



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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MAYOR'S REPORT

February 16, 2021

General Hillier: Vaccination Update

On February 9, 2021, a meeting was held by General Rick Hillier, Minister Elliott and Solicitor General Jones with the mayors of Ontario. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an update on the Provincial Vaccination program. No new information was provided.

General Hillier indicated that knowledge-sharing sessions were underway between the 34 health units who had been given expectations regarding protocols, timings, and priorities. Health Units have prepared plans according to these expectations and have presented to Provincial Vaccination Task Force. He also indicated that at that time, he had no confirmation if or when AstraZeneca may be approved by Health Canada. General Hillier did indicate that if approved, many dosages would be available immediately and that the Vaccination Task Force is ready to respond.

Economic Development

On February 11, 2021, I attended The Arrival of the Inevitable Talk + Q&A, presented by Valley Heartland. As County Warden and a former Board member of Valley Heartland I was pleased to welcome presenters, Doug Griffiths, Bestselling Author of 13 Ways to Kill Your Community and Heather Thomson, Director of Consumer Behavior at 13 Ways Inc. Doug and Heather are dedicated to helping communities not only survive pandemic changes but thrive within them as well.

Doug retired from politics in January 2015 to actively pursue his passion of helping communities, organizations and businesses grow stronger. In his best-selling book, 13 Ways to Kill Your Community, Doug identifies challenges and opportunities that all our communities' face. The lessons that come from those stories are applicable to all type of communities, whether they are towns, organizations, or businesses.

Heather is the Executive Director of the University of Alberta's School of retailing. She has over a decade of leadership experience in various retail settings. Heather has worked with lululemon Athletica, ATB Financial, and in the food and beverage industry. Her expertise has allowed her to work with hundreds of Canadian municipalities, developing and designing educational programs.

Valley Heartland offered this event at no cost to local economic development stakeholders, partners, businesses and municipal leaders.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christa Lowry', with a stylized, cursive script.

Christa Lowry
Mayor of Mississippi Mills