Released February 8th, 2021

JUST IN: Declared State of Emergency Will End February 9th, 2021

Stay-at-Home Order Extended in Most Regions in Ontario

The Ontario government has announced that the <u>Declared State of Emergency will end on February 9th, 2021</u> and has extended the stay-at-home order for most of the province but will begin the gradual transition of each region back to the <u>colour-coded</u> system outlined in the revised <u>COVID-19 Response Framework: Keeping Ontario Safe and Open</u>.

The following three regions will be moving back to the Framework at the Green-Prevent level on **Wednesday, February 10th, 2021** <u>at 12:01 a.m.</u> and will no longer be subject to the Stay-at-Home order: Hastings Prince Edward Public Health, Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health and Renfrew County and District Health Unit.

For the remainder of the province, the current Stay-at-Home order will be amended and individual orders making it applicable to each public health region will be made except for the three above. It is proposed that the Stay-at-Home order will continue to apply to 28 public health regions until **Tuesday, February 16, 2021**. For Toronto, Peel and York regions, it is proposed that the Stay-at-Home order will continue to apply until **Monday, February 22, 2021**.

Modifications have been made to the colour-coded system and can be found here.

Source: www.ontario.ca

All Your COVID-19 Resources at Your Fingertips!

COVID Screening Tool for Workplaces

The Ministry of Health has released an updated COVID-19 screening questionnaire. The questionnaire must be completed by all employees each day prior to entering the workplace. It is recommended that a designated individual document the daily questionnaires and ensure that the information is kept in a secure place. For the online version of the questionnaire, Click Here

Educating Employees on the COVID-19 Vaccine

We recommend that employers consider educating their employees on the COVID-19 vaccine. For vaccine related information, <u>Click Here</u>

COVID-19 Self-Assessment

Employees should take this self-assessment if they have been exposed to COVID-19 or have symptoms. Click Here

COVID-19 Posters and Resources

Find sector-specific guidelines and posters to help protect workers, customers and the general public from COVID-19 in Ontario. <u>Click Here</u>

Canada Recovery Benefits

The Canada Recovery Benefits give income support to employed and self-employed individuals who are directly affected by COVID-19 and are not entitled to Employment Insurance (EI) benefits.

- Canada Recovery Benefit <u>Click Here</u>
- Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit Click Here
- Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit <u>Click Here</u>

Deemed Infectious Disease Emergency Leave Extended

The COVID-19 period that was set to expire on January 3rd, 2021 has been extended to July 3rd, 2021.

Under *O. Reg. 228/20: Infectious Disease Emergency Leave*, employers were permitted to temporarily reduce or eliminate an employee's hours or wages throughout the COVID-19 period, without triggering a temporary lay-off. Instead, employees are deemed to be on the job-protected, unpaid *Infectious Disease Emergency Leave*. The Ontario government has since enacted *Ontario Regulation 765/20*, which <u>extended the "COVID-19 period" to July 3, 2021.</u> Refer <u>here</u> for more details.

Ontario Small Business Support Grant

Starting at \$10,000 for all eligible businesses, the grant provides businesses with funding to a maximum of \$20,000 to help cover decreased revenue expected as a result of the Provincewide Shutdown. <u>Click Here</u>

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