

**District Council – Electronic Meeting  
April 20, 2020**

**The District Municipality of Muskoka**

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Moved By: S. Cairns

Seconded By: K. Terziano

WHEREAS Muskoka District Council fully understands, upon the direction of the Provincial Government, that only businesses and services deemed to be essential are to remain open during the COVID-19 Pandemic;

AND WHEREAS our Not for Profit Community Partners rely on Community Gardens for the ability to grow vegetables that assist in meeting the food related needs as well as providing physical and mental health benefits for our most vulnerable citizens;

AND WHEREAS physical distancing measures would still be needed for those working in Community Gardens;

AND WHEREAS Garden Centres and Nurseries could be required to provide curb-side car drop off service only to reduce the risk;

AND WHEREAS the Medical Officer of Health for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, supports the continuation of Community Gardens throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Muskoka District Council requests that the Province of Ontario add Community Gardens, Garden Centres and Nurseries as essential services;

AND THAT this resolution be circulated to Scott Aitchison, MP for Parry Sound-Muskoka, Norm Miller, MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka, and all Ontario Municipalities requesting their support.

Carried ✓

Defeated                     

  
District Clerk