



From the Office of the Warden

July 17, 2020

Municipality of West Elgin
Mayor Duncan McPhail & Council Members
22413 Hoskins Line, PO Box 490
Rodney ON N0L 2C0

Annual County of Elgin Warden's Charity Golf Tournament Cancelled

Out of respect for the health and safety of Elgin County residents, and due to Provincial restrictions on public gatherings, the 12th Annual County of Elgin Warden's Charity Golf Tournament scheduled for the fall of 2020 at the St. Thomas Golf and Country Club has been cancelled due to COVID-19. Warden Dave Mennill has made the difficult decision to cancel the tournament. "Keeping our residents safe and healthy and preventing the spread of COVID-19 in our communities is the number one priority of Elgin County Council," said Warden Mennill.

"We are, of course, disappointed to cancel an event that provides a significant contribution to the United Way Elgin Middlesex and the agencies that it serves. Given the on-going needs of the organization and the increasing demand for its services as a result of the pandemic, we are challenging those who would have participated in the past to donate directly to the United Way to help meet the needs of Elgin's most vulnerable community members. We can't gather in person but we can still make a difference."

"We understand that this crisis is impacting all of us in different ways, and not everyone can give. If you are able to, please give generously. Every donation—large or small—will help local frontline services provide immediate support for people and families in a tight spot." The annual tournament, usually hosted in June, regularly raises upwards of \$20,000 for the United Way Elgin Middlesex. The absence of this annual contribution will be felt by the organization as they continue to support those dealing with poverty, homelessness and social isolation.

Elgin Middlesex United Way needs support more than ever as it provides greater assistance to a population experiencing economic uncertainty and unemployment as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. "As the coronavirus crisis lengthens and the need in our community increases, we are so grateful to the many organizations and individuals who continue to step up," says Kelly Ziegner, President and CEO, United Way Elgin Middlesex. "Thank you to the Warden and Council for issuing this challenge to ensure that the positive energy from your annual golf tournament continues to do good locally, even though we can't be together this year." You can donate to United Way online here:

<https://community.unitedwayem.ca/comm/SinglePageRegPledge.jsp>

The County of Elgin is optimistic that this great event will resume next year. The tournament has been tentatively scheduled for **June 24th, 2021**. The County would like to wish residents a safe and healthy summer and encourage continued adherence to public health guidelines including social distancing and hand washing.

For additional information, please contact: Warden Dave Mennill dmennill@elgin.ca