From: PF-Mailbox-01

To: Norio, Ann-Marie; Trennum, Matthew

Subject: FW: Online Form - Enquiry from Region website

Date: Sunday, July 12, 2020 9:53:26 AM

From: Niagara Region Website

Sent: Sunday, 12 July 2020 09:52:55 (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

To: Clerks Cc: webincoming

Subject: Online Form - Enquiry from Region website

Enquiry from Region website

To reply, copy the email address from below and put into 'To'. (if resident entered their email address)

name

Jennifer Rice

phone

email

address

municipality

Pelham

other mun

subject

Regional Council/Clerk

comments

Good morning, I am writing you this email to voice my disappointment that the bylaw for mandatory masks was not passed during your last meeting. I understand that it will be revisited on the 23rd but that means we have lost 2 weeks as we sit on our hands on this issue. There is a lot of current, "strong

science" out there that promotes the use of mask wearing is a very solid way to decrease the risk when out in public. One such study said that wearing masks is most effective when 90% of the public wears them. Unfortunately, I do not see 90% of people wearing them when out shopping but more and more people choosing NOT to wear them. The honour system is not working. Right now people in our communities have a false sense of security by looking at the daily numbers that are shared online. They think that because only one or two people each day have tested positive, then the virus isn't around them. Unfortunately, I think that some of these same people currently hold seats on council. My daughter works in a retail store in Welland and is becoming increasingly worried when going to work. She says that the majority of people coming in do not wear face masks and many don't social distance anymore. Who is going to protect the workers? I know that Costco in St. Catharines hands out masks at the door for those people who didn't bring one but should we expect that every business to do the same? Shouldn't this just be an expectation across the region everywhere that when you go into a store you wear a mask? We really need to follow the lead of other regions around us (Hamilton, Peel, Durham, Toronto etc) and those further away (Manitoulin, Ottawa, Nippissing etc) and make mask wearing mandatory. Unfortunately, when given a choice, people often choose the easy way out. Sincerely, Jennifer Rice

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