

## **Notice of Council's Decision Regarding the 2020-2021 Arena Season**

The Municipality of St.-Charles continues to monitor the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and places the utmost importance on the safety and wellbeing of all its residents.

Our community has a disproportionate population of person over 65 at 24.8% compared to the Provincial average of 17.9% (2016 census). This is the vulnerable population that is at risk from COVID-19.

As such all programs and services are being evaluated to ensure that the best interests of the whole community are at heart. Council is making some very difficult decisions with the intent of maintaining the safety of the community. With the promise of a vaccine in the months to come, it is hoped that we can soon return to normal.

At its Regular Meeting of Council held August 19, 2020, Council for the Corporation of the Municipality of St.-Charles made the very difficult decision to not open the St.-Charles Arena for the 2020-2021 season, citing the ongoing risk of COVID-19 transmission and ensuing liability concerns. Please note that this closure is only for the 2020-2021 season.

Of significant concern was the strong possibility of a second wave of COVID-19 interrupting our season. This would lead to either a complete shutdown for the remainder of the season or an extended period of maintaining the arena ice without usage.

Council in weighing the risks to the affected users and community as a whole, and in exercising fiscal prudence, made the difficult decision they had to.

### ***Message from the Sudbury and District Health Unit***

*"Protect Yourself from COVID-19*

*All residents who are planning to [travel](#) should be aware that COVID-19 is still circulating at different levels around the province. The safest options are to stay in the area of your home community or to stay in the region. If you think you have travelled somewhere (within or outside of Ontario) where you may have been exposed to COVID-19, call us at 705.522.9200 (toll-free 1.866.522.9200)."*

### ***From the Ontario Website***

*"About Social Circles"*

*As we continue our shared fight against coronavirus (COVID-19), social circles are a way to safely expand the number of people with whom you can come in close contact. Think of your social circle as the people you can hug and touch, or those who can become part of your daily and weekly routines."*

*You can now establish a family or social circle of no more than 10 people who can interact with one another without physical distancing.*