

TOWNSHIP OF SOUTH FRONTENAC

Public Service Announcement



For Immediate Release

October 23th, 2020

Halloween in South Frontenac & the KFL&A Public Health Region

On Monday, October 19, 2020, the province announced that all Ontario residents should take extra precautions to stay safe this Halloween. The Ministry of Health discouraged traditional door-to-door trick or treating in regions that are currently in modified stage 2 in Ontario, which includes the Ottawa, Peel, Toronto, and York regions. All other regions in the province were directed to follow the guidance set by their local public health agency.

Today, Dr. Kieran Moore, Medical Officer of Health for KFL&A Public Health, announced a change in the community status level of COVID-19 from yellow to green. This comes as a result of closely monitoring regional epidemiological data, which indicates that active positive cases are rare and there are no active outbreaks. Further, rapid contact tracing is possible, and there is robust local testing capacity.

For these reasons, KFL&A encourages residents to observe the following public health measures in order to keep yourself and your family safe during Halloween this year:

- Avoid gatherings with people outside of your household.
- Stay home if you are feeling ill and do not hand out candy to trick or treaters.
- Only go out with members of your household.
- Do not go into homes to collect treats stay outside.
- Trick or treaters and people handing out candy should wear face coverings. A costume
 mask is <u>not</u> a substitute face covering and should not be worn over a face covering as it
 may make it difficult to breathe.
- Do not congregate or linger at doorsteps and remember to line up two metres apart if waiting.
- Avoid high-touch surfaces and objects (e.g., doorbells, railings, etc.).
- Whether collecting or handing out treats, wash your hands often and thoroughly, or use hand sanitizer.
- Do not leave treats in a bucket or bowl for children to grab and consider using tongs or other similar tools to hand out treats.
- Drive safely children may cross the street without checking for oncoming traffic.
- Be kind and respectful this Halloween as not everyone may feel safe interacting with trick or treaters this year.



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For families in South Frontenac looking for other festive ways to celebrate Halloween, residents are encouraged to decorate their yards and houses and enter the *Spooky South Frontenac* house decorating contest. Entries well be evaluated by a panel of judges in the following categories; scariest, most creative, and best overall theme.

The highest ranking house in each category will win a \$75 gift certificate to a local business of their choosing. Entry to the contest closes October 25th, and participants must have their display operational every evening from October 27th – 31st. For more contest details and to enter, visit our website at https://www.southfrontenac.net/en/things-to-do/sports-and-activities.

In addition to the *Spooky South Frontenac* contest, the Township will be closing Sydenham Mill St. in the village from Rutledge Rd. to George St. from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm to allow for safe, socially distanced trick or treating. Families are encouraged to park in the Loughborough Public School parking lot.

Best wishes for a safe and happy Halloween from South Frontenac Council and Staff!

- 30 -

For more information please contact:

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