

## **Ontario Extends Emergency Orders**

*Province Focuses on Safe, Gradual Approach as Reopening Continues*

June 17, 2020 7:00 A.M.

TORONTO — The Ontario government has extended all emergency orders currently in force under s.7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*. This extension will be in effect until June 30, 2020 to ensure the government continues to have the necessary tools to safely and gradually reopen the province, while continuing to support frontline health care workers and protect vulnerable populations from COVID-19.

"Extending these emergency orders gives our frontline health care providers the necessary flexibility to rapidly respond to urgent needs and protect our most vulnerable," said Premier Ford. "Even though we're seeing decreasing infection rates with increased testing levels, we can't let our guard down just yet. We need to keep these emergency measures in place to support our frontline heroes and we must all continue following the public health advice, so we can reopen more of the province safely and gradually."

While current emergency orders will remain in place until the end of the month, the government will continue to review each one on an ongoing, case-by-case basis to determine when and if they can safely be adjusted or lifted, as part of the province's framework to safely reopen the province.

Over the past week, the government announced 31 public health unit regions across the province may proceed to Stage 2 of its [Framework for Reopening the Province](#). This will allow additional businesses and services to reopen and more people to return to work.

In addition, larger social gatherings of up to 10 people are now allowed in all parts of the province, and people are encouraged to create or join a social circle. Social circles are different from social gatherings. Social gatherings of people from outside your household are limited to 10 people. A social circle is voluntary, but if adopted should include all household members, and can include family and friends outside the household up to a maximum of 10 people in the social circle, who can interact and come into close contact with one another without physical distancing. To learn how to create a social circle, please see the [step-by-step guide](#).

To help stop the spread, people should continue to follow public health guidelines, including practising physical distancing, wearing a face covering where physical distancing is a challenge and washing their hands thoroughly and frequently. Anyone who is worried they may have COVID-19, or who may have been exposed to the virus, is encouraged to go for testing.

A full list of emergency orders can be found on the [e-Laws website](#) under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* and at [Ontario.ca/alert](https://www.ontario.ca/alert).

## QUICK FACTS

- The Government of Ontario declared a provincial emergency on March 17, 2020 under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act. The declaration of emergency was [extended](#) and is currently in effect until June 30, 2020.

## LEARN MORE

- Learn more about [A Framework for Reopening our Province](#).
- See how [your organization can help fight COVID-19](#).
- Information and advice to [help your business navigate the economy during COVID-19](#).
- Visit Ontario's [website](#) to learn more about how the province continues to protect Ontarians from COVID-19.

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**Ivana Yelich** Premier's Office  
Ivana.Yelich@ontario.ca  
**Stephen Warner** Solicitor General's Office  
Stephen.Warner@ontario.ca  
**Greg Flood** Ministry of the Solicitor General  
Greg.Flood@ontario.ca

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