

# The Uxbridge COSMOS



Volume 17 No. 2

YOUR UNIVERSE

Thursday, January 14, 2021



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**ANY WAY THE WIND BLOWS** - A 70-year-old windmill that was built and used to stand in Toronto was recently rehomed at the Powell Farm on Marsh Hill Rd., just west of Uxbridge. The windmill used to help pump water, but is now purely decoration.

Photo by Maja Cassibo

## Inside Your Cosmos

A by-law says what? .....page 3

Play outside but play safely .....page 6

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## Trying to follow the financial bouncing ball

by Roger Varley

"We're not here to finalize the property tax increases."

With those words, Councillor Bruce Garrod, chair of the finance committee, opened Tuesday's session of the ongoing budget talks. His remark underlined the difficulty of arriving at final expenditure and revenue figures in light of the continuing COVID-19 crisis. Even as late as Tuesday, council was having to deal with bouncing numbers.

As treasurer Donna Condon pointed out in a report, the province's decision to move all of Ontario into the grey zone on Dec. 26 resulted in further revenue losses from the arena and Uxpool, losses which have had to be covered by laying off some township staff. Mayor Dave Barton proposed

that instead of waiting to see what the province does at the end of January, the ice should be taken out of the arena before the end of the month to obtain some savings in hydro costs.

Recreation director Amanda Ferraro, noting the ice could be taken out over the space of a couple of days, added that the Uxbridge Bruins' 2020-21 season is not going to happen at all.

"They've already hung their towel up," she said.

The uncertainty caused by the coronavirus also saw the by-law department's request for additional hours turned down. Chief by-law officer Kristina Bergeron had asked that the parking officer be elevated to the position of by-law officer and that by-law officers' hours be extended. Clerk Debbie Leroux noted the department had

"never seen such a volume of complaints" as in 2020.

Barton said the budget would not allow for all of Bergeron's requests but the parking officer was elevated to by-law officer. He said it would be unfair to extend by-law's hours while asking other departments to cut back.

The proposed new animal shelter remains in limbo, leading Barton to suggest that \$35,000 earmarked to go into the animal shelter reserve this year be withheld. He said the \$35,000 wouldn't make much difference once construction starts, but it would have a big impact on the 2021 budget.

Garrod has scheduled an additional budget meeting for next Tuesday at 1 p.m., at which time Condon is expected to present the overall budget for approval.

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## Council & Committee Meetings

### Meeting Schedule for Jan. 2021

Monday, January 18, 10:00 a.m.  
COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, January 19, 1:00 p.m.  
DEPARTMENT BUDGET  
PRESENTATION

Thursday, January 21,  
1:00p.m. - 5:00p.m.  
DEPARTMENT BUDGET  
PRESENTATIONS (if needed)

Monday, January 25, 10:00 a.m.  
COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday, January 26,  
1:00p.m. - 5:00p.m.  
DEPARTMENT BUDGET  
PRESENTATIONS (if needed)

# Uxbridge at a Glance

The Corporation of The Township of Uxbridge  
51 Toronto Street South, P.O. Box 190  
Uxbridge L9P 1T1  
905-852-9181 [info@uxbridge.ca](mailto:info@uxbridge.ca)

## Plaque Dedications in Countryside Preserve

The Township of Uxbridge has a plaque dedication program, available on numerous sites within Countryside Preserve.

- Excellent gift idea! Just take a hike and pick your post location
- Commemorate a special event or honour a loved one for only \$250
- Funds raised will be used locally on Uxbridge trail projects
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Forms are available from the Township Offices, the Arena or online at

[www.uxbridge.ca/trail\\_maps](http://www.uxbridge.ca/trail_maps)

For inquiries, contact the Trail Coordinator at  
905-852-9181 ext. 506 or  
[dcook@uxbridge.ca](mailto:dcook@uxbridge.ca)

## Elgin Pond is Closed For Use

Pond ice safety is not being monitored.

## Winter Reminders

### Overnight Parking

Please be advised that By-law 2013-184 as amended prohibits overnight parking from November 1 until April 1 between the hours of 2 am and 7 am on roadways and municipal lots within the Township of Uxbridge.

### Snow removal obstruction

Did you know that in accordance with the Township of Uxbridge Traffic By-law 2013-184, it is an offence to stop any vehicle on a highway in such a manner as to interfere with the movement of traffic or the clearing of snow from the highway?

Please ensure you park off any highway or roadway so as to permit snow removal equipment and vehicles to clean the streets during the winter season.

### Snowmobile by-law

Please keep the Township Snowmobile By-Law in mind while operating your motorized snow vehicle this winter season. You are not permitted to ride your snowmobile on any sidewalks, park lands or any other Township property except to cross. Any person found in contravention of this By-Law is liable to a fine.

## COVID-Related Outdoor Recreation Notice

### Outdoor Skating Rinks in Uxbridge

The Township of Uxbridge reminds residents to keep off frozen storm-water outlet ponds in the Township of Uxbridge. Water levels can fluctuate making the ice unsafe for use.

### Outdoor Team Sports and Games

Current Health Regulations **prohibit activities** such as playing hockey, having scrimmages, or participating in team sports. These activities cannot be done indoors or outside, as participants are unable to maintain a 2m distance from each other which contributes to the spread of COVID-19. Violators may be fined.

### Elgin Pond

Elgin Pond is CLOSED for use. The Township of Uxbridge is NOT currently monitoring the ice conditions. Ice monitoring may resume when Public Health regulations permit hockey games, scrimmages or other forms of unmonitored group/team interactions to occur outdoors. Please help us limit the spread of COVID-19.

### Tobogganing

Help reduce the spread of COVID-19 while tobogganing. Families should keep to their household bubble and stay more than 2 m apart from those in another household. Masks are strongly recommended. Please remember that participants can be fined if the size of an outdoor gathering exceeds 5 people.

## Applications Now Open for the Off-Leash Dog Park Committee

Application deadline is February 5.

Visit [Uxbridge.ca](http://Uxbridge.ca) for more information.

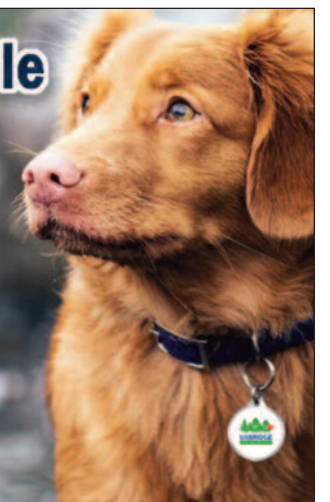


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email: [accessibility@uxbridge.ca](mailto:accessibility@uxbridge.ca)  
phone: 905-852-9181 ext.209



TOWN HALL

by Roger Varley  
Notes from the January 11  
Council Meeting

*Council deals with COVID-19 effects:*  
COVID-19 dominated at Monday's council meeting and subsequent budget meeting, with no councillors believing that the municipality will be out of the provincial "grey zone" before the end of March. Such is the impact of the coronavirus that a report written by treasurer Donna Condon last week was already out of date by the time council discussed it Monday.

Condon's report said that because the provincial government moved all of Ontario into the grey zone on Dec. 26, it resulted in the loss of over \$80,000 revenue from the closed arena and Uxpool. To cover that lost revenue, the township has had to lay off some staff.

Councillor Bruce Garrod, chair of the finance committee, recommended that council's budget discussions proceed on the assumption that the first quarter will see Uxbridge remain in the grey zone and the second quarter will have the township in the red zone.

Given that scenario, Mayor Dave Barton offered that there will be no hockey at all at the arena this winter, and at Tuesday's budget meeting, council agreed to have the arena staff remove the ice surfaces before the end of the month in order to save some hydro costs.

*Universal playground coming to Elgin Park:* Members of the Uxbridge Lions Club appeared before council Monday to provide more details about their proposed universal playground for Elgin Park.

Bob Armitage and Sally Kotsopoulos gave a presentation showing some of the equipment and ideas being considered for the playground, which would be accessible to all, regardless of disability. Armitage said the estimated cost is \$300,000. He said council offered \$50,000 to the cause when the Lions first estimated the playground would cost

\$150,000. Now he was asking council to increase that amount to \$100,000.  
Mayor Barton said he was concerned the Lions' figures were "way under cost" and opined the project could even balloon to as much as \$750,000. The Lions responded that although they would prefer to construct the playground in one build, it could be done in stages. They also said the size of the proposed site would limit their ability to build a higher priced playground.  
Armitage said fundraising for the project has already begun and the service club is looking at applying for grants.  
The equipment in the playground, such as swings and roundabouts, would be accessible to children in wheelchairs and would also provide sensory experiences with musical stations and features constructed of natural materials.  
*Council passes nuisance bylaw:* Council unanimously passed a new public nuisance bylaw without any debate. Mayor Barton said the by-law is needed because the township has to have a system to deal with people causing problems.  
One part of the by-law prohibits "loitering." Asked how many complaints had

...continued on page 4



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# Our two cents

## We're in the driver's seat now

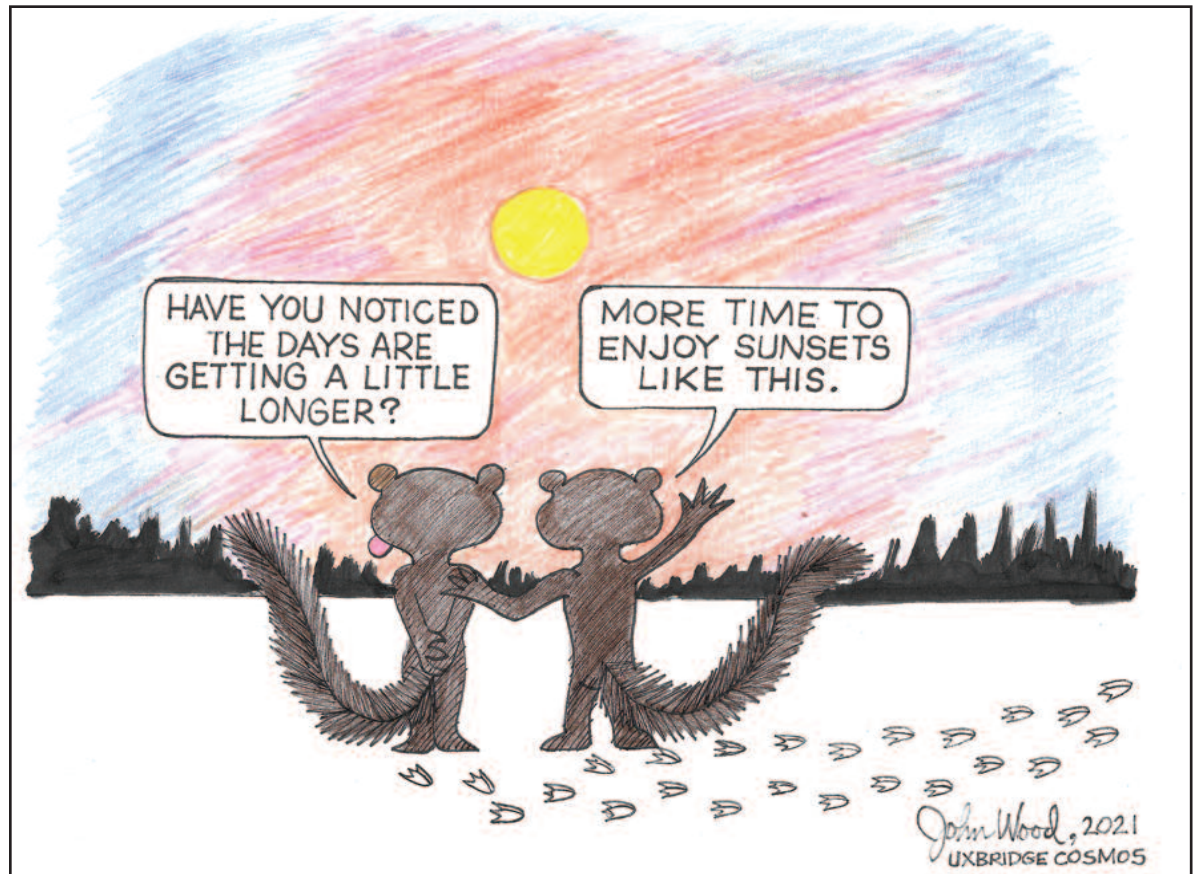
It doesn't happen often, but we honestly have to say - this week, we're at a loss for words. We've been riding this era of weirdness fairly steadily to date, but now we're just looking wide-eyed at the world and wondering what on Earth - literally - is going on. Between the atrocious behaviour exhibited by a few of our neighbours to the south to the news on Tuesday that we are essentially right back where we started pandemic-wise, to the fact that Kim and Kanye are getting a divorce - we just don't think we can take much more.

Seeing as we're all floating around on the surface of this great big orb we call Earth at the same time, the phrase we now love to hate - "We're all in this together" - is factually true. And seeing as we have access to all the information and news we could ever need (or not need) 24/7, we are acutely aware of what all other Earth-riders are doing. And seeing as our primitive little brains have yet to learn how to either filter or absorb the information influx properly, we are (and indeed have been for awhile, now) in prime position to completely lose our crap and go ballistic. We all want to scream at the top of our lungs to make it all stop and go away.

Well, we have sad news. None of it is going to stop and go away all on its own. But fear not - we also have good news. *We're* the drivers on this ride. We get to create the road map, we get to choose the route we want to take, and *we* get to captain the journey. (Don't bother writing to us telling us that it's all a conspiracy and that a few elites are trying to control the rest of the world. Humans are too selfish; even elites involved in a global takeover scheme would disagree over *something*. And *no one* is that good at keeping secrets. If James Bond can suss out bad guys in just a couple of hours...)

But we digress. We are steering this ship, so to speak, so it behooves us to not droop in our boots too much, but rather to choose to take the proverbial bull by the horns and kick all this crap to the curb. That's a metaphor martini (shaken, of course), but it's all true. We can't fix or change how other people think or act, so let's not waste time calling others names or condemning them. Let's just watch that we don't become the same way, and lead by example. We can't wave a magic wand and make a deadly virus disappear, so let's just buckle down and do the hard work that it will certainly take to make it disappear. We're going to hate every minute of it, and some of us will suffer a great deal. We *cannot* be selfish right now. We've said this before - we've *got* to look at the end game. It was so tantalizingly close, but we missed it.

We are in this together. So put on the driving tunes and let's get on with it.



## Letters to the Editor

Uxbridge, you have done it again with your generosity and dedication to making sure the citizens of Uxbridge are taken care of in many ways.

It is through the many different groups, businesses and individuals that Salvation Army has the ability to assist so many families. This year it was one of the recipients of your generosity. Many children had a fantastic Christmas and can still believe in miracles!

Thank you to Fitzpatrick Electrical through Brittany Hodgson, ReMax, Pineridge Chorus, Maggie McCreath and Mary, the Uxbridge Rotary Club, Wayne Latta, Bob Kirvan, Escott Properties Inc., Ashley Jenkins, the IODE, Zephyr United Church, Uxbridge Fire Dept., Sandford United Church, Pat Nixon, Glen Gradeen and family, Donna Denoudin, Aaron Gradeen and family, Jones Pools, Selina Birkbeck and family, and all the individuals who

agreed to man the Kettle. However, with COVID-19 it was best to cancel the Kettle this year.

Thank you all for your kindness, generosity and caring for each other. If I have missed anyone my sincere apologies and please know your assistance was greatly appreciated.

**Bev Northeast**  
Chair of Salvation Army  
Uxbridge Unit

## New COVID measures, more local enforcement

**By Justyne Edgell, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter**

"Stay Home, Stay Safe, Save Lives" - that's the motto for the week as Ontario hits another COVID-19 milestone, reaching more than 5,000 deaths from the virus. In light of this statistic, new measures that the province has announced gives local by-law officers more authority to ensure the public complies with the new measures, as well as authority to ticket and fine those who don't.

On Tuesday, Ontario Premier Doug Ford announced the second state of emergency for the province, effective immediately, along with a mandatory stay-at-home order, commencing today (Thursday). These new restrictions require all Ontarians to stay at home unless going to grocery stores, pharmacies, or medical appointments.

Further restrictions will be in place for workplaces. All non-essential retail stores, including hardware stores, alcohol retailers, and those offering curbside pickup or delivery, must open no earlier than 7 a.m. and close by 8 p.m.

Under the Reopening Ontario Act, both individuals and businesses that do not fall in line with these newly

imposed measures could face fines and up to a year in jail, according to the Solicitor General.

Uxbridge By-Law Services said Tuesday that enforcement of the measures continues to be a joint effort between municipal law enforcement officers, the Durham Regional Police Service (DRPS), the Region of Durham Health Department, and various government of Ontario provincial offences officers.

Kristina Bergeron, manager of Uxbridge By-Law Services, said that enforcement will be conducted both proactively and complaint based.

"If residents have observed a violation, they are asked to report the violation to the Durham Regional Police Service non-emergency number at 905-579-1520 or submit a complaint online at [www.drps.ca](http://www.drps.ca) under Online Services - Community Concerns. DRPS is the main point of contact for complaints, and matters deemed required to be addressed by municipal law enforcement will be dispensed to us through DRPS," said Bergeron.

On Tuesday, the province also shared new modeling data showing the infection curve set to take a steep rise in the next few weeks. With a

*...continued on page 6*

## By-law ways 'shhh', from page 3

been registered about loitering, clerk Debbie Leroux said there have been none, but added there could be a situation where someone is standing by a store entrance hindering customers.

"This allows us to deal with the situation," she said.

Leroux said the by-law department has handled complaints about noisy parties and school students hanging around schools.

Chief by-law officer Kristina Bergeron said the goal of the by-law is "to obtain compliance, not to give tickets."

**Mill Street development still rankles:** In a deputation to council, resident Rob Miller said an application by the developer of the proposed condominium project at 62 Mill Street to the township's Committee of Adjustment for a variance in building heights should be denied.

Miller, whose property abuts the development site, said the developer keeps "chipping away" at requirements to obtain what they want.

The application to the Committee of Adjustment seeks to overturn a requirement that houses built on the site should not be higher than 9.1 metres, the height of the roof ridge on the heritage house once owned by Isaac Gould, which still sits on the site.

Doug Moffatt, in another deputation, expressed concern that the Gould house could be badly damaged or even destroyed if an attempt is made to move the structure to the front of the property.

The application will be dealt with at the COA's meeting on Jan. 20.

When one of these disappears, A LOT disappears.

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9,500 copies of The Cosmos are published each Thursday in the Township of Uxbridge: 8,800 delivered by mail, 700 available in stores and boxes.





## Am I Wrong?

column by Roger Varley

### A by-law guide for newcomers

Welcome to Uxbridge! Thank you for deciding to make Uxbridge your home. Just a few pointers to help you get settled in and make you realize what a wise decision you have made.

First thing you need to know is that we are all very well-behaved in Uxbridge and we have a by-law department that ensures we stay that way. After all, how quickly would this community sink into the mire if we allowed people to disturb worms in Elgin Park? Now, we're not too sure whether or not we are allowed to disturb worms in other parks, but Elgin Park worms are definitely not to be disturbed.

To help you newcomers modify your lifestyles so that you, too, will be well-behaved, here is a list of dos and don'ts our by-law department has adopted for our safety.

Do not allow your children to use chalk to draw hopscotch grids or pictures on the sidewalk. But, even more importantly, DO NOT POLISH the sidewalk.

Do not stroll casually along township streets without having a defined destination. That's called loitering and we certainly don't want to see a lot of that going on.

Do not call out to a neighbour on the opposite side of the street. That's called yelling and we don't want you disturbing other people.

Do not engage in spontaneous, spur-of-the-moment wiener roasts in your back garden. If you want to cook wieners on a stick over a small fire, you must first pay the fire department \$5 and then ask the fire department when you can have the fire.

Do not allow grass or weeds grow too high on the boulevard in front of your home. Also, do not allow any litter or debris on your section of the boulevard. It is your responsibility to get rid of it, even if you didn't put it there.

Do not whistle or sing on the street after 11 p.m. After all, you should be in bed by then.

Do not feed birds at Elgin Pond, otherwise the township will be wasting the over \$2,000 a year it spends to keep the pond goose-free.

Do make sure you clear snow off the sidewalk in front of your home in a timely manner. If you are too old or disabled to clear the snow, that's no excuse: pay someone else to do it.

Do not make any obscene hand gestures on the street. Of course, the OK sign and the thumbs-up sign are both extremely obscene in some parts of the world, so it would be safer to keep your hands in your pockets.

And, of course, do not disturb worms in Elgin Park.

There are other restraints you must observe, but you'll have to look them up.

Now, if you see someone contravening these edicts, it is your duty as a good citizen to make a complaint to the by-law department. That's because by-law can't act without a complaint, even if a by-law officer personally observes the infraction. So, you will have to hike down to the township offices to fill out a written complaint form and then the by-law department will spring into action: sometime.

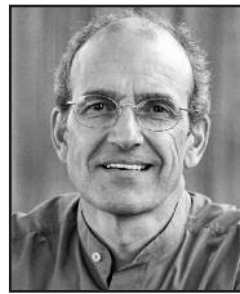
To underscore just how well-behaved we are here in Uxbridge, you newcomers need to know that many of your fellow residents take their complaining responsibilities seriously. Just this Tuesday, clerk Debbie Leroux told council that the by-law department had been deluged with complaints in 2020. So you can be assured that you - and your behaviour - are being monitored by your neighbours.

There you have it! Welcome to Uxbridge all you newcomers. We are sure you are going to enjoy your life here, as long as you don't become a public nuisance - at least in the eyes of your neighbours. Keep your nose clean and you won't have to have a visit from by-law, which reserves the right to come onto your property "at any reasonable time" and take away any of your personal documentation they feel they might require.

However, please rest assured that should you contravene any of the above-cited rules you really don't have too much to worry about. Just last summer, by-law received numerous complaints about reggae concerts that were being held on a regular basis just north of Goodwood. Apparently, by-law made at least a couple of visits to the site - and did nothing.

So, it seems you are quite safe in thumbing your nose at all of these rules, unless thumbing your nose is determined to be an obscene gesture.

Tell me, am I wrong?



## The Barris Beat

column by Ted Barris

### A spade. No Trump

They gathered in front of the presidential building. Business people, magnates and hand-picked allies were invited to attend and listen to their incumbent leader. The country faced a winter election. And those invited, that day, were told their leader would assure them of victory.

"We must stand before the election," the leader said to the assembly of his faithful. "Regardless of the outcome, there will be no retreat. [If defeated] we will remain in power by other means, with other weapons."

The date was February 20, 1933. The location was the presidential palace in Berlin. The election was the last election in Germany prior to the Second World War. Seven days later, Nazi sympathizers used a secret tunnel to enter Germany's national assembly building. Inside the Reichstag building, they scattered gasoline and lit the fire that would destroy all but the outer shell of the Parliament (not restored until German reunification in 1990).

That's the way an elected assembly was destroyed by fascist storm troopers who'd been given their ammunition by the Nazi Party and its leader, then Chancellor Adolf Hitler.

If this sounds eerily familiar, I want it to be. If it looks at all like the speech Donald J. Trump rattled off to his followers in front of the White House and the reaction a week ago Wednesday, I want it to. Here's part of what the out-going President said:

"We will not be intimidated into accepting the hoaxes and the lies ... about a fake election," he said. "So, we're going to walk down Pennsylvania Avenue ... to take back our country. We will never concede."

Meanwhile, Trump's family egged on the crowd. The President's son encouraged them saying, "You can be a hero, or you can be a zero. But we are all watching." And then, the President's personal lawyer put the icing on the rally cake by entreating his faithful to carry out "trial by combat."

Then, off went the audience - becoming rioters - to ransack the Capitol building.

I have witnessed historical authoritarianism through the eyes of the thousands of men and women I've interviewed for my books, about surviving Nazi-occupied Europe. Martin Maxwell, a Jewish boy in Vienna in the 1930s, witnessed those storm troopers haul away his family to the death camps. The Trump administration used cages to separate children of Hispanic descent from their parents on the U.S.-Mexico border. Not death, but certainly barbaric.

After the Italian army capitulated to the Canadian Army in 1943, *Toronto Star* war correspondent Gregory Clark came upon the village of Rionero. There, Nazi troops had assassinated an entire family - including a seven-year-old child - for allegedly aiding the liberating Canadians. Clark wrote, "When the time comes for squaring of accounts [at a] peace conference ... I vow to remember that little figure against the day these gray-green bastards plead before the bar of humility." (He had to get special permission from the *Star* to publish the word "bastards" for Toronto readers.)

In August 2017, a white supremacist plunged his car into protesters at a Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville, Va. He killed a woman and injured 19 others. The President, afraid to upset his base supporters, did not decry the driver's actions, but said, there were "very fine people on both sides."

The then-and-now similarities could fill this newspaper. Perhaps the most damning example of President Trump's thirst for power - as well as his criminality - occurred on Jan. 3, this year, when he was recorded telling Brad Raffensperger, the secretary of state for Georgia, "I just want you to find 11,780 votes. There's nothing wrong with saying that you've recalculated."

The President, in effect, put himself above the law. And it's perhaps the clearest example of the way absolute power corrupts absolutely. For comparison, I reread a passage in William L. Shirer's *The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich*. It's only 1,599 pages long. In it, Shirer documents a Trump-like moment on April 26, 1942, when Hitler declares supremacy.

"The Führer must have all the rights postulated by him which serve to further or achieve victory," the dictator declared. "Therefore, without being bound by existing legal regulations, as Leader of the Nation, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, Head of Government, as Supreme Justice and Leader of the Party, the Führer must be in a position to force every German ... to fulfill his duties."

Shirer points out, in that moment, that Hitler had become not only the Führer, but the Law. "Not even in medieval times, nor further back in the barbarous tribal days, had any German arrogated such tyrannical power, nominal and legal as well as actual to himself."

Nobody appears to want to call a spade a spade. The soon-to-be-former President, in my view, is Hitler in a blue suit.

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## Vigilant COVID safety measures required during outdoor activities

By Justyne Edgell, Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Now that a stay-at-home order has been issued by the provincial government, it's a good time to refresh the memory on what outdoor activities can be done, and what safety protocols must be observed.

As the community slogs its way through this second wave of increasing COVID-19 cases, the Uxbridge trail system, tobogganing hills and local ponds are filling up with people. But Mayor Dave Barton opened this week's council meeting by reminding the community of the importance of social distancing when enjoying outdoor winter fun.

"If you get to the toboggan hill and there are lots of people there, go home for a while and come back later when there are fewer people," said Barton in his remarks.

The trails are also busy spaces. Snow shoeing, cross country skiing, biking and hiking is enticing many visitors. Just this past Saturday, at least 100 cars lined Conc. 7, just south of Uxbridge, at the Durham Regional Forest trail entrances.

While the air circulation and wide open space is comforting, healthcare experts remind the public that maintaining distance is still necessary.

Dr. Carlye Jensen, from the Uxbridge Health Centre, points out that, while outdoor transmission is

low, it is not zero.

"Getting outside is a great way to relieve the pressures of lockdown. We have beautiful trails and wonderful streets to walk along. Just remember that when you are on these trails it is still important to keep your distance from those not within your bubble."

Dr. Jensen also notes that the new variant of the COVID-19 virus appears to be more easily transmitted, and that it's not the time to let guards - or face masks - down.

Dr. Jensen advises, "If you can't be six feet apart, then turn your face away, wear a mask or step off the path to allow safe space between you and others."

During its announcement on Tuesday, the provincial government recommended that everyone wear masks both indoors and out as much as possible. Tuesday's announcement also outlined that police officers and provincial offences officers now have the authority to disperse crowds of more than five people who appear to not be from the same household, and to shut down the relevant location.

For more on the current shutdown, visit <https://news.ontario.ca/en/release/59922/ontario-declares-second-provincial-emergency-to-address-covid-19-crisis-and-save-lives>



Dozens of cars lined both sides of Conc. 7 near Durham Forest entrances on Saturday afternoon, indicating that the trails were busy. Photo by Justyne Edgell

Stay safe, stay home, from page 4

positivity rate of more than five per cent in *all* age groups, a survey by the government showed that only a third of the population is actually following Public Health guidelines in a manner that will help to end the pandemic.

Dr. Matthew Anderson, president and CEO of Ontario Health, fears that Ontarians are not afraid as they were in the first wave of the virus.

"When you're a bit younger, you feel a bit immortal. But we're not. And we are seeing trends where people who are younger are getting COVID, and while the mortality rate may not be as high, we can certainly see continued morbidity for those people. So there's really no one who should consider themselves immune until they are vaccinated."

Over the past four weeks there has been a 72 per cent increase in hospitalizations and a 61 per cent increase in ICU patients. Half of the province's hospitals have run out of capacity and can no longer take patients for emergencies such as traumas from accidents, heart attacks or emergency surgeries. This type of ICU occupancy can compromise

care across the province.

As of Monday evening, another eight cases of the UK variant, V117, were found in Ontario. Dr. Anderson said that if this new strain spreads through community transmission, Ontario residents can expect to see the case curve rise close to vertical by the end of January.

By Tuesday evening, more than 133,000 doses of the COVID vaccine had been administered in Ontario, with over 6,000 Ontarians fully vaccinated with a second dose.

"We have hope on the horizon, it's in sight, it's in reach," said Ford.

To get 'herd immunity', experts say approximately 60 to 70 per cent of the population will need to be vaccinated. A group of North Durham doctors and medical administrative staff are working to get the vaccination serum into the Uxbridge community and say that once it is here, the community will be informed.

By *Cosmos* print time on Tuesday evening, Uxbridge had 19 active cases with two of those being hospitalized. According to the Durham Region Public Health website, both Reachview Village and Uxbridge Cottage Hospital still have outbreak status. For more, visit [durham.ca/covidcases](https://durham.ca/covidcases)

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