

# OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



**Mayor Christa Lowry**

## **Statement from the Mayor**

**April 9, 2020**

Since the beginning of COVID-19 developments in Ontario, the Municipality of Mississippi Mills has taken a proactive approach to protecting the wellbeing of our residents and staff. We have closed recreational facilities, libraries, daycares and our administrative buildings to limit the opportunities for community spread of this virus. We called a state of emergency for Mississippi Mills in part to ensure we would be able to respond quickly to requests for support or assistance from the healthcare agencies in our community. The Municipal Emergency Control Group remains ready to respond to any requests from those providing healthcare. Most recently, we have authorized our bylaw officers to enforce the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act to disperse gatherings of more than 5, to ensure people are using outdoor recreation areas for walkthrough access only, educate people about physical distancing and to address issues of people not taking this crisis seriously.

Today, the Health Unit released new numbers outlining the community cases in smaller geographical regions of Leeds, Grenville and Lanark. In Lanark East, there are 14 confirmed community cases in addition to the positive cases attributed to Long Term Care residents and healthcare workers. This is a stark reminder of the direct impact COVID-19 has and will continue to have on our community.

Heading into the holiday weekend, a time traditionally of family gatherings, I must emphasize the critical importance of doing the right thing for our families and our community by staying home and connecting with loved ones through technology. As Mayor, I urge residents to all do their part to flatten the curve by following provincial orders to stay home, not gather in large groups, maintain physical distancing, and only leave your home for essential reasons. Together as a community we can get through this, but we all need to do our part to ensure that we, our families, friends and neighbours are all safe and taking the necessary precautions to stop the spread of COVID-19.

This will be an unusual Easter and Passover for many families but by making small sacrifices today we will protect our community in the future.

Stay safe and be well.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christa Lowry".

Christa Lowry  
Mayor of Mississippi Mills