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UPDATE FROM NEPEAN HOUSING CORPORATION- (COVID-19)
**PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH NEIGHBOURS
WHO DON'T HAVE AN E-MAIL ADDRESS**

Hi Everyone, it's Wednesday, December 9: week 41 – We hope you're all doing well. Starting with this update, we'll be reducing our publication to once a month. The next update is scheduled for January 13, 2021. Our very best wishes to you for health and happiness in 2021!



Nepean Corporation Holiday Hours
Thursday December 24th closed at Noon
Friday December 25th closed
Monday December 28th closed
Thursday December 31st closed at Noon
Friday January 1st closed

Nepean Housing Updates - Changes in 2021

You should have received a letter from NHC about changes coming in 2021, either in the mail or at your door. If you haven't, check your mailbox! Please e-mail info@nepeanhousing.ca or call 613-823-8452 if you have any questions.

The Holiday Season 2020 & COVID

Well, it's beginning to look a lot like... a very different holiday season. As second-wave COVID-19 case counts rise across Canada — a situation experts worry will get worse — the country's top doc, Chief Public Health Officer Theresa Tam, is urging people to avoid non-essential outings as much as possible. And many provincial leaders are asking residents to ho-ho-ho with only their immediate household.

Has a COVID Christmas got you feeling blue? Here are some things that you can do!

<https://ottawa.ca/en/news/has-covid-christmas-got-you-feeling-blue-here-are-some-things-you-can-do>

Ottawa Public Health has released some new Holiday messaging: [Be social wise – guidance for social gatherings](#) during COVID-19. They have also shared some [COVIDWise Winter activities](#)



Did you know? Christmas decorations can be a violation of the Ontario Fire Code

Do you have a Christmas wreath on your front door? Well, if you live in an apartment building, that wreath, or any decorations festively left outside units, are a violation of the Ontario Fire Code.

Under the provincial legislation, flammables such as doormats, door decorations, wreaths, flowers, and more are prohibited in common area hallways of apartments.

“The fire service gets a bad rap when it comes to hallway decorations. We aren’t Scrooges. It’s actually based on tragic outcomes,” the fire department stated. “The Fire Code prohibits flammables (ie. doormats, door decorations, wreaths, flowers, etc.) in common area hallways of apartments, because, in case of fire, it would intensify the flames. Doormats should be placed inside the apartment entrance.”

A hallway is considered to be a “means of egress” (or exit) under the code.

A copy of the Ontario Fire Code can be found at ontario.ca.

Provincial government announces financial support, launches online application portal for parents

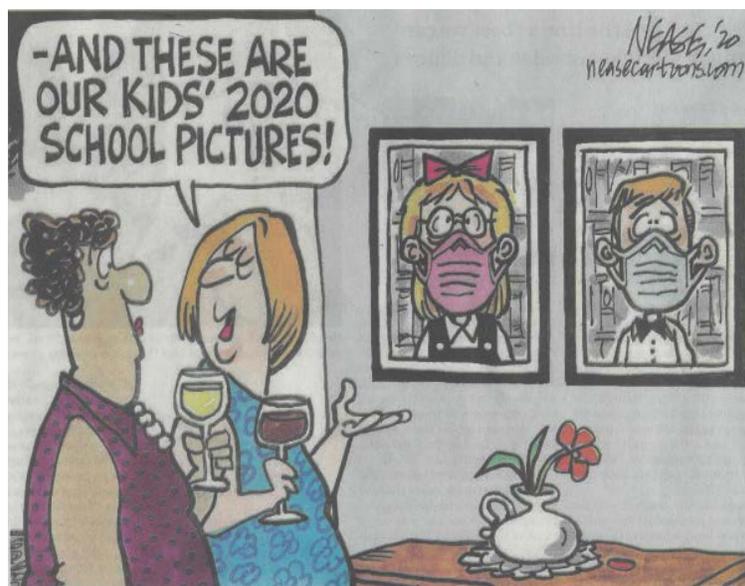
The Ontario government has announced it’s launching ‘Support for Learners’ web page. This funding is intended to provide parents and guardians with essential financial support for children and youth during these unprecedented times. Parents and guardians will receive a one-time payment of \$200 for each child up to age 12, or \$250 for each child or youth up to age 21 with special needs. [Apply for Support for Learners funding \(gov.on.ca\)](http://gov.on.ca)

COVID-19: Updates on the law and benefits

CLEO has new information about the law and services during the COVID-19 pandemic. Please visit [COVID-19: Updates on the law and legal services](#) on **Steps to Justice** for information on other areas of the law including employment, family, housing, and income assistance law.

Just for Kids

Sacks of letters are arriving at the North Pole and postal elves are busy helping Santa with his mail. If you want to send a letter to Santa & get a reply back by Christmas, tomorrow: December 10th is the deadline. For more information, visit [here](#).



And one more change for 2021...

Nathalie Anderson is departing for maternity leave on December 18. Her able replacement is Jenn Scott. Welcome, Jenn – and good luck, Nathalie!

T'was The Month Of Christmas

*T'was the month of Christmas, and all through the town,
People wore masks that covered a frown.
The frown had begun way back in the spring
When a global pandemic changed everything.
They called it Corona, but unlike the beer,
It didn't bring good times, it didn't bring cheer.
Contagious and deadly, this virus spread fast,
Like a wildfire that starts when fueled by gas.
Airplanes were grounded, travel was banned.
Borders were closed across air, sea and land.
As the world entered lockdown to flatten the curve,
The economy halted, and folks lost their verve.
From March to July we rode the first wave.
People stayed home, they tried to behave.
When summer emerged, the lockdown was lifted.
Bet away from caution, many folks drifted.
Now it's December, and cases are spiking.
Wave two arrived, much to our disliking.
Frontline workers, doctors and nurses,
Try to save people from riding in hearses.
This virus is awful, this COVID-19.
There isn't a cure, there's not yet a vaccine.
It's true that this year has had sadness a-plenty.
We'll never forget this year 2020.
And just 'round the corner – the holiday season.
But why be merry? Is there even one reason?
To decorate the house and put up the tree
When no one will see it, no one but me.
But outside my window, the snow gently falls.
And I think to myself, let's deck the halls!
So, I gather the ribbon, the garland and bows,
As I play those old carols, my happiness grows.
Christmas ain't cancelled, and neither is hope.
If we lean on each other, I know we can cope.*

