

# Higgins announces plans for US to reopen its northern border to vaccinated Canadians in November

Congressman Brian Higgins on Wednesday night announced the United States is planning to reopen its land border to Canadians in November.

He said, "At long last, there is action by the United States to open the doors and welcome back our Canadian neighbors."

"A robust cross-border exchange between the United States and Canada is fundamental to our binational relationship and mutually beneficial to our nations' citizens, businesses and economies. Strong vaccination rates in Canada made the continued border shutdown absurd and unjustifiable."

"For months now we've heard from businesses that are suf-

fering, and families distraught over the separation imposed by the continued border shutdown. The sigh of relief coming from northern border communities following this announcement is so loud it can practically be heard on either end of the Peace Bridge.

"Border communities await further details from the administration with great expectation, and I will continue to advocate for a more fully and freely open border to both governments, sooner rather than later."

Changes to allow fully vaccinated Canadians into the U.S. through land ports of entry will begin in November. Proof of vaccination will be required. Fur-

ther details will be announced by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in coordination with U.S. health agencies.

Gov. Kathy Hochul said, "I applaud our federal partners for reopening our borders to Canada, something I have called for since the beginning of the closure. Canada is not only our trade partner but, more importantly, Canadians are our neighbors and our friends. From Western New York to the North Country, I look forward to welcoming our Canadian neighbors back to New York as we continue to rebuild and recover from this pandemic."

Higgins, who serves as co-chair of both the Canada-U.S.

interparliamentary group and the northern border caucus, has spent months speaking out about what he called the devastating human and economic impact of the border shutdown. He urged the White House to provide guidance that allowed for a reopening.

The border between the U.S. and Canada first closed to non-essential travel due to the pandemic in March of 2020. After 17 months of restrictions, Canada reopened its border to vaccinated Americans on Aug. 9, 2021. However, the U.S. continued its order restricting all Canadians, regardless of vaccination status, from crossing through land ports of entry through Oct. 21.

The U.S. and Canada share 5,525 miles of border – the longest land boundary between two countries in the world. When fully operational, more than 400,000 people and over \$1.6 billion in goods cross the northern border daily through more than 120 ports of entry.

Higgins is also a member of the House Budget Committee and the Ways and Means Committee, including its subcommittee on trade. His Western New York district, which encompasses the cities of Buffalo and Niagara Falls, borders Southern Ontario and includes three automobile and two rail crossings between the U.S. and Canada.

## Empire State Development to hold public update on Niagara Falls Strategic Economic Development Fund

Oct. 26 Zoom meeting will discuss new funding initiative for Niagara Street, Main Street, Portage Road & Pine Avenue

Empire State Development will hold a project update on the Niagara Falls Strategic Economic Development Fund, a new funding initiative to spur investment on targeted commercial areas along Niagara Street, Main Street, Portage Road and Pine Avenue, from 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 26, via Zoom.

The project update comes after an initial public meeting and

summer of listening sessions with small businesses, property owners and local community organizations on ideas for inclusion in the program. During the presentation, ESD will share what it learned from the community and how these insights are shaping an investment portfolio for the Niagara Falls Strategic Economic Development Fund.

To join the Oct. 26 information session by computer or smartphone, register online using the link below, and the link to join the meeting will be sent.

<https://buffalo.zoom.us/join/register/tJMude6urT8qE91cdFJfnP2H1caqVq0LtEqW>

Those unable to join by computer or smartphone – who need to dial into the meeting – can call 646-558-8656 at 6 p.m. The meeting ID is 973 2763 4099, and the password is 286957.

Through the establishment of program goals, an analysis of economic and land use data, review of past investments, and in-depth stakeholder engagement, ESD and its subsidiary USA Niagara Development Corp., along

with the City of Niagara Falls and University at Buffalo Regional Institute, are developing a portfolio of catalytic projects aimed at improving economic conditions in the City of Niagara Falls. Projects funded through the program are intended to enhance mixed-use, walkable commercial corridors; support and grow new businesses and entrepreneurship; connect to the waterfront and existing state and private investments; and attract tourists from downtown into adjoining neighborhoods. The new fund

seeks to combine support from ESD, the City of Niagara Falls, and philanthropy to finance a variety of projects.

For more information on this program, visit <https://buffalobillion.ny.gov/niagara-falls-strategic-economic-development-fund>.

ESD is New York's chief economic development agency. For more information, visit [www.esd.ny.gov](http://www.esd.ny.gov) and [www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov](http://www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov).

### Phone calls to change

## NCSO reminds residents of new 10-digit dialing transition

Niagara County Sheriff's Office Sheriff Michael J. Filicetti, along with the Niagara County Police Chiefs, remind residents the 10-digit dialing transition is approaching.

On Oct. 24, 10-digit dialing will be required for local calls.

NCSO stated, "We encourage you to begin using the three-digit area code on local calls and update your phone contacts."

This transition is necessary due to the new designation of 9-8-8 as the nationwide three-digit Suicide and Mental Health Crisis Lifeline, which will be effective on July 16, 2022.

Any area code with the 988

prefix must be transitioned to the 10-digit dialing to ensure everyone is able to reach the new crisis lifeline.

Effective Oct. 24, all local calls dialed with only seven digits will be met with a recording stating it cannot be completed as dialed.

Emergency services in Niagara County and nationwide will not be disrupted. Residents will still be able to reach services using 9-1-1. Other services such as 4-1-1 will remain available.

In addition to requiring a change in dialing habits, this transition will also impact any equipment or software programmed to make seven-

digit calls.

NCSO said, "We recommend you update those phone contact lists, fax machines and alarm systems with a telephone connection, call-forwarding setting, speed-dialing and voicemail services, to ensure the transition runs smoothly for you. We also recommend you update email signatures, stationery and con-

tact information you may have on file with medical offices, etc., with your full 10-digit contact information.

"The national three-digit 9-8-8 Crisis Lifeline will not be available until July 16, 2022. Anyone needing help should use their current contact number of 1-800-273-8255 (1-800-273-TALK)."

### Legislators Irene Myers and Becky Wydysz Have Niagara County on the Right Track!



- Lowest county tax rate in 40 years
- Rated Superior Aa3 by Moody's
- Fastest growing economy in WNY

On Tuesday, November 2,  
Re-Elect Irene Myers and Becky Wydysz  
to the Niagara County Legislature

\*paid for by Friends of Becky Wydysz and Irene Myers

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#### NOTICE

#### TOWN OF WHEATFIELD LOCAL LAW NO. 1-980 ARTICLE III SECTION 2

Parking of vehicles is hereby prohibited on all streets within this Town between 2:00 A.M. and 6:00 A.M. from November 15th to April 1st. Violators of this section shall have automobiles towed away at owner's expense.

Section 1219 of the Vehicle and Traffic Law and Section 214 of the Highway Law of New York State, specifically prohibit the placing or leaving of snow, ice or other substance, upon any highway (which includes pavement, shoulders and ditches).

Paul Siegmann  
Highway Superintendent

### Real Help For Your Health

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**Dr. Glenda R. Rose**  
Chiropractor



#### The Neck Rules

1. Do not lie on the sofa to watch TV. – sit up properly.
2. Do not prop your head up or forward on high pillows when reading or watching TV.
3. Never sleep on your stomach or with your arms above your head. Lie on your side and adjust the pillow so head and neck are in a neutral position, not bent.
4. If you sleep on your back, put the support of the pillow under your neck, not under your head. A regular pillow should not be more than 3-4 inches thick.
5. If you have neck problems, use a contour cervical pillow designed to support the natural curvature of the neck.
6. Never sleep in a car or on a plane without neck support.
7. Never sleep in a recliner chair or on a couch as these do not support the spine properly. When you get tired, go to bed.
8. Isometric exercises by pushing against your head can aggravate already existing neck problems.
9. Rolling your head in a circle can aggravate some neck problems. So if you notice any problem, discontinue.
10. Do not reach for a shelf higher than your head. Stand on a stool.
11. Do not reach or look up for any length of time.

Should you end up with a pain in your neck, call (716) 754-9039 for a spinal evaluation and consultation.  
Rose Chiropractic, P.C. is a natural health care practice focusing on health improvement through Nutrition Response Testing<sup>SM</sup> and chiropractic, located at 435 Ridge St., Lewiston