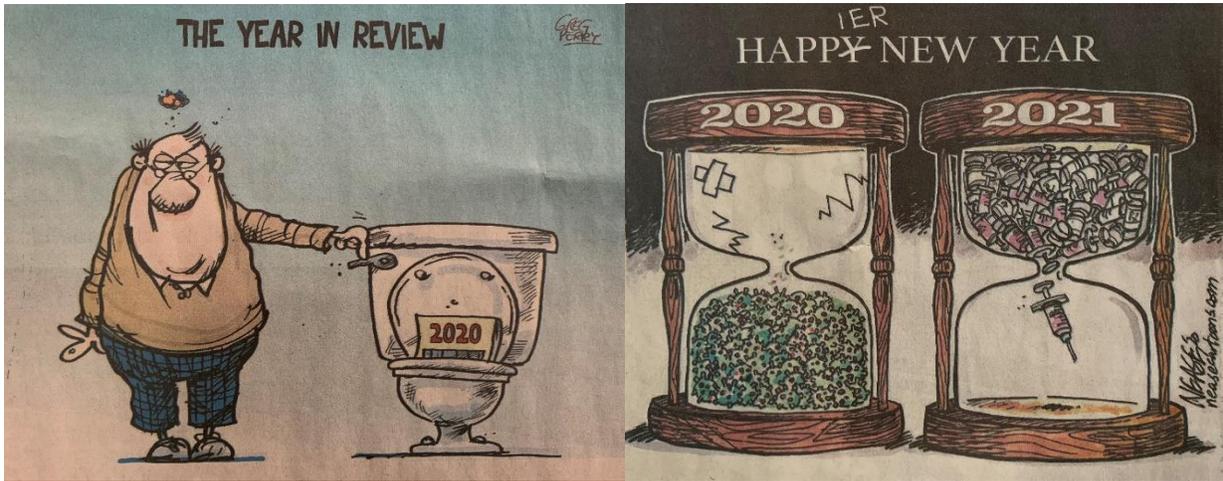
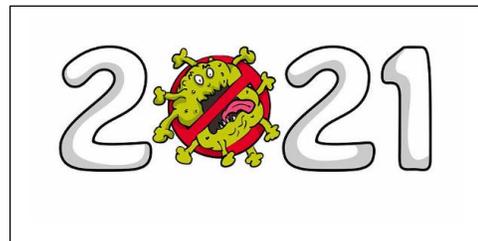
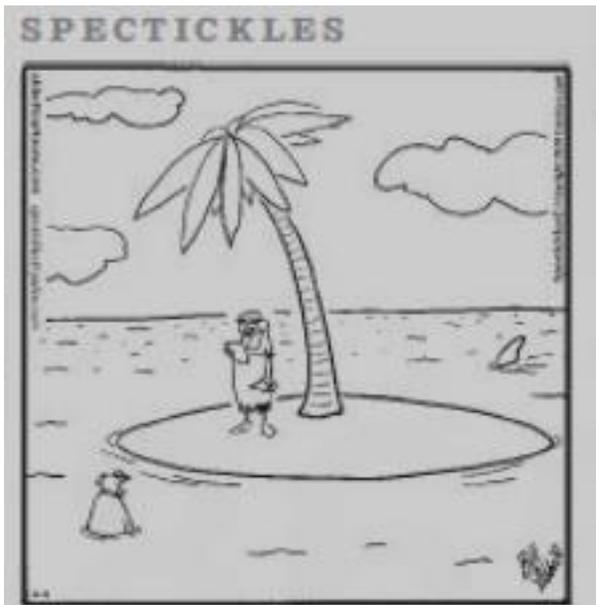


To access this and past Updates, please visit NHC's [website](#), or Ctrl/click on this link [UPDATE FROM NEPEAN HOUSING CORPORATION- \(COVID-19\)](#)  
PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH NEIGHBOURS  
WHO DON'T HAVE AN E-MAIL ADDRESS



Happy New Year Everyone! We hope that everyone found a safe way to celebrate over the holidays. The COVID-19 pandemic certainly has been the top story in Ottawa and around the world in 2020. COVID has changed the way we have worked, lived and interacted with others. In late December, Ontario announced a [provincewide shutdown](#) to stop the spread of COVID-19. This shut down is still in effect, and the impacts of these time-limited measures will be evaluated to determine if it is safe to lift any restrictions or if they need to be extended.



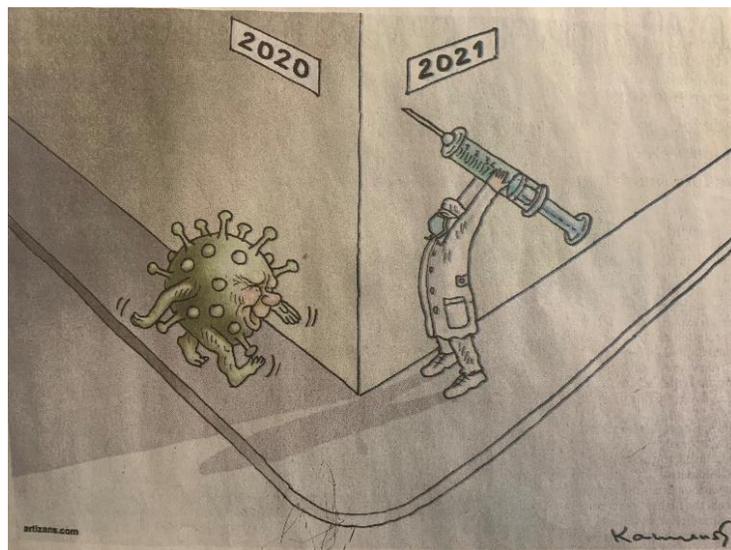
“Looks like you’ll have to stay where you are.  
They’ve extended the time you have to  
quarantine.”

## COVID-19 Updates

### The current situation regarding COVID-19 vaccination in Ottawa

On December 9, 2020, Health Canada authorized the first COVID-19 vaccine in Canada made by Pfizer-BioNTech. The COVID-19 vaccine from Moderna was also authorized on December 23, 2020. In clinical trials, both vaccines were higher than 90% effective.

There is a small chance that you may still get COVID-19 after being vaccinated. As such, it is very important to continue with public health measures such as physical distancing, wearing a mask, and staying home if you are sick. Health care and other staff must still wear personal protective equipment (PPE) even after they have been vaccinated. To learn more about the vaccination process in Ottawa and what to expect, visit [here](#).



Research these vaccines and speak to [health care professionals](#) when you consider whether or not to be vaccinated. As always, be cautious when surfing the internet, because not all information is reliable.

### Financial Support for Learners

Learn about one-time funding for parents to help offset costs during the 2020-2021 school year. Find out if you are eligible and how to apply. The deadline to apply is February 8, 2021. Application instructions will be available on the [Support for Learners web page](#) starting in January 2021. Secondary school student applications will be open from January 11, 2021 to February 8, 2021. The application deadline for Support for Learners for children or youth aged 0 to 12 and for children or youth aged 0 to 21 with special needs is being extended to February 8, 2021.

### COVID-19: Epidemiologic summaries from Public Health Ontario

Visit [here](#) to get detailed daily and weekly reports on COVID-19 that include data by age, sex, number of health care workers, cases over time, exposure type, severity, geography, and outbreaks in institutions and public hospitals.

## **Latest News from Ottawa Public Health (OPH)**

Large crowds have been observed at outdoor skating rinks, tobogganing hills and skiing trailheads raising concern about public health and safety. As a result, OPH will be issuing a Section 22 Class Order under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* tomorrow to all persons responsible for the ownership and operation of outdoor recreational spaces indicating the additional requirements, including signage, to maintain a physical distance of two metres. There will also be a maximum capacity of 25 people on the ice surface at any time. For tobogganing hills and ski trails, there will also be a maximum capacity of 25 people in common gathering areas such as parking lots, trailheads and at the top and bottom of hills.

## **Nepean Housing Corporation Updates**

### ***Reminder: IMPORTANT CHANGES COMING IN 2021***

#### **Rent Freeze**

The Government of Ontario announced a rent freeze for all rental households in the province effective January 1, 2021. The rent freeze includes your rental unit that is partially exempt from the *Residential Tenancies Act, 2006*.

IF YOU HAVE A RENTAL SUBSIDY, what will NOT change is the requirement to follow all the rent-g geared-to-income rules, including completing an annual household income review. That means **you must complete your income tax return for 2020 and provide documentation to us as requested and on time** and let us know when the number of people living in your unit changes, when there are permanent changes in income sources, when someone stops or starts receiving social assistance, when someone stops or starts school, etc. Remember that rent can be decreased if certain conditions are met.

#### **Refrigerators & Stove:**

Except for 130 Centrepointe, 2 Hammill and Glenning (Farnworth II), tenants will be responsible for the maintenance of the refrigerator and stove in their unit as of January 1, 2021. The rent for most affected tenants will decrease by \$4 on January 1.

#### **Change to Legislation: Rent Arrears**

Under provincial legislation called *The Protecting Tenants and Strengthening Community Housing Act*, if you owe arrears, you and NHC must consider a payment agreement before a hearing. Once we both agree on how much you will pay and how long it will take you to pay the entire amount, NHC will send the agreement to the Landlord Tenant Board (LTB). There is a filing fee of \$186 that you must pay. The LTB will issue a consent order that will set out the conditions of the agreement.

If we can't come to an agreement, NHC will send an application for termination to the LTB. There is a filing fee of \$186 that you must pay. If you don't follow the payment agreement, NHC will advise the LTB. If the LTB is satisfied that we weren't able to reach an agreement, or you didn't follow the conditions of the repayment agreement, they will issue an eviction order. None of us want that to happen, so let's work together!

## **Window Air Conditioners**

In January, 2020, NHC announced a ban on window air conditioners for all units in the portfolio, apartments and townhouses alike, as of summer 2020. HOWEVER... Covid-19 happened. This meant that many tenants would not have the opportunity to go out and buy a new air conditioner. The ban for 2020 was delayed, and tenants could install their window air conditioners for the summer of 2020. BUT... Window air conditioners **cannot be used in the summer of 2021!** We are reminding all tenants of this now to give plenty of warning and time to save up for a new portable, floor-model air conditioner.

## **E-mail Addresses**

If you haven't already done so, please consider providing your e-mail address to NHC to make communication easier.

## **Garbage and Waste Disposal Reminder**

### *Town Home Residents*

Garbage is collected every two weeks. [Green bins](#) are collected every week. Recyclables are picked up on alternating weeks (black bin one week, blue bin the next). Blue bins and garbage are picked up the same week. Leaf and yard waste is collected with your green bin. Check out this [Collection Calendar](#) to confirm your collection schedule. Only non-recyclable items should be placed in the garbage. Not sure where an item belongs? Please check out this [Waste Explorer](#) link. If you wish you can also download the Ottawa Collection Calendar mobile app for [Apple](#) or [Android](#) devices to confirm your collection day.

### *When and where to put your garbage*

- Put garbage at the curb any time after 6:00 p.m. the evening prior to your collection day and no later than 7:00 a.m. on your collection day.
- Place bags or cans on the ground as close as possible to the roadway, but not on the sidewalk, roadway or on top of snow banks.

### *Apartment Building Residents- Waste Disposal & Use of Garbage Chute*

#### *Please Remember...*

- Properly secured waste that is the appropriate size to fit the chute can be deposited into the garbage chute at the end of your hallway.
- Oversized secured household waste must be taken to the Garbage Room on the first floor. Garbage must be placed in the garbage bins and the lid placed back on the bin.
- Boxes must be flattened and placed in the paper recycling bin in the Garbage Room.

Since we are on the subject of garbage... Did you ever wonder what happens to your recycling? Watch this interesting video here: [What Happens to Norfolk's Recycling - YouTube](#)

### **Moving or Leaving for an Extended Period?**

If you're moving or will be away from your unit for longer than a day, please remember to keep the heat to at least 16 degrees. Close all windows to prevent cold temperatures or precipitation (rain or snow) to enter the unit. Frozen pipes cause extreme damage, and you will be responsible for any damage cause to your or adjoining units.

### **And a last note...**

We might all be in this together, but some are in deeper than others. We don't know and can't always understand what's happening in others' lives. With that said, let's all try to treat each other with respect and compassion.

