

The Uxbridge COSMOS



CANADIAN
COMMUNITY
NEWSPAPER
AWARD 2019

Volume 16 No. 29

YOUR UNIVERSE

Thursday, July 30, 2020



A SIGHT TO BEHOLD - The C/2020 F3 (NEOWISE) comet appears to be plummeting to Earth, but was, in fact, streaking across the sky above Ball Rd., Uxbridge. The comet, which was only discovered on March 27 of this year and was named for the telescope that first saw it, has been making nightly appearances around the world since the beginning of the month. It's closest approach to Earth - an estimated 103 million kilometres. *Photo by John Covers*

Inside Your Cosmos

Closing both sides of the streetpage 6
Celebrating 200 years on Conc. 6page 9

'Do what's best - get the test!' at new assessment centre

by *Justyne Edgell,*
Local Journalism Initiative
Reporter

COVID-19 testing - coming soon to an assessment centre near you.

Next Tuesday, Aug. 4, the North Durham COVID Assessment Centre will open its doors at Prince Albert Hall in Port Perry. The centre is a joint project by the doctors of both Uxbridge and Port Perry.

Getting a COVID-19 swab is now recommended for everyone, and local doctors say they are looking forward to the opening of this centre, which will provide local testing, which may become even more necessary as flu season approaches.

Director of the clinic, Dr Merrilee Brown, wants the community to know that they are ready to get testing.

"We are here for the whole family, no long wait times, and it's really a very simple process."

Whether you are needing a swab to visit a relative in a retirement facility, are worried about symptoms, or just want to know if you're in the clear, testing is open to everyone over the age of 12 months of age, without severe symptoms.

To get a COVID-19 test, visit covidswab.lh.ca and answer a few online screening questions. At the end of the screening survey, select the appropriate testing centre and receive a swab time. Then it's just a trip to 19 Jeffrey St. in Port Perry for the test.

When you arrive at the testing centre, park in the designated spot, remain in your vehicle and call or text the posted number to announce arrival. Someone will come out to

check your health card (through a closed car window to reduce any unnecessary contact), and then you will receive the nasopharyngeal swab.

The testing clinic will have doctors on-site, should there be a need for an in-person assessment, but for most, it will be as simple as poking your face out your car window for the swab.

The opening of the North Durham COVID Assessment Centre is being set up to in order to reserve emergency departments at both the Port Perry Hospital and the Uxbridge Cottage Hospital for real emergencies, as the testing centre gives those with respiratory symptoms a place to see a doctor and get a swab.

For complete details and information, visit covidswab.lh.ca

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