



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 13, 2020

Wasaga Beach Pleased at Receiving \$883,780 in COVID-19 Funding Assistance from the Provincial and Federal Governments

Wasaga Beach – Today Mayor Bifulchi received letters from provincial Ministers Clark and Mulroney advising that the Town is being provided \$883,780 in federal-provincial funding under the Safe Restart Agreement. The Town will receive \$806,660 allocated on a per household basis to assist with operating pressures and costs associated with COVID-19 and \$77,180 to address operating pressures relating to transit services.

“On behalf of Council, I want to express our appreciation to Premier Ford for negotiating on municipalities’ behalf for this funding support. The Federal Government stepped up as well, which is nice to see. The two letters outline how the money is to be spent and how the Town is to make use of it.

Since the emergency was declared in March the Town has been tracking expenses and lost program revenues related to COVID-19 and will apply the money to these areas. The Town took a number of steps to reduce costs, but also addressed needs in the community. For example, we provided free transit service to our residents for several weeks, which had an impact of fare revenues. Staff will be presenting an accounting of the Town’s expenditures and projected lost revenues at a future meeting of Council. This funding is good news for Wasaga Beach taxpayers.” stated Mayor Bifulchi.

The Town will be required to report back to the province on the use of the funds in March 2021. Any funds not required for 2020 are allowed to be reserved for COVID-19 costs that may be incurred in 2021.

A second phase of funding will be available to municipalities that have experienced greater financial impacts arising from COVID-19 than others. To be considered for this phase an additional report is required to be submitted by October 30, 2020. The Town will assess its needs in the coming weeks.

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