



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 11, 2021

King marks COVID-19 Observance Day

19 King residents have died since pandemic was declared a year ago

King Township is marking the one-year anniversary today of the World Health Organization declaring COVID-19 a global pandemic.

Earlier this week Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who is to deliver a statement in the House of Commons this morning, designated March 11 a national day of observance to commemorate those who have died.

The government has asked Canadians to think about those whose lives were claimed by the novel coronavirus, as well as the health-care and other essential workers who have been on the front lines.

As of today, there have been 670 total confirmed cases and 19 deaths in King Township.

"Every single death is a tragedy," said King Township Mayor Steve Pellegrini. "They were someone's family member, friend or co-worker and their loss is irreplaceable. Many of those who have contracted the virus still have significant health issues, with the long-term impact on their health still unknown."

Since the pandemic began, 2.5 million people around the world have died due to COVID-19, with more than 22,000 of them in Canada.

Mayor Pellegrini also acknowledged the tireless work of health-care workers and first responders.

"I have seen first-hand the dedication these heroes have displayed each and every day of the pandemic. We owe a huge debt of gratitude to these people who literally put their own personal health on the line every day they show up to work to help the sick and the dying. Words are not enough to thank them."

Health Canada has approved four COVID-19 vaccines so far and 1.5 per cent of the population has been fully vaccinated. Arrangements are currently being made to open a vaccination centre in King Township. For the latest King Township COVID-19-related news, please visit <u>https://www.king.ca/covid19</u>.

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Lying in the heart of the Greater Toronto Area, King Township is located within York Region, one of the fastest growing and diverse economies in Canada. More than 60 per cent of the Holland Marsh, also known as Ontario's salad bowl, lies within King Township. Though predominantly rural, most of King Township's 27,000 residents live in the communities of King City, Nobleton and Schomberg. Residents and visitors are drawn to King because of its rural lifestyle, village atmosphere and quality of life.

For more information visit us at www.king.ca