



City of Sarnia

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: April 16, 2020 RELEASE DATE: Immediate

FROM: Rob Harwood, Parks & Recreation Director

SUBJECT: Mayor's Challenge for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Do you have access to new, unused industrial or medical grade protective equipment (PPE), such as gowns, masks, and gloves? Sarnia-Lambton health care organizations need your help!

Mayor Mike Bradley, together with Bluewater Health Foundation, is calling on the Sarnia-Lambton business community to donate new and unopened industrial or medical grade Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to ensure front line healthcare workers and community partners are continually prepared during the COVID-19 pandemic. Both large and small donations are appreciated. Products must be new and they cannot be in open packages.

As PPE continues to become increasingly in short supply, we are calling on vets, dentists, other health professionals, industry and community members to donate the following:

- Protective gowns
- N95 masks
- Reusable respirators and filters
- Ear loop masks
- Surgical masks
- Vented goggles
- Protective gloves
- Hand Sanitizer

Donations of any size can be dropped off at Clearwater Arena (lower hall) on Saturday April 18th from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. A staff member MUST receive the donation. Any donations left outside at the building will be discarded due to unknown contamination.

The donation procedure uses social distancing. Items will be accepted via curbside delivery. Donors are asked to enter the arena off of Finch Ave. and exit on Wellington Street. Staff will be on hand to accept the donations and upon receiving donations, will sort and store them for three days before passing items on to be distributed in the health care system through usual protocols.

The PPE collected in the drive will be distributed to health care staff. The equipment will be inventoried and used in hospitals, long-term care and retirement homes, home care, hospices and other organizations to assist with urgent needs.

"I'm challenging our community to rally together to ensure our front line healthcare workers remain safe on the job," says Mike Bradley, Mayor, City of Sarnia. "If you have access to important PPE and are able to donate, please do."

"It's been truly amazing to see such overwhelming generosity during this unprecedented time," says Kathy Alexander, Executive Director, Bluewater Health Foundation. "We recognize that there are many front line employees throughout our community that are in need of crucial PPE and we want to help them so they can help us."

Thank you for doing your part to keep everyone safe in our community.

- 30 -

For further information, please contact:

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City of Sarnia, COVID-19 Hotline
customerservice@sarnia.ca or 519-332-0330 ext.3131 or 1-877-4-SARNIA
(1-877-472-7642)

