



County of Simcoe, Office of the Warden and CAO III0 Highway 26, Midhurst, Ontario L9X IN6 simcoe.ca

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **County of Simcoe terminates COVID-19 emergency declaration**

**Midhurst/May 4, 2022** – In response to the province's gradual easing of COVID-19 public health measures, today, May 4, 2022, County of Simcoe Warden George Cornell joined other jurisdictions in ending the County's emergency declaration.

"Throughout the pandemic, the situation evolved and changed greatly, and the emergency declaration enabled us to adapt and respond quickly to the dynamic nature of COVID-19," said Warden George Cornell. "While the pandemic is not over, thankfully the Emergency Declaration is no longer required to manage our response and maintain our service levels."

Warden Cornell declared a State of Emergency in the County of Simcoe on March 18, 2020. The emergency declaration enabled the County to leverage resources and engage with partners to provide essential services and vital support for those impacted by COVID-19. This included regional emergency management support, social and community services, long-term care and seniors services, paramedic services, economic development and tourism support, coordination of emergency children's services, LINX transit, landfill and waste collection services, road and plowing operations and other important programs that were maintained and gradually reopened during the pandemic.

Due to the nature of our regional services and programs, the County maintained our emergency declaration until this time. The County thanks the public for their support, our partners (municipalities, emergency services, health care system, and in particular, the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit), as well as our valued staff for their continued support, coordination and dedication.

Please remember to follow all public health guidelines, as well as those implemented by organizations and businesses in an effort to keep staff and patrons safe and healthy.

County of Simcoe is composed of sixteen member municipalities and provides crucial public services to County residents in addition to providing paramedic and social services to the separated cities of Barrie and Orillia. Visit our website at **simcoe.ca**.

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