

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Christa Lowry



Mayor's Report
December 15, 2020

PROVINCIAL MEETING WITH HEADS OF COUNCIL RE: VACCINE STRATEGY

I was pleased to participate in a call with Heads of Council from across Ontario on Tuesday December 8, 2020 at the invitation of Minister Steve Clark, joined by Premier Doug Ford, Minister Christine Elliot, Solicitor General Sylvia Jones and Retired General Rick Hillier, Chair of the Ontario COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force. The call provided Heads of Council the opportunity to hear directly from General Hillier regarding the vaccination strategy. It was explained that timelines will be driven by the ability to manufacture vaccines with Phase 1 beginning approximately in the first quarter of 2021 and Phase 2 beginning in April 2021. Phase 1 will see 1.2M people vaccinated with focus on health care workers, residents of long term care facilities and people in congregate living situations, particularly in red zones. Phase 2 will see vaccination available to the general public with the expectation that it will take 6-9 months to complete. General Hillier indicated that a large public education campaign will be undertaken and that the hope of the province is to see municipalities help with the operations and communications as per local health unit areas needs.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

I often have the honour of celebrating successes and milestones with our local businesses. It is always my pleasure to respond to these invitations and attend events on behalf of the Municipality. To date, I have shared these success stories on my social media channels this term. Moving forward, I am also using this platform to highlight the accomplishments of our local businesses and organizations. I encourage any business or organization to reach out if you would like to invite myself as Mayor or all members of Council to celebrate a milestone with you. More information can be found here: www.mississippimills.ca/en/build-and-invest/helpingyour-business-succeed.aspx

Nearly 30 businesses have newly opened or undertaken expansions in our community over the last 18 months. I am continually amazed by the vision, determination, and perseverance of the entrepreneurs in Mississippimills. This year, both experienced and new business owners have worked harder than they ever have before. COVID-19 has demanded that they adapt, pivot and find the grit to respond to ever-changing scenarios. Now is the time to support all local businesses.

The following is a list of new or expanded businesses who have introduced themselves to me or I have noticed around town. I'm sure there are more; if I have missed a new business, please let us know using the link above:

Almonte Butcher Shop - Ethically raised & local meats, hot and frozen meals, charcuterie platters. 14 Industrial Drive. www.almontebutchershop.com/

Bay & Balm Apothecary - Natural body products, herbs, local makers creations, books and magical items. 15 Bridge Street. www.facebook.com/bayandbalm

Business Face Shield - Personalized face shields to help businesses resume "normal" operations. www.facebook.com/Business-Face-Shields-107278027690370

Big Vintage - Antiques, vintage, collectibles, curiosities and fun stuff. 95 Mill Street. <http://bigvintage.ca/>

Chew-That - Pet supplies store: dogs', cats', and critters' favourite store. 12 Mill Street. www.chew-that.ca/

EXPANSION: Dairy Distillery - Crafting superior spirits from Ontario milk. 34 Industrial Avenue. www.dairydistillery.com/

Dalgity Wellness Centre, 5- 453 Ottawa Street

- Dalgity Resilience - A small fitness studio: one on one and small group personal training. www.dalgityresilience.ca/
- Dalgity Counselling & Psychotherapy - Services to individuals, couples, & family, in a casual, safe, confidential environment. www.dalgitytherapy.ca/

Darrell Thomas Textiles - Beautiful and original dressmaking textiles. 7 Mill Street. <http://www.darrellthomas.com/>

Dentistry at Almonte - Dental services including emergencies. 451 Ottawa Street. <http://www.dentistryatalmonte.ca/>

EXPANSION: Devlin's Collision Centre – Auto body repair, painting and krown rust control. 128 Industrial Avenue. <https://www.krown.com/en/locations/canada/ontario/almonte/Almonte/>

The Dragonfly Boutique - Decor and fashion to suit your lifestyle. 118 Water Street. <https://www.facebook.com/dragonflyboutique24>

The English Pie Shop - Homemade savoury English Pies. <https://www.facebook.com/theenglishpieshop>

The Errand Runner - Helps overwhelmed people deal with getting their chores done...and more. <http://theerrandrunner.ca/>

Frangipani Boutique Almonte - Unique, fashionable, comfortable ladies' fashion in sizes small to 3X. 24 Mill Street. <http://Frangipaniboutique.ca/>

greenshaus inc. - Fine lettuces and greens grown in Canada's first commercial passive solar greenhouse. 4546 March Road. <https://www.facebook.com/rlgreenshaus>

Iris Falls Photography - a Fine Art Wedding Photography studio based in Almonte. <http://irisfallsphotography.com/>

Lifecare Physiotherapy - High quality outpatient physical therapy services. 14 Industrial. www.lifecarephysio.com/

Loom Bistro - Takeout and Dine-in. 81 Queen Street. <https://www.facebook.com/Loom-Bistro-107712065970072>

Luna Handpies & Café - Specializing in delicious sweet and savory handpies. 61 Mill Street. <https://lunahandpies.square.site/>

Make + Merry - Workshops, events & parties. 72 Mill Street.
www.makeandmerry.com/

Maximal Living - Coaching, energy healing, wellness practices, and natural products.
<http://MaximalLiving.ca/>

EXPANSION: Poochie Girl – Making your pet beautiful while keeping the health of their coat is first priority. 6 Mill Street. <http://www.poochiegirl.ca/>

Ramsay Creek - Everything you could want for your garden. 900B Ramsay Concession 7A. <https://ramsaycreek.com/>

Threadworks – New Owners. Creative designs, unique items, handmade and silk screened products from various artists. 68 Mill Street. <https://threadwork.ca/>

Throttle Powersports – Previously March Road Motorsports, new name, new ownership, more fun. 4692 March Road. www.throttlepowersports.com/

Tier 1 Electrical Inc. - Specializing in all commercial and residential projects including pools and hot tubs. <https://www.facebook.com/Tier-1-Electrical-Inc-114880116936195>

Waxwing Tattoo Studio - Professional custom tattoo studio. 44 Mill Street.
<https://waxwingtattoo.com/>

WRC Contracting - Quality and Client-focused construction Services, Pakenham
<https://wrccontracting.com>

Young Tackle Supply - Master craftspeople specializing in quality, handcrafted fishing tackle. 14 Mill Street. www.youngtacklesupply.com/

CHRISTMAS RE-IMAGINED

Christmas Re-Imagined in Mississippi Mills started off with a great weekend on December 5th and 6th. The Mississippi Mills Fire Department accompanied Santa on five different routes throughout the municipality.

Thank you to everyone who made donations to the Lanark County Food Bank while coming out to see Santa. I can confirm that total donations collected from residents this weekend are 4004 pounds of food and \$3255 in cash donations. I'd also like to thank residents for doing their part by observing physical distancing and wearing masks where needed.

Thank you to Paul Laforce for supplying the sound equipment and for playing DJ all weekend. It wouldn't have been the same without the great tunes on the ladder truck. Thank you to the Almonte Civitan Club for supplying Santa's sleigh and a BIG thanks to Santa himself for spending the whole weekend with us! Finally, thank you to Tiffany MacLaren, Community Economic & Cultural Coordinator, Fire Chief Brown and the entire Mississippi Mills Fire Department for making it all happen and bringing some Christmas magic to our community.

The “Grand Opening” of the local Christmas season certainly looked different from years past, but I think everyone who participated felt the joy and community connection we look forward to during the holidays. I encourage residents to explore the other ways we are celebrating the holidays together as we Re-Imagine Christmas in 2020! All the details are on our website or give us a call at 613-256-2064 to get involved.

<https://www.mississippimills.ca/en/explore-and-play/christmas-in-mississippi-mills-2020.aspx>

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christa Lowry'.

Christa Lowry
Mayor of Mississippi Mills