

Kate Murray
BIA Coordinator
C/O: Directors of Downtown Carleton Place BIA

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To:
Mayor Doug Black
Deputy Mayor Sean Redmond
Councillor Theresa Fritz
Councillor Linda Seccaspina
Councillor Andrew Tennant
Councillor Toby Randal
Councillor Jeff Atkinson
Chief Administrative Officer, Diane Smithson

Town of Carleton Place
175 Bridge Street
Carleton Place ON
K7C 2V8

June 11, 2020

Re: COVID-19 Phase 2 Downtown Carleton Place: utilizing on-street parking

The heartbeat of downtown is moving a little bit faster these days and that is something to celebrate. While we have communicated and encouraged our members with online support, daily marketing, and more recently the delivery of our reopen kits, there is still more to be done for our downtown.

Downtown Carleton Place has discussed ways to assist our restaurants and other business owners in maximizing their exposure to the public and to get back to a steady-state of business, all while maintaining Covid-19 protocols and public health guidelines. We look to members of Town Council, the Town of Carleton Place, and all their departments as a valuable partner.

Downtown Carleton Place is respectfully requesting:

- 1) A Town communication to residents that biking, skateboarding is not permitted on downtown sidewalks, especially during Covid-19.**
- 2) Daily foot patrols by Carleton Place By-Law Officer and the OPP to enforce our sidewalk guidelines.**

- 3) **Official Town signage in the downtown to remind pedestrians of physical distancing measures. This could be in the way signs or sidewalk decals or both.**
- 4) **Decreasing the speed limit on Bridge Street from 50 to 30km/hr. Especially on Saturday's – 'Slow Down Saturday's in Downtown Carleton Place'.**

We also discussed using on-street parking spaces for our downtown merchants or restaurants who wish to use them for a patio/retail spot – Graham Shoes for example has a table outside his store. Or installing professional flex spaces in the more congested areas of Bridge Street. Here is an example of what either could look like.



A) www.streetpatio.ca -- \$2500 +tax
June to October. Delivery & pick up included. This is a flex space.

B) An example of what a store or restaurant could do with the parking space directly in front of their business.



- 5) **Allowing Downtown Carleton Place to use some of the on-street parking spaces will bring a happy vibe back to our downtown. It allows people to eat their carry-out, have a rest, and enjoy our downtown while remain physically distant. We are asking the Town of Carleton Place to waive fees associated with this project and make this approval top priority.**

By converting a few parking spaces into flex /patio/retails spaces, it will assist in the recovery of the economy in our downtown and will uplift the community, encouraging them to visit downtown more frequently. The cost to rent these flex spaces has been brought down from \$4500 to \$2500 for BIA's and Municipalities.

- 6) **Downtown Carleton Place is asking if the Town of Carleton Place would rent 1 of these patios for the season. We believe that three would suit downtown.**

Why no to closing down Bridge Street on a Saturday? Closing the entire street would cause more unrest for retail stores and restaurants who are still relying on curbside pick-up. We have to make sure we are not excluding any kind of business that may not be able to accommodate such an extension of the store out on the sidewalks or in the parking spots out on the street for courtesy pick up, deliveries, and those types of things.

I have spoken to the Carleton Place Chamber of Commerce and they are in agreement with this option. We believe it is a happy medium, middle of the road (no pun intended) for all the downtown businesses to get back to a steady-state of operations. We are seeking approval, input, guidance, and partnership on these ideas.

As always, thank you all for your time and support.

Kate Murray
Downtown Carleton Place BIA Coordinator