



***Transmitted via Email***

April 22, 2020

**RE: TOWN OF GRAVENHURST RESOLUTION – Province of Ontario add Community Gardens, Garden Centres and Nurseries as essential services during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

At the Town of Gravenhurst Committee of the Whole meeting held on April 21, 2020, the following resolution was passed:

Moved by Councillor Cairns  
Seconded by Councillor Morphy

**WHEREAS** the Town of Gravenhurst Council fully understands, upon the direction of the Provincial Government, that only businesses and services deemed to be essential are to remain open during the COVID-19 Pandemic;

**AND WHEREAS** our Not for Profit Community Partners rely on Community Gardens for the ability to grow vegetables that assist in meeting the food related needs as well as providing physical and mental health benefits for our most vulnerable citizens;

**AND WHEREAS** physical distancing measures would still be needed for those working in Community Gardens;

**AND WHEREAS** Garden Centres and Nurseries could be required to provide curb-side car drop off service to reduce the risk;

**AND WHEREAS** the Medical Officer of Health for the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, supports the continuation of Community Gardens throughout the COVID-19 Pandemic;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Town of Gravenhurst Council requests that the Province of Ontario add Community Gardens, Garden Centres and Nurseries as essential services;

**AND FINALLY THAT** this resolution be circulated to Scott Aitchison, MP for Parry Sound-Muskoka, Norm Miller, MPP for Parry Sound-Muskoka, Premier Ford and all Ontario Municipalities requesting their support.

**CARRIED**

We trust the above to be satisfactory.

Sincerely,

*Melanie Hakl*

Melanie Hakl  
Administrative Clerk 2, Legislative Services