Partnership

Email: immigration@stjohns.ca

Support & Resources for the Arts in the City of St. John's

CBC Arts, [Resource List](#) for Freelance Artists

Business and Arts NL, [Resource Guide](#) for Artists

Canada Council for the Arts, [Covid-19 Information](#)

To contact the City's Arts & Cultural Development Coordinator

Contact: arts@stjohns.ca

ArtsNL [Covid-19 Information](#)

National Arts Centre & Facebook Canada
[Performing Arts Fund](#)

[Resources](#) for the Live Performance
Sector (CAPACOA)

CAPE (Cultural Artists Plan for
Emergencies) [Fund](#)

Support & Resources from the Federal, Provincial (NL) & Municipal Government(s)

Government of Canada

[Covid-19 Information Page](#)

[Covid-19 Economic Response Plan](#)

[Resources](#) for Canadian Businesses

[Innovation, Science and Economic
Development Canada \(ISED\)](#)

[Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency
\(ACOA\)](#)

[Business Development Bank of Canada
\(BDC\)](#)

Government of Newfoundland and Labrador

[Covid-19 Information Page](#)

[Tourism, Culture, Industry and Innovation](#)

Regional Municipalities

[City of Mount Pearl](#)

[Conception Bay South](#)

[Town of Paradise](#)

[Town of Portugal Cove - St. Phillips](#)

[Town of Torbay](#)

Further Support & Resources Across Industries & Associations:

APEC - Atlantic Provinces Economic
Council - [Click here](#)

BOT - St. John's Board of Trade -
[Click here](#)

CBA - Conception Bay Area Chamber of
Commerce - [Click here](#)

MPCC - Mount Pearl Chamber of
Commerce - [Click here](#)

CFIB - Canadian Federation of
Independent Business - [Click here](#)

PLA - Public Legal Information Association
of Newfoundland and Labrador - [Click
here](#)

NOIA - Newfoundland and Labrador
Offshore Industry Association - [Click here](#)

NATI - Newfoundland Association of
Technology & Innovation - [Click here](#)

NEIA - Newfoundland and Labrador
Environmental Industries Association -
[Click here](#)

NLCA - Newfoundland and Labrador
Construction Association - [Click here](#)

HNL - Hospitality Newfoundland and
Labrador - [Click here](#)

Department of Community Services | Economic Development, Culture and Partnerships
(709) 576-8107 | business@stjohns.ca | www.stjohns.ca

