



April 13, 2021

RE: Update on Essential Trips on Municipal Transit and Community Transportation Services under Ontario's Stay-at-Home Order

The Ontario Government is taking important steps to protect public health and safety. As you know, Ontario issued a Stay-at-Home order effective Thursday, April 8 at 12:01 am. Under this order, everyone must remain at home, with exceptions such as going to the grocery store or pharmacy, accessing health care services (including getting vaccinated), for outdoor exercise, or for work that cannot be done remotely.

Transportation services are recognized as essential under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*, and are permitted to continue in all public health zones. However, it is important that all Ontarians continue to do their part to limit the spread of COVID-19. The stay-at-home order and other new and existing public health restrictions are aimed at reducing the number of daily contacts with those outside an immediate household, in response to rapid growth in COVID-19 case numbers.

BCT is reminding you to travel for only essential purposes as a voluntary measure, and we appreciate your continued support in taking a proactive approach to reinforce the message for people across the province to stay at home except for essential travel.

The Ontario government will continue to consult with the Chief Medical Officer of Health and other health experts to ensure that public health measures are

targeted and responsive to help limit the spread of COVID-19 and protect vulnerable people.

BCT office will remain locked, however BCT is still maintaining regular office hours with staff working remotely. BCT will continue to operate its public transit and specialized medical transit services, for essential purposes only. BCT will also continue to operate its grocery shopping service for all individuals in North Hastings. BCT will also provide transportation to clinics offering the COVID vaccine. THESE SERVICES ARE FREE TO THE PUBLIC DURING THIS MOMENT IN TIME.

To access information or to enroll for FREE GROCERY SHOPPING DELIVERY:

Call Pauline at 613-334-2385

To access FREE VACCINATION TRANSPORTATION:

Call Isabelle at 613-332-8291

To access FREE PUBLIC TRANSIT:

Call 613-332-8735

For any other information or questions:

Call Brenda at 613-332-8291

Thank you for your care and consideration as we all strive to work together through this moment in time.

Stay safe!

Gwen Coish,

Director of Operations

On behalf of BCT Board of Directors and staff.