

# Mayor Meed Ward's Weekly Public Update



*This update contains key events, media engagements and communications taking place in the Office of the Mayor for the week ahead and a recap of key activities that took place in the prior week. While not representative of the Mayor's full schedule, this update is meant to provide a high-level overview for public awareness. Dates & details for future items are subject to change as needed.*

## Week of July 19-25, 2021

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### In the News Highlights

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- **COVID:** Ontario entered Step 3 of the reopening plan Friday (July 16) -- includes outdoor gatherings of up to 100 people; Indoor gatherings of up to 25 people; No limits on the number of people per table for indoor dining (physical distancing is still in effect); and Indoor sports and fitness places can open at 50% capacity. The Provincial regulations for Step 3 are available [here \(520-21\)](#) and [here \(521-21\)](#). [Ontario News Release](#)
- **COVID:** Ontario Moved to Step Three on July 16: What this means for City of Burlington services and outdoor facilities. [City of Burlington News Release](#)
- **COVID:** Scientific Director of Ontario's COVID-19 Science Advisory Table says it will be impossible to eradicate COVID-19 because of its different characteristics and it will be something we will have to learn to live with, like the flu. Britain and Australia have moved away from the "COVID zero" endgame approach and focusing on ways to safely live with the virus – like the flu. [LINK](#)
- **COVID:** Ontario updates testing requirements at Long-Term Care Homes – change applies to asymptomatic, fully-immunized staff, caregivers and visitors who will no longer need to be tested for COVID before entering LTC homes, effective July 16. [LINK](#)
- **COVID Vaccine news/uptake:** Halton population that has received 1<sup>st</sup> dose – over 80%; 2<sup>nd</sup> dose – over 53%.
- **NO VACCINE? NO CLASSROOM:** Seneca College will require students, staff to get vaccinated to be on campus. [LINK](#)
- **TRAVELLING ABROAD:** New measures and rules for Canadians travelling came into effect July 5 – CBC News breaks down the rules and answers questions around travel. [LINK to article](#) / [Instagram post with graphics](#)
- **VACCINE PASSPORTS:** PM Trudeau says federal government will work with provinces to ensure there's an "internationally accepted proof of vaccination" for international travel, BUT will leave domestic options up to the provincial governments. [LINK](#)
- **NO VACCINE PASSPORTS IN ONT.:** Premier Ford said Thursday (July 15) Ontario would not be implementing vaccine passports, quoted as saying "We're not going to have a split society." He also said he would be addressing the question of a federal vaccination card with PM Trudeau later that day. [LINK](#)

- **FRANCE & VACCINES:** Approx. 20K appointments per minute were made after French President Emmanuel Macron announced, on July 12, restrictions on the unvaccinated, including mandatory tests to enter restaurants and other places. [LINK](#)
- **TORONTO'S DUNDAS STREET:** Toronto City Council has voted to start the process of renaming Dundas Street. Mayor's channels have already started getting a few calls to do the same locally. Any local initiative should come from Halton Regional Council as it's a regional road. [LINK](#)

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### **Prior Week Media Highlights**

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- Interview, *CHCH Morning Live*: [LINK](#)
- *Hamilton Spectator* Opinion Piece – *Inaccurate column did a disservice to Burlington councillors*: [LINK](#)

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### **Prior Week Overview of Community Feedback/Mayor's Inbox:**

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#### **Key Issues & Questions in Mayor's inbox:**

- Property Tax Issues/Concerns
- Masks Concerns
- I Support Parks emails continue

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### **Prior Week Meeting Highlights & Advocacy Work**

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- COVID-19 Task Force Meeting #22: [Link to Meeting Minutes](#)

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#### **Monday July 19**

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- Eid al-Adha in the Muslim calendar begins (to Friday, July 23) – The festival of sacrifice follows the completion of the annual Hajj pilgrimage. Traditionally, the day is spent celebrating with family, friends and loved ones, often wearing new or best attire and the giving of gifts.
- Emergency Control Group Meeting

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#### **Tuesday July 20**

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- Flag addition to City Hall poles for Colombia's Independence Day (Deputy Mayor Angelo Bentivegna attending)
- Weekly Communications Meeting

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#### **Wednesday July 21**

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- 1:1 with City Manager
- *CHCH Morning Live* Weekly Check-In
- *YourTV Halton News* Weekly Update
- *InHalton* Instagram Live Mayor's Update

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#### **Thursday July 22**

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- Mayor's Office Team Meeting
- Burlington Economic Recovery Network (BERN) Steering Committee Meeting
- Emergency Control Group Meeting

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**Friday July 23**

- TBD

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**Sat July 24 / Sun July 25**

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**Coming Up Soon**

- Council break – no committee and council meetings in August. Resumption in September.
- Association of Municipalities of Ontario Annual Conference is virtual again this year and runs from Aug. 15-18. Mayor Meed Ward will be attending.
- Next COVID-19 Task Force meeting scheduled for Sept. 27.