

**Ministry of Municipal
Affairs and Housing**

**Ministère des Affaires
Municipales et du Logement**

Office of the Deputy Minister

Bureau du sous-ministre

777 Bay Street, 17th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tel.: 416 585-7100

777, rue Bay, 17^e étage
Toronto ON M7A 2J3
Tél. : 416 585-7100

March 24, 2021

MEMORANDUM TO: Municipal Chief Administrative Officers and Clerks

SUBJECT: Amendments to Orders under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act

Today I am writing to share some updates related to various amendments to orders under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act* (ROA). These updates include amendments to rules for weddings, funerals or religious services and dining for areas in Stage 1 and capacity limits for restaurants and other food and drink establishments for areas in Stages 2 and 3. For more details on these amendments and orders that have been revoked, please see the attached memorandum from the Ministry of the Solicitor General to Chiefs of Police dated March 23, 2021.

I would also like to note that orders currently in force under the ROA have been extended until April 20, 2021 and that emergency orders currently in force under the EMCPA have been extended until April 5, 2021, which includes O. Reg. 8/21 (Enforcement of COVID-19 Measures) and O. Reg. 55/21 (Compliance Orders for Retirement Homes).

Thank you, once again, for your continued efforts to keep our communities safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Kate Manson-Smith
Deputy Minister, Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Enclosure: Correspondence from the Ministry of the Solicitor General to all Chiefs of Police dated March 23, 2021 – English version regarding Amendments to Orders under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020

If a French version is required, please contact
Richard.Stubbings@ontario.ca.

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

FROM: Richard Stubbings
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division

SUBJECT: **Amendments to Orders under the *Reopening Ontario
(A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020***

DATE OF ISSUE:	March 23, 2021
CLASSIFICATION:	General Information
RETENTION:	Indefinite
INDEX NO.:	21-0038
PRIORITY:	High

I am writing to advise of further amendments to orders under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020* (ROA).

Amendments to Rules for Areas in Stage 1 (O. Reg. 82/20)

Effective March 15, 2021, amendments to the rules for the Grey-Lockdown Zone will change the number of persons permitted to gather for the purpose of a wedding, a funeral or a religious service, rite or ceremony (e.g., a wedding ceremony) to no more than 15 percent of the capacity of any particular room in a building or structure while attending an indoor gathering, and no more than 50 persons if the gathering is held outdoors. Indoor social gatherings, including social gatherings associated with a wedding, a funeral or a religious service, rite or ceremony (e.g., wedding receptions), continued to be prohibited in the Grey-Lockdown Zone. Outdoor social gatherings continue to be subject to a maximum limit of 10 people in this zone.

In addition, while indoor dining continues to be prohibited for the Grey-Lockdown Zone, effective March 20, 2021, outdoor dining will be permitted, subject to physical distancing rules and a number of other public health and workplace safety measures specified in the amending regulation ([O. Reg. 216/21](#)). This includes, but is not limited to, the number of patrons permitted to be seated together at a table for outdoor dining (which is limited to members of the same household, a member of the one other household who lives alone, or a caregiver of any member of either household), and the requirement for

the establishment to post a sign in a location visible to the public that states the maximum capacity they are permitted to operate under.

Amendments to Rules for Areas in Stage 2 (O. Reg. 263/20)

Effective March 20, 2021, the capacity limits for restaurants and other food and drink establishments in the Red Zone are adjusted to allow for up to 50 percent of the maximum patron capacity (calculated by dividing the total square metres of indoor dining area accessible to the public by 2 and rounding down), subject to physical distancing rules, to a maximum total occupancy of 50 patrons, instead of 10 patrons. Furthermore, a sign must be posted by the establishment in a location visible to the public that states the maximum capacity they are permitted to operate under. The number of patrons permitted to be seated together at a table for indoor dining is limited to members of the same household, a member of the one other household who lives alone, or a caregiver of any member of either household. For further information, please refer to the amending regulation ([O. Reg. 217/21](#)).

Amendments to Rules for Areas in Stage 3 (O. Reg. 364/20)

Effective March 20, 2021, amendments to the rules for restaurants and other food and drink establishments for the Yellow Zone will allow more than Six (6) people to sit together at a table in the establishment if they are all members of the same household, a member of one other household who lives alone, or a caregiver for any member of either household.

Further amendments adjust the capacity limits for restaurants and other food and drink establishments in the Orange Zone to allow for up to 50 percent of the maximum patron capacity (calculated by dividing the total square metres of indoor dining area accessible to the public by 2 and rounding down), subject to physical distancing rules, to a maximum total occupancy of 100 patrons, instead of 50 patrons. Furthermore, a sign must be posted by the establishment in a location visible to the public that states the maximum capacity they are permitted to operate under. While there is no longer a maximum number of patrons per table, the number of patrons permitted to be seated together at a table for indoor dining is limited to members of the same household, a member of the one other household who lives alone, or a caregiver of any member of either household. For further information, please refer to the amending regulation ([O. Reg. 218/21](#)).

Amendments to Stages of Reopening (O. Reg. 363/20)

Effective March 22, 2021, the following further amendments will be made to O. Reg. 363/20:

Colour Category	Public Health Unit (As of March 22, 2021)
Green – Prevent <i>(Standard Measures)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Grey Bruce Health Unit 2. Hastings and Prince Edward Counties Health Unit
Yellow – Protect <i>(Strengthened Measures)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. District of Algoma Health Unit 2. Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit 3. Huron Perth Health Unit 4. Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox and Addington Health Unit 5. North Bay Parry Sound District Health Unit 6. Porcupine Health Unit 7. Renfrew County and District Health Unit 8. Timiskaming Health Unit
Orange – Restrict <i>(Intermediate Measures)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Eastern Ontario Health Unit 2. Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit 3. Middlesex-London Health Unit 4. Oxford Elgin St. Thomas Health Unit 5. Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit
Red – Control <i>(Stringent Measures)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brant County Health Unit 2. Chatham-Kent Health Unit 3. City of Hamilton Health Unit 4. City of Ottawa Health Unit 5. Durham Regional Health Unit 6. Halton Regional Health Unit 7. Leeds, Grenville and Lanark District Health Unit 8. Niagara Regional Area Health Unit 9. Northwestern Health Unit 10. Peterborough County – City Health Unit 11. Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit 12. Waterloo Health Unit 13. Windsor-Essex County Health Unit 14. York Regional Health Unit
Grey – Lockdown <i>(Restrictive measures similar to pre-December 26)</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. City of Toronto Health Unit 2. Lambton Health Unit 3. Peel Regional Health Unit 4. Sudbury and District Health Unit 5. Thunder Bay District Health Unit
Shutdown <i>(Most restrictive measures)</i>	None

Future decisions to move Public Health Units (PHUs) to new zones per the Framework will be made in consultation with local medical officers of health and will be subject to ongoing review of trends in public health indicators and advice of the Chief Medical

Officer of Health. For further information, please refer to the amending regulation ([O. Reg. 215/21](#)).

Revoked Orders under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protections Act*

Additionally, as of March 8, 2021, the Stay-at-Home Order (O. Reg. 11/21), Residential Evictions Order (O. Reg. 13/21) and all the associated PHU-specific orders that caused the former two orders to apply to individual PHUs under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* (EMCPA) have been revoked.

Ongoing Enforcement Efforts

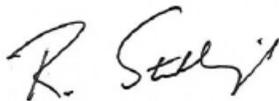
Orders currently in force under the ROA have been extended until April 20, 2021. In addition, emergency orders currently in force under the EMCPA have been extended until April 5, 2021, which includes O. Reg. 8/21 (Enforcement of COVID-19 Measures) and O. Reg. 55/21 (Compliance Orders for Retirement Homes).

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. Analysis of enforcement data that your police service provides to the ministry continues to support data-driven decision-making.

Provincewide, police services are working together with local enforcement partners to implement local compliance campaigns and to reinforce public health requirements under the EMCPA and ROA. Continued collaboration and communication among local enforcement personnel and public health officials remains critical to ensuring that localized responses are effective and correspond with local risk levels, rules and restrictions.

Thank you once again for your continued efforts to help keep our communities safe and healthy.

Sincerely,



Richard Stubbings
Assistant Deputy Minister
Public Safety Division