



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## The Township of Ramara announces further impacts to Municipal Services and Open Air Burn Ban

Ramara/April 3, 2020 – Today, April 3, the Township of Ramara announces further impacts to Municipal Services due to recommendations from the Province.

Last week, the Province of Ontario designated authorization to By-law Enforcement Officers of a municipality to enforce orders issued under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA). Two of these orders include the closure of all non-essential business and limiting social gatherings to a maximum of five people.

Effective immediately, our By-law Enforcement Officers will be assisting in the monitoring of closures of municipal parks/facilities, gatherings of more than five individuals who are in non-compliance with the Provincial mandate, or non-essential businesses that are operating in non-compliance with the Provincial mandate. In addition, staff will respond to complaints via telephone/e-mail, but will be only acting on complaints that impose an immediate threat to public safety or a dog is at large where the location is known and the dog is restrained by caller. All licensing for Refreshment Vehicles and Lottery Licenses are suspended, and no licences are being issued to operate in 2020.

Additionally, the Township of Ramara is under a complete fire ban effective immediately. The Township has imposed these restrictions in order to ensure that our community and firefighters avoid unnecessary risk and can focus their response on the current global pandemic. This will ensure the health and safety of our residents remains the Township's primary focus.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as the Township works to ensure the health and safety of the community. For more up-to-date information on the status of Township's services, please visit <a href="https://www.ramara.ca/Pages/Admin/COVID-19.aspx">https://www.ramara.ca/Pages/Admin/COVID-19.aspx</a>. For health-related information, please go to <a href="https://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org">www.simcoemuskokahealth.org</a>, or call the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit directly.

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