

A newsletter written by Staff for the Residents of Port Colborne

OCTOBER 2021

COVID-19 UPDATES

The health and welfare of staff, residents and visitors is a top priority for the City of Port Colborne as the province continues to navigate the changing impact of COVID-19. As this is an evolving situation, the City will continue to remind everyone the importance of using credible sources to stay informed. For more information, please visit: https://www.ontario.ca/page/reopening-ontario.

Proof of Vaccine

What you'll need to show to access certain indoor businesses and settings **starting September 22**:





Proof of vaccination

Proof of identity

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The City of Port Colborne is committed to ensuring the health and safety of residents and staff. As the province continues to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic, effective September 22 the following City facilities will require people to be fully vaccinated and provide proof of their vaccination status, along with photo ID, to gain access.

Vale Health & Wellness Centre:

- Any adult (18+) accessing the facility for any purpose, including parents or guardians of youth participating in an organized sport, walkers and the general public.
- Youth (12+) that are spectating and not actively participating.
- COVID-19 screening will also be in effect for all individuals entering the building.

Youth under 18 years of age actively participating in an organized sport, including training, practices, games and competitions, patrons with a medical exemption, and workers or volunteers (including coaches and officials) are not required to provide proof of vaccination at the Vale Health & Wellness Centre. Individuals can provide proof of immunization by downloading or printing their vaccine receipt from the provincial booking portal **https://covid19.ontariohealth.ca/**, or by calling the Provincial Vaccine Booking Line at 1-833-943-3900. Those with medical exemptions must provide proof as identified by the province in order to access facilities. For more information visit **portcolborne.ca/covid19**.

Have a question? We're here to help!

Although the physical doors to City Hall and various City facilities remain closed, or are offering limited services, staff are continuing to offer customer service support for residents, businesses, and visitors by phone, email, website, and social media channels. To reach our customer service representatives, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., call 905-835-2900 or email customerservice@portcolborne.ca. Looking for a particular staff member? Visit **portcolborne.ca/contactus**. For more information and updates about the City's response to COVID-19, visit **portcolborne.ca/covid19**.

Looking to get vaccinated?

Looking to get your 1st or 2nd dose of the COVID-19 vaccine? There are lots of opportunities to get vaccinated across Niagara including at Niagara Region Public Health vaccine clinics. For a list of upcoming vaccine clinic dates and locations, visit: niagararegion.ca/covid-vaccine.



Business Support

Guidance is available to support businesses and organizations in implementing proof of vaccination requirements, which came into effect on September 22. For more information, please visit **portcolborne.ca/covid19**. Please remember to be kind as local businesses implement this new provincial legislation.



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66 Charlotte Street, Port Colborne, ON L3K 3C8 | 905-835-2900 | portcolborne.ca | newsletter@portcolborne.ca f@cityofportcolborne @@cityofportcolborne @@@cityofportcolborne @@@cityofportcolborne @

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN PORT COLBORNE

Annual Christmas Card Contest!

The City of Port Colborne is inviting the children of our community to help design the annual Christmas card! The theme is "Christmas in Port Colborne." The mayor seeks an image that conveys the Christmas spirit with special focus on a Port Colborne person, place or thing. For complete rules and regulations, and how to submit an entry, please visit: portcolborne.ca/christmas or contact Nancy Giles at 905-835-2900, ext. 301, or email nancy.giles@portcolborne.ca. Entries must be submitted by Oct. 15, 2021 at 4 p.m. Pictured to the right is Mayor Bill Steele with 2020 winner, Ellie Cizmar from St. John Bosco School.

Digital Main Street launches in Port Colborne

Through renewed investment in Digital Main Street's Ontario Grants Program (OGP), the City of Port Colborne has received \$19,000 to help local small businesses with digital transformation. Small businesses in Port Colborne can register now at <u>digitalmainstreet.ca</u> to receive a free assessment and access to online training modules at no cost. The cornerstone of Digital Main Street is its squad of trained specialists



who deliver personalized, one-onone technological assistance. This includes support for basic website set-up, Google My Business profiles, 360° photos, social media presence and much more. These specialists can also provide information on the ShopHERE program for digital storefront or e-commerce set-up and assist with applications for a one-time \$2,500 grant to implement a Digital Transformation Plan (DTP).

Canadian Authors Series hosts virtual events

The Canadian Authors Series is pleased to announce the launch of a series of free virtual events starting this September. To access the series, participants will need a computer, phone, or tablet with internet and the Zoom app. All participants must register online. Once registered, participants will receive an email approximately one week prior to each event containing all the relevant login information. For more information visit http://www.thecanadianauthorsseries.ca/index.html.



Thank you for visiting, Theodore Too!

Thank you to the Official Theodore Tugboat for coming to PortColborne this past weekend and thank you to everyone who came out to *#PORTicipate*. We wish him safe travels as he tugs along to his next destination. See you next time, Theodore!



Ultimate Staycation Contest Winner

Congratulations to our Ultimate Staycation winner, Linda Calvert! Linda and her family won \$500 in gift cards to local businesses, two cruiser bikes, a library gift package, and a private Museum tour. Enjoy, Linda! And thank you to the more than 250 people who PORTicipated in the contest and explored Port Colborne this summer.





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310 King Street, Port Colborne, ON L3K 4H1 | 905-834-6512 | www.portcolbornelibrary.org

Library Services.

Curbside and in-person browsing will continue, with the following hours:

- Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday: 10 a.m. 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday: 10 a.m. 4 p.m.

Public computers will be available for 60-minute sessions, during the following hours:

- Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday: 10 a.m. 7 p.m.
- Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday: 10 a.m. 4 p.m.

Proof of vaccination is not required to access curbside pickup, in-person browsing, or to use public computers.

Entry will be by capacity and masks are required. All visitors to the library will be actively screened prior to entry into the building in accordance with municipal requirements. There is no in-person programming at this time.

NEW

Want to stay up-to-date with the latest events at your Port Colborne Public Library? Subscribe to our monthly newsletter digital newsletter online! Visit portcolborne.ca/subscribe.

Book Sale

Books, magazines, DVDs, music CDs, and more! Prices start at 50¢. Find a treasure, buy a gift, and support your library. For more information give us a call at 905-834-6512.

October is Canadian Library Month!

During the month of October, libraries and library partners across Canada are raising awareness of the valuable role libraries play in Canadians' lives. More than just a place to find books, libraries promote cultural awareness, engage in the community, provide educational programs, support freedom of expression,

and so much more. The theme for this year is: One card, one million possibilities! The Port Colborne Public Library will celebrate Library Month with a daily book prize package draw! That's 26 days of giveaways!

CONTEST RULES – HOW TO ENTER

- Visit the library during curbside hours (listed above) and fill out a ballot.
- You are eligible for one ballot per day between October 1-30, 2021.
- Winners will be contacted directly.
 Book prize packages were made possible by a generous donation from the Port Colborne Optimist Club.



Book Cover Contest October 1 – December 18, 2021

Do you love books? Are you up for a creative challenge? This is the contest for you! We are asking our Port Colborne community to submit a photograph of a recreated book cover. Use props, costumes, drawings, etc., to recreate your favourite book cover. Submit your photograph to: library@portcolborne.ca. Submissions will be shared on our website and social media accounts. The winner will be contacted in late December. Check out these two examples for inspiration! We can't wait to see your submission!



Together We Read October 18 - 31, 2021

Together We Read is a Digital Book Club that features participating libraries in Canada. During this two-week program, there are no waitlists and no holds for the selected book club title: Frying Plantain by Zalika Reid-Benta, a short story collection set in Toronto's Little Jamaica neighbourhood. Download Libby on your phone or tablet to borrow the free e-book, then join the conversation: www.togetherweread.com/CA/







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280 King Street, Port Colborne, ON L3K 5X8 | 905-834-7604 | http://portcolborne.ca/page/museum

History Chasers Club!

The Port Colborne Historical and Marine Museum is excited to announce our new **History Chasers Club** geared towards students Grade 3 to Grade 5. History Chasers members earn badges for each museum program they complete. Starting in October, you can sign up and earn your first badge for completing the hidden history of Port Colborne's Museum Passport.

The Museum Passport is filled with activities and a scavenger hunt that will take students, with an accompanying adult, travelling through time around the museum grounds. The free passports will be available at both the Museum and the Port Colborne Public Library starting October 15. Want some fun mail? We will mail a passport to you. Complete your passport and earn a badge!

For more information call the museum at (905) 834-7604 or email Education Programmer, Abbey Stansfield, at abbey.stansfield@portcolborne.ca.





Explore Halloween Archives

All October, you can join Digitization Assistant Sloane McDowell as she explores the images in the archives that feature pumpkins, ghouls, and witches. Greeting cards, postcards, and posters were ways our community connected with each other and Halloween was a popular holiday to dress up and have fun. If you are looking for a place to show off your Halloween costume, the Museum will stay open a little longer on Sunday, October 31, from noon to 6 p.m. so you can stroll the grounds and enjoy the carved pumpkins in a heritage village setting.

The image to the left, is a Halloween Postcard donated last year by the Nigh family 2020.4.148.113. Mildred Nigh had a private Museum and her Museum collection is being installed in the Carriage House to be opened this fall to the public!

Book A Safe Service

The Museum is still using our B.A.S.S. (Book A Safe Service). If you have research to complete, would like access to the gallery and gift shop, or want to explore the grounds with your family to snap photos, we are here to serve you! Just contact us and let us know when you would like to come in.







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FIRE PREVENTION WEEK OCT. 3 - 9, 2021

This year Fire Prevention Week focuses on "Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety!"

Knowing what to do when an alarm sounds will keep you and your family safe. When an alarm makes noises - a beeping sound or chirping sound - you must take action!

The Port Colborne Fire & Emergency Services team is inviting you to *#PORTicipate* in this Fire Safety BINGO contest! Complete a BINGO line below, snap a photo, and send it to communicationsofficer@portcolborne.ca, or send it via a private message to the City of Port Colborne's Facebook page, for your chance to win a \$100 gift card to a local Port Colborne business of your choice. Contest closes October 10, 2021. For more information, visit portcolborne.ca/firepreventionweek.

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| [| FIRE & ENERGENCY SENTCES | B | | | G |
| | Do you have a working smoke alarm? | Have you practiced your escape plan lately? | Do you know how to use a fire extinguisher? | Do you have a working carbon monoxide alarm? | Do you wear oven mitts when cooking? |
| | Have you changed your batteries in your alarms lately? | Are your house numbers well lit on your home? | Do you know when to call 911? | Do you have a meeting place? | Did you know smoke alarms expire? |
| | Can you STOP, DROP and ROLL? | Do you have an escape ladder? | () | Do you know how to cool a burn? | Do you know what Sparky looks like? |
| | Have you ever heard a smoke alarm? | Have you ever seen a fire truck? | Do you know what fire fighters wear when fighting a fire? | Do you blow your candles out when you leave a room? | Have you ever crawled low under smoke? |
| | ls your garage organized and tidy? | Have you ever vacuumed your smoke alarm? | Do you test your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms monthly? | Do you know what colour a fire truck is? | Do you follow the Port Colborne Fire Department on Facebook? |