

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Woolwich Township addresses the eminent concern of the Omicron Variant**

**Woolwich, ON** – In response to the rapidly-spreading and highly transmissible Omicron variant, effective at 12:01 a.m. on Sunday, December 19, 2021, the Ontario government is applying additional public health and workplace safety measures, including capacity and social gathering limits. We have seen nothing like this during the pandemic so far and this is expected to place unprecedented, unmanageable strain on our health care system. For more information on today's announcement, [visit the Province of Ontario website](#).

**Woolwich Administration Office**

The Woolwich Township office will remain open to walk-in public traffic to assist with essential services. Staff will be working a mix of in office and from home. It is recommended that you use our services offered online or phone to book an appointment before visiting the office to ensure we are available to assist you. The following services can be accessed through our website:

- Tax & Water Bills can now be paid online: [www.woolwich.ca/taxes](http://www.woolwich.ca/taxes)
- Building Permits can be applied for and paid online: [www.woolwich.ca/buildingpermits](http://www.woolwich.ca/buildingpermits)
- Parking Tickets can now be paid online: [www.woolwich.ca/parkingtickets](http://www.woolwich.ca/parkingtickets)
- Report Issues or Service Requests (By-law Enforcement, Potholes, Signs, Streetlights, Trees, Winter Maintenance, etc..) online: [www.woolwich.ca/reportit](http://www.woolwich.ca/reportit)

**Woolwich Recreation Centres**

Effective December 20, 2021, proof of vaccination and valid government ID will now also be required for youth aged 12 to 17 years to enter any recreation facilities for their sport, per Ontario Regulation 364/20. Everyone 12 and older entering our recreation facilities will be required to:

- show proof of vaccination (QR code version required as of January 4, 2022)
- show government identification
- complete the COVID-19 health screening
- complete the contact tracing form

These requirements are already in place for volunteers, parents, and spectators (12 and older). Our facilities will also shift to 50% capacity and will no longer be offering food and beverages to patrons. For more information about the upcoming changes visit: [www.woolwich.ca/reccheck](http://www.woolwich.ca/reccheck)

Residents are encouraged to continue following public health measures and get vaccinated to protect themselves. Get a vaccine at [www.regionofwaterloo.ca/GetAVaccine](http://www.regionofwaterloo.ca/GetAVaccine)

Residents are reminded to be mindful of feelings of isolation. If you or someone you know needs help, remember that local mental health support is available.

Local, professional mental health support is available from Here 24/7 at 1-844-437-3247 or online at [www.here247.ca](http://www.here247.ca)

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