

COVID-19 COMMUNITY UPDATE



Niagara municipalities team up for a scavenger hunt
With COVID-19 restrictions slowly lifting, Niagara's municipalities along with the Niagara Parks Commission are joining together to host Reconnect to Rediscover Niagara from August 27 at noon to September 6 at midnight. The online scavenger hunt, hosted on the GooseChase app, invites Niagara residents from across the region to reconnect with their neighbouring municipalities and rediscover the rich natural landscapes and history they offer. Using the app, participants will be invited to snap photos or videos as they explore locations and attractions across Niagara to complete missions, each mission completed will net points, with participants able to track their progress against others. Visit <https://www.forterie.ca/pages/ReconnecttoRediscoverNiagara>

Implementation of vaccination policies
Hamilton Niagara Haldimand Brant and Burlington (HNHBB) region hospitals support the Province's directive to implement COVID-19 vaccination policies no later than September 7, in response to the pandemic. At a minimum, this approach will require staff, physicians, contractors, learners/students, and volunteers to provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 or written proof of a medical reason for not being fully vaccinated or to participate in mandatory education about the benefits of COVID-19 vaccination. Hospitals will also be required to implement regular and mandatory testing of individuals that are not fully vaccinated. For more information, please visit <https://www.niagarahealth.on.ca/site/news>

Ontario to Launch New Modern Business Registry
The Ontario Government is launching a new Ontario Business Registry on October 19, 2021. Businesses will be able to complete over 90 transactions through the new registry, including registering a new business and dissolving an existing one. Registrations or filings that were previously submitted through mail or fax, and took approximately 4 to 6 weeks to complete, can now be done instantly through the online registry. The migration of annual return filings that were previously completed through the Canada Revenue Agency will also be available through the online registry, permitting businesses to keep all of their filings in one place.

Power of Possible Workshop Series
Register for the Power of Possible Workshop Series which focuses on assisting job seekers to achieve their long-term goals through education, skill development, wellness planning and employment. The program will run from August 30, 2021, until September 10, 2021, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Visit <https://www.employment-solutions.org/events/category/certificate/>

Free Online Small Business Courses for Entrepreneurs
Are you trying to turn a business idea into a start-up stage and/or growth stage? Regardless of which stage you are in, participate in the SBC E-Learning Sessions now! These sessions will set you up with essential skills, knowledge, and prepare you to speak to business professionals and advisors. Visit <https://www.sbcontario.ca/e-learning/>

For more information about the Town's response to COVID-19, please visit <https://covid19.forterie.ca>. Information in this COVID-19 Community Update was produced on August 23, 2021.