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

FROM: Richard Stubbings
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division and Public Safety Training Division

SUBJECT: **Clarification of Application of O. Reg. 104/20: Closure of
Outdoor Recreational Amenities to Beaches**

DATE OF ISSUE:	April 15, 2020
CLASSIFICATION:	General Information
RETENTION:	Indefinite
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PRIORITY:	High

Further to All Chiefs Memorandum 20-0038, I am writing to clarify how [O. Reg. 104/20](#), regarding the closure of outdoor recreational amenities, applies to beaches.

Access to outdoor recreational amenities, including those at beaches, is prohibited by order of the province, and, in some cases, may also be prohibited by way of a decision by a municipality. Signs may be posted, but where they are not, individuals are still responsible for being aware of existing limits on use.

O. Reg. 104/20 does not prohibit entry to or use of beaches generally. However, all outdoor recreational amenities located on beaches are prohibited from entry or use, regardless of whether they are publicly or privately owned. For example, individuals are not permitted to enter or use playgrounds at beaches, portions of beaches containing sports and fitness amenities such as beach volleyball courts, picnic sites, benches, and shelters at beaches, unless entry or use is for a maintenance, safety, law enforcement or other similar purpose. A full list of outdoor recreational amenities that are closed and prohibited from entry or use, whether on beaches or elsewhere, can be found in [O. Reg. 104/20](#).

Individuals may continue to walk through or use areas of beaches that are not otherwise prohibited from use or closed, for example, to exercise or walk pets. Individuals should be encouraged to maintain a safe physical distance of at least two metres from others.

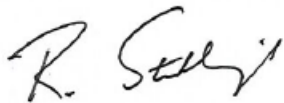
Beaches must not be used to engage in organized public events or social gatherings of more than five (5) people, in accordance with the requirements of [O. Reg. 52/20](#).

Please note that this information also applies to parks and other recreational areas (e.g., green spaces, walking pathways) that are not explicitly prohibited from entry or use under O. Reg. 104/20. Note that Ontario's provincial parks and conservation reserves remain closed.

Officers are encouraged to undertake a graduated approach to enforcement of this and other emergency orders; the approach should consider the severity of the specific situation and the Government of Ontario's public health intent to contain the spread of COVID-19. The graduated approach to enforcement may include educational messaging around the emergency order, specific warnings, the issuance of a ticket under Part I of the *Provincial Offences Act* (POA) or a summons under Part III of that Act.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Stubbings', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard Stubbings
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division and Public Safety Training Division