

## Office of the Mayor

City Hall  
426 Brant Street  
Burlington, Ontario  
L7R 3Z6  
Telephone: 905-335-7607  
Email: [mayor@burlington.ca](mailto:mayor@burlington.ca)  
Twitter: [@mariannmeedward](https://twitter.com/mariannmeedward)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/marianne.meedward](https://facebook.com/marianne.meedward)



- **Update from Mayor:**
  - As of July 14, 2021 there are 5 active cases in Halton
    - 3 of those in Burlington, Halton Hills 0, Milton 2, Oakville 0
  - The 7-day moving average for new COVID-19 cases is 5.3 and for new COVID-19 hospitalizations is 0.3
  - R number is 0.8 and positivity rate is 0.8%
  - Halton Region has seen amazing uptake for vaccines – very little vaccine hesitancy with 80% of residents having their 1<sup>st</sup> dose, and 53% second dose
  - Step 3 of the Province’s Roadmap to Reopen starts Friday, July 16<sup>th</sup> at 12:01 a.m.
  - This will be the last task force meeting before the fall unless there are changes during the summer. Tentative date for next task force meeting is September 27<sup>th</sup>
  - City of Burlington will be holding another COVID-19 Telephone Town Hall in September, more details on that to come
- **Update from MP Karina Gould’s Office: Jenna Ghassabeh**
  - Canada has had a steady input of vaccines as per the vaccine delivery schedule. By the end of July, Canada will have received 68 million vaccines
  - The federal government has adjusted the border restrictions allowing fully vaccinated Canadians to be exempt from quarantine. Travel advisories are still being encouraged, and people are being asked only to travel for essential reasons.
  - In terms of vaccine passports, the federal government is leaving up to the province’s domestically to decide if they want to pursue vaccine passports but they are looking at vaccine certification with international partners for Canadians travelling to other countries.
- **Councillors Updates:**
  - Councillor Angelo Bentivegna
    - Community is still very supportive on food security front

- August 7<sup>th</sup> – Gift of Giving Back will be doing drive through at Burlington Centre
- Councillor Sharman mentioned a few upcoming programs. Gift of Giving back will be participating on both of those items
  - Orchard Community at Fortinos plaza food drive
  - Appleby street fest – September 18<sup>th</sup> 12pm -3 pm food donations,
- Councillor Stolte continues to do Friday porch pick ups
- Councillor Bentivegna highlighted a local restaurant, the Judge and Jury and how they helped donate 25 winter coats to the Salvation Army
- Councillor Lisa Kearns
  - Burlington Food Bank has been doing amazing work
  - Food security organizations will continue to be vital moving forward – donations need to keep carrying on as the need persists. Organizations have had to pivot and be creative and innovative during COVID to continue providing their services to those who needed it
  - As we move into Step 3, more businesses are opening up, and are both anxious and enthusiastic
  - Councillor Kearns and Councillor Stolte hosted a local business round table to find out how can the City help with any concerns they have
  - Putting together a list alongside Active Parents to help residents rediscover the community and reintegrate into society
- **Update on Food Scarcity and Community Supports (needs/funding/other):**
  - Graham Hill - Food for Life
    - The need for food and community support is still very much there
    - Food for Life offers their program overview video and program information on their website in six languages, thanks to a partnership with the Halton Multicultural Centre
    - They are participating in the Government of Canada’s Food Waste Reduction Challenge, which is going well. The challenge is about how to move and divert food waste from landfills
    - There is a desire in the community, and for some volunteers to start slowly moving back to less bagged delivery programs and have more of an engaging format as people get comfortable stepping outside and interacting normally. There is still a need for the pre-bagged system though
    - The community fridge program is still being used and many people are accessing them. They continue to help provide barrier-free accessibility to good food
- **Update on Business Supports and funding – Carla Nell, Chamber of Commerce**
  - Anita Cassidy – Burlington Economic Development

- Some businesses are just now being allowed to open up in Step 3 so they are ramping up operations and looking forward to reopening Some businesses are just now being allowed to open
- Many businesses are hiring back staff and reviewing health and safety processes. There are issues across the board with bringing staff back
- There is the issue of vaccinations and consumer confidence. Businesses are trying to figure out what they can/can't do in terms of privacy, mandating proof of vaccination, can they communicate that back, etc. Also figuring out how best to keep employees safe
- Next round of Digital Main Street application coming up soon
- Free rapid test kit deliveries still going on
- **Kristene Smith – Burlington Tourism**
  - There have been a lot of announcement from upper levels of government about tourism relief funding recently. That information is being disseminated and sent out to partners
  - Engagement is starting with tourism partners about moving outside of the regional and local focus now that people from other areas of Ontario/Canada will be visiting. Keeping an eye on travel so businesses are set up for that influx
  - There are questions from the senior population about the mask mandates
- **Roundtable – all other participants**
  - **Lita Barrie – Burlington Public Library**
    - As Ontario moved into Step 2 of the Roadmap to Reopen, the library welcomed back people into the branches. With the move to Step 3 occupancy will grow
    - Happy to see residents coming back in access the service!
    - There are StoryWalk projects in every ward now, which encourages residents to enjoy the outdoors and ready a story
    - Libraries have been added ad cooling centres that will be activated during a Halton Region heat event (Aldershot, Alton, Brant Hills, Central, New Appleby, Tansley Woods)
  - **Lynne Simons – Halton Region**
    - Halton Region is on track to meet the province's vaccination goals based on current numbers
    - A new COVID vaccine clinic is opening up Monday, July 26 at St. Francis Xavier Catholic School in Milton, offering first and second doses to residents 12+
    - Halton Region is also increasing capacity at several existing clinics to offer more opportunities for individuals to book
  - **Denise Beard – Recreation Community and Culture**
    - Eagerly moving forward as we're working on reopening everything and hiring staff

- Preparing to send out media release explaining to people all the great things reopening at the city
- Amber Rushton – Burlington Fire
  - Massive thank you to the libraries for working with Emergency Services to have branches added as cooling centres
  - All these branches are on transit lines and accessible to everyone so that a regional heat alert goes out, the libraries are activated as cooling centres and the senior populations can go to access them if they don't have AC or can't access Central Arena (another cooling centre)
- Dan Vanderlelie – Burlington Fire
  - Call volume has gone up substantially – especially fire
  - Reminder to make sure you're checking your smoke detectors everyone – your home, cottage, RV, etc.
  - Water safety is a central safety message this year
- Patrick Daly – Halton Catholic District School Board
  - Right now they are awaiting further direction from the Ministry of Education in terms of reopening schools, health and safety guidelines, etc.
  - Very grateful students will be able to come back every day in-person if they choose, virtual option is still available though
  - Parents, students, and staff are all very interested in the resumption of extracurricular activities, which the school board needs more advisement from the province on that area
  - There are a number of school's still being used for regional vaccine clinics and pop-up clinics
- Allan Magi – Environment, Infrastructure and Community Services at the City of Burlington
  - The City of Burlington is taking a measured approach in bringing staff back to the office, and are using the hybrid model
  - There are renovations scheduled for City Hall