

MEMORANDUM TO: All Chiefs of Police and
Commissioner Thomas Carrique
Chairs, Police Services Boards

FROM: Richard Stubbings
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division

SUBJECT: **Changes to Existing Emergency Orders and
Information Regarding Ontario's Roadmap to Reopen**

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I am writing today to provide you with information about changes to existing orders under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020* (ROA) as well as the government's release of its **Roadmap to Reopen** (Roadmap).

Firstly, it is important to note that the provincewide Stay-At-Home order under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* (EMCPA) **remains in effect until June 2, 2021**. However, the government has made changes to some of the existing orders under the ROA that take effect prior to the end of the Stay-at-Home order.

Effective May 22, 2021 at 12:01 a.m., the following changes will come into effect. The following outdoor recreational amenities will be permitted to open, subject to the conditions outlined below:

- Parks and recreational areas;
- Baseball diamonds;
- Batting cages;
- Soccer, football and sports fields;
- Tennis, platform tennis, table tennis and pickleball courts;
- Basketball courts;
- B.M.X parks;
- Skate parks;
- Golf courses and driving ranges;

- Frisbee golf locations;
- Cycling tracks and bike trails;
- Horse riding facilities;
- Shooting ranges, including those operated by rod and gun clubs;
- Ice rinks;
- Tobogganing hills;
- Snowmobile, cross country ski, dogsledding, ice skating and snow shoe trails;
- Playgrounds;
- Portions of parks or recreational areas containing outdoor fitness equipment;
- Archery ranges;
- Boat and watercraft launches;
- Lawn game courts, including lawn bowling, bocce and croquet courts; and,
- Splash pads and spray pads.

The above outdoor amenities may open so long as:

- physical distancing of at least 2 metres is maintained; however, this physical distancing requirement does not apply to members of the same household, or a person who lives alone and has gathered with the household, or a caregiver for any member of the household;
- no team sports, or any other sports that are not compatible with physical distancing requirements, are practiced or played within the amenity, with limited exceptions; and,
- any locker rooms, changerooms, showers, clubhouses, restaurants, pools, meeting rooms, fitness centres or other recreational facilities on the premises remain closed, except to the extent they provide access to take-out or delivery services, equipment storage, a washroom or a portion of the amenity that is used to provide first aid.

In addition, any person responsible for a boat or watercraft shall ensure that, if it is used by a group for recreational purposes, it is only used by members of the same household, or a person who lives alone and has gathered with the household, or a caregiver for any member of the household.

Marinas, boating clubs and other organizations that maintain docking facilities for members or patrons may open provided that any clubhouse, restaurant, pool, communal steam room, sauna or whirlpool, meeting room, fitness centre or other recreational facility on the premises is closed to the public. Any portion of an area that must be closed that is used to provide first aid, used to provide take-out or delivery services, or contains a washroom may be open.

Lastly, social gatherings and organized public events of no more than five people that are held outdoors are permitted. The gathering limit does not apply to members of the same household, a gathering of a household plus one person who lives alone, or a gathering that includes a caregiver for any of those persons. All other public health and workplace safety measures under the Stay-at-Home order will remain in effect.

Roadmap

On May 20, 2021, the government released its Roadmap, a three-step plan, developed in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, to gradually lift public health measures based on the provincewide vaccination rate and improvements in key public health and health care indicators.

The Roadmap outlines three steps to easing public health measures, guided by the following principles:

- **Step One** An initial focus on resuming outdoor activities with smaller crowds where the risk of transmission is lower and permitting retail with restrictions. This includes allowing outdoor gatherings of up to 10 people, outdoor dining with up to four people per table and non-essential retail at 15 per cent capacity.
- **Step Two** Further expanding outdoor activities and resuming limited indoor services with small numbers of people where face coverings are worn. This includes outdoor gatherings of up to 25 people, outdoor sports and leagues, personal care services where face coverings can be worn and with capacity limits, as well as indoor religious services, rites or ceremony gatherings at 15 per cent capacity.
- **Step Three** Expanding access to indoor settings, with restrictions, including where there are larger numbers of people and where face coverings can not always be worn. This includes indoor sports and recreational fitness; indoor dining, museums, art galleries and libraries, and casinos and bingo halls, with capacity limits.

The government has indicated that the province will remain in each step for at least 21 days to evaluate any impacts on key public health and health system indicators. The following vaccination thresholds will need to be met, along with positive trends in other key public health and health system indicators, in order to enter each respective step of the Roadmap:

- **Step 1:** 60 per cent of adults vaccinated with one dose;
- **Step 2:** 70 per cent of adults vaccinated with one dose and 20 per cent vaccinated with two doses;
- **Step 3:** 70 to 80 per cent of adults vaccinated with one dose and 25 per cent vaccinated with two doses.

The government has not yet made its final determination as to when it will transition into the phased approach of the Roadmap, and as previously stated the Stay-at-Home order remains in force until June 2, 2021. However, based on current trends in key health indicators, including the provincial vaccination rate, the government has indicated that it anticipates the transition to Step One of the Roadmap will occur the week of June 14,

2021. Further communications will be forthcoming once the necessary decisions have been finalized.

In the interim, please visit [Ontario's Emergency Information website](#) for further information on the government's Roadmap and links to Orders currently in force under the ROA and the EMCPA.

Enforcement of Orders

As a reminder, for offences under the ROA and EMCPA, police and other provincial offences officers, including First Nation Constables, special constables, and municipal by-law officers, have discretion to either issue tickets to individuals for set fine amounts or issue a summons under Part I of the *Provincial Offences Act* (POA) or to proceed under Part III of the POA by laying an information.

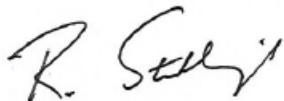
Police and other provincial offences officers have the authority to disperse gatherings or organized public events that are not complying with gathering/event limits; and all provincial offences officers - not just police, First Nations Constables and special constables - can temporarily close premises where prohibited gatherings are occurring and require individuals to vacate.

Further, analysis of enforcement data that your police service provides to the Ministry of the Solicitor General (ministry) continues to support data-driven decision-making.

The ministry continues to work with enforcement ministries and municipalities to collaborate and information share, including through the dedicated 1-800 Enforcement Support Line and email resource at EssentialWorkplacesSupport.SolGen@ontario.ca.

In closing, I want to take this opportunity to once again thank you for your dedication and ongoing cooperative efforts to help keep our communities safe and healthy.

Sincerely,



Richard Stubbings
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division

c: Mario Di Tommaso, O.O.M.
Deputy Solicitor General, Community Safety

Attachments