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March 30, 2020

TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN OF SPANISH:

An update on the Town of Spanish's fight to stop the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

We would like to thank each person, including our local businesses and organizations, that are doing their part in the fight against COVID-19 by supporting each other, isolating as necessary and practicing physical distancing. We must continue to do this in order to stop the spread of the virus.

In addition to steps already taken by the municipality and its staff, further steps have been taken to ensure that we are doing all we can to stop the spread of the virus. Our staff have been taking part in several daily teleconference calls for the last few weeks and will continue to do so as long as necessary. These calls are chaired by Emergency Management Ontario and include participation from the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, and any municipality that wants to participate. These calls allow municipal officials to receive the latest updates and advice from the province and to ask any questions related to municipal operations and COVID-19. Staff have been receiving daily situation reports from the province with the latest information on what is happening in all municipalities.

As well, staff have been participating in calls chaired by Sudbury & District Public Health and Algoma Public Health on a weekly basis. These calls allow another opportunity to hear updates, ask questions to local authorities, and hear what measures other municipalities are taking in our area.

Our municipality has been implementing all recommended practices issued by either provincial or local authorities and will continue to do so when any new measures are recommended. We have responded to this virus in the same ways as our neighbouring municipalities have responded. We have not declared an emergency at this time because the measures that we have taken have not required a declaration to be made. However, if it is necessary to declare an emergency, we won't hesitate to do so.

" A Progressive Community "

Internally, our staff are in daily communications with one another to share information and best practices. We have been referring to our Emergency Response Plan, Business Continuity Plan and are putting new steps in place to meet and make decisions virtually.

We continue to ask you to take all necessary precautions recommended by experts and not be guided by panic. Rather, be guided by those that have the answers. Follow the Ontario government's website www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus which is updated at 10:30 am and 5:30 pm daily.

Let's keep supporting one another, following recommendations, a positive attitude and we will get through this together.

Sincerely,

Mayor Bishop and Council



The Corporation of the Town of Spanish

PUBLIC NOTICE - #3

COVID-19 VIRUS

March 30, 2020

Dear Residents:

The last couple of weeks have certainly been challenging. Our day to day lives have been greatly impacted by the COVID-19 virus and the need to self-isolate. In an emergency of this type, a pandemic, the Town of Spanish, will follow the lead of Algoma Public Health. In order to flatten the curve, we need to continue following instructions given by Public Health:

- Wash your hands with soap and water thoroughly.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth.
- Cough and sneeze into your sleeve or tissue. Dispose of tissue immediately and wash your hands.
- Keep surfaces clean and disinfected.
- Stay home unless absolutely necessary.
- Practise social (physical) distancing. Keep a 2 metre (6 foot) distance from others at all times.
- If you have been out of the Country and are returning home, you must isolate yourself for at least a two week period for precaution and to limit the risk of exposure to other persons
- If you have symptoms, call Telehealth Ontario at 1-866-797-0000 or contact Algoma Public Health at 1-866-892-0172, ext. 5404.
- For more information, visit www.Ontario.ca/coronavirus or www.algomapublichealth.com
- **Vulnerable Persons:** It is recommended that all persons **over the age of 70** as well as those that are **immunocompromised** or living with **chronic disease** do not leave their homes unless absolutely necessary until further notice.

All municipal buildings remain closed to the public. However the Municipal Office and Public Works remain operational. If you have any questions or concerns call the office at 705-844-2300 or email info@townofspanish.com or pamlortie@townofspanish.com. Public works can be reached at 705-844-2349 or 1-705-849-7600. We will do our best to help you.

The Spanish Public Library remains closed at this time. Please keep your books at home until the library reopens. All late fees will be waived.

Garbage and Recycling: Regular service continues. Be sure to have your garbage out by 6 a.m. The landfill site is not open to the public at this time. **Curbside pick up** takes place on Fridays as usual. No loose garbage please. Be sure to tie your bags.

Recycling- Please do not dispose of Kleenex, paper towels and other items that are not recyclable. Your recycling will not be picked up if any of these items are included in your recycling.

April Garbage & Recycling Schedule

Friday, April 3	Curbside pickup and Commingle Recycling
Wednesday, April 8	Curbside pickup and Fibre Recycling
Friday, April 17	Curbside pickup and Commingle Recycling
Friday, April 24	Curbside pickup and Fibre Recycling

A huge thank you to the local businesses that remain open and are ready to serve the needs of the community. Please contact the businesses directly to confirm their hours of operation and the goods and services they are able to provide. Check out their Facebook pages for more information. Many are providing takeout and delivery to ensure the safety of staff and customers.

Small Bites Grocery	(705)844-2857
Highway Variety Plus	(705) 844-2577
Janeway PharmaChoice	(705)865-2600
Roosters Diner Dixie Lee Spanish	(705) 849-8728
North Channel Pizza	(705)844-2222
Bob's Service Centre	(705)844-2332
General Outdoor Store	(705)844-2442

A reminder to be careful what you flush - Wet wipes, paper towels and facial tissues can clog pipes – Please flush TOILET TISSUE ONLY!

We recognize that many residents may be increasing their use of disinfectant wipes, paper towels and facial tissues in response to COVID-19.

We would like to remind residents not to flush wet wipes of any kind. Despite what some packaging says, wipes are not flushable. Paper towels and facial tissues also do not belong in the toilet. These items cannot be flushed because they do not break down like toilet paper does.

If wipes, paper towels, facial tissues and items other than toilet tissue are flushed, they can cause blockages in pipes – which may lead to sewage overflows in your home or business.

Further down the line, these items can clog sewers and cause sewage overflows into streets and the natural environment. They can also cause costly damage to local wastewater infrastructure.

The Rainbow District Animal Shelter remains open by appointment. By-law Enforcement officers are on call to deal with By-law and Animal Control concerns.

Remember effective social or physical distancing includes keeping your cats indoors and dogs on leash under control of a person. While the science seems to indicate your pets cannot contract the COVID-19, like all other things that are exposed to the virus pets can have the virus on them and transfer the virus to other people or things in the environment. Effective physical distancing means conducting yourself as if you have been exposed and are trying to prevent spreading that exposure any further.

Dog and cat licenses are no longer available from any of our distributors but are available on our website: www.rdshelter.ca or by calling the Shelter. Registering your pet will not only help you get reunited with your pet in the event your pet goes missing but may make it so an officer need not visit your home to address a complaint or concern.

For further information, to register your pet or to place a report, please call 1-888-836-6661.

Be mindful of your mental health and the mental health of others.

The current circumstances, which for many include significant disruption to their daily lives, can be very stressful and can impact our mental health. There are a number of strategies that you can consider to support your mental health.

- Minimize your anxiety about COVID-19, seek information updates at specific times during the day, once or twice.
- Protect yourself and be supportive to others. Assisting others in their time of need can benefit the person receiving support as well as the helper.
- If you know a senior, call them. It's hard not to visit loved ones at this time, but we have to stay home to protect our seniors and other vulnerable persons.
- Stay connected and maintain your social networks. Even when isolated, try as much as possible to keep your personal daily routines or create new routines.
- During times of stress, pay attention to your own needs and feelings. Engage in healthy activities that you enjoy and find relaxing. Exercise regularly, keep regular sleep routines and eat healthy food.
- Seek information updates and practical guidance at specific times during the day from health professionals. Get the facts from credible sources such as Algoma Public Health www.algomapublichealth.com or the Ontario Government www.Ontario.ca/coronavirus.

The Government of Ontario has prohibited gatherings of more than 5 persons, with very strict exceptions. Remember, while you may not feel sick, and while we know these measures are significant, please be mindful of the members of our community who are more vulnerable to COVID-19 than others. We are all in this together. Let's work together to flatten the curve.

Please visit the Town's website www.townofspanish.com for updated information. Also, please don't hesitate to contact the municipal office. We will try our best to help you.