



TOWN OF INGERSOLL  
Town Centre

**Public Notice from the Town of Ingersoll**  
**Information about Patios**

The Town of Ingersoll appreciates that many individuals have suffered stress and hardship during these difficult times.

The Premier announced that liquor licenses could be extended to patios to assist businesses but he also stated that patios had to comply with local regulations and public health requirements. Within one week of the Premier's announcement the Town had guidelines and a process in place to allow for applications and development of patios. The Town has relaxed its zoning provisions and waived site plan control requirements to facilitate quicker and timelier response to business.

To ensure the safety of all residents one of the requirements is that individuals and vehicles need to be able to travel in and around the patio to access other businesses and the walkway around the patio must be accessible to handle individuals with different mobility requirements.

In order to comply with regulations the walkway must be level with the sidewalk. It must be capable of handling sufficient weight (including additional equipment needed to assist with mobility). The walkway must not be a slip or trip hazard and it must have a railing. All of these requirements need to meet the standards of professional engineering requirements.

The patio also must meet the requirements of public health including the proper sizing due to COVID, requirements for safe serving and fire safety.

Since the owner of the business with the patio will be utilizing town space the chance for lawsuits against both the Town and the applicant are higher and therefore the business must save the Town harmless from lawsuits. You, the town of Ingersoll's taxpayers could be held responsible for lawsuits due to the unsafe practices of the business. So while risk management is a requirement, members of Council and staff do not want to see anyone hurt or seriously injured from a poorly designed or constructed patio.

For those that are developing patios on their own property the requirements may be less stringent but there are still requirements and many existing properties are being brought into compliance.



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The Town reviewed many processes from other municipalities before implementing its own and ended up with a process virtually identical to that of Woodstock and Tillsonburg as well as many other municipalities.

Staff have provided businesses with information to assist their application as well as possible funding assistance options. The applications presented to the Town have been reviewed and responded too within hours of submission to try and expedite the approvals.

The Town hopes to assist individual businesses but must always have the well-being of all town residents in mind. As is always the case in municipal government, which is exactly the reason that implementing any policy can be difficult.

The Town appreciates everyone's understanding and patience during these difficult times.

Take care

Ted Comiskey  
Mayor of Ingersoll