

From: [PF-Mailbox-01](#)
To: [Norio, Ann-Marie](#); [Trennum, Matthew](#)
Subject: FW: Online Form - Enquiry from Region website
Date: Monday, September 14, 2020 9:40:17 PM

From: Niagara Region Website
Sent: Monday, 14 September 2020 21:39:50 (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)

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Marlene Korevaar

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comments

Please forward the following to all members of Regional Council by attaching this letter as an addendum to the September 17, 2020 Regular Council meeting agenda as it is pertinent to a report and By-law to be considered. Good Evening Chair Bradley and Members of Council, Today is Monday, September 14, 2020. We have just been informed about the meeting on September 17, 2020 wherein an extension to the mask By-law will be considered. We knew there was a meeting on this date however it was not public knowledge that an extension the mandatory mask by-law would be

considered until the agenda was made public. We have checked the agenda and find it appalling that the report from the CAO (CAO 19-2020) and the By-law (By-law No. 2020-64) are not attached to the agenda as of 9 PM September 14, 2020. Does the public not get an opportunity to view these documents and give feedback to their representatives? Do the representatives only get a limited amount of time to view these documents prior to making a decision? If the information is not available when the agenda is posted should not the discussion be delayed to a later date to give ample opportunity for public feedback and review? In view of the ongoing discussions regarding COVID-19 and Mandatory masks we have some questions/ comments: 1. It has been the position of various levels of government that wearing a face covering is recommended when physical distancing is not possible. The Region's webpage regarding the Face Covering By-law states that wearing a mask is not a substitute for physical distancing. See Frequently Asked Questions at <https://www.niagararegion.ca/health/covid-19/mask-bylaw.aspx> Doesn't this run contrary to the recommendations and messaging from other health officials in Ontario and beyond? 2. When in history has masking the healthy been a common and necessary practice? 3. Do the statistics warrant full scale masking? Only 0.06% of the population of Niagara is currently sick with the virus. 4. Various health organizations and studies have said that masking may be beneficial. You should let the citizens of Niagara be responsible for their own actions. If someone is concerned about the spread of the virus they may wear a mask but why should we all be required to live as if we are all fearful? Furthermore, if there are those that are fearful they may remain at home and not go out in society if they choose. Why should we all be forced to live this way? We do not deny the existence of the virus but we do not agree that the current measures fit the current virus trends in Niagara. 5. Your own Acting Medical Officer (Dr. Hirji) stated that the research is split and that the decision about wearing a mask comes down to a value judgement. We urge you to let each citizen take responsibility for their own actions and choose for themselves and their family whether or not masks are needed. In conclusion, we implore you not to extend the face covering by-law for the reasons listed above. We are praying for you that you would be given the wisdom necessary to navigate through all of the varying opinions on this matter. We also pray that there would be healing in our Region and across Canada. Sincerely, Marlene Korevaar

reply
yes

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<https://www.niagararegion.ca/government/clerk/default.aspx>



