



Renfrew County and District Health Unit

FACT SHEET

Moving to the Yellow (Protect) Zone: COVID-19 Response Framework

Effective March 8, 2021 at 12:01 a.m.: The Ontario government has moved Renfrew County and District Health Unit's region into the **Yellow – Protect** zone of the [COVID-19 Response Framework: Keeping Ontario Safe and Open](#). This is a result of increasing rates of COVID-19 transmission in Renfrew County and District.

Entering the Yellow – Protect zone means strengthened public health measures will take effect, including stronger targeted enforcement, fines and more education to limit the spread of COVID-19. Public health measures will also increase in high-risk settings.

Gathering Limits in the Yellow – Protect zone

Gathering limits for organized public events, social gatherings and wedding, funeral and religious services, rites and ceremonies will remain:

- Limits for certain organized public events and social gatherings such as functions, parties, dinners, gatherings, barbecues or wedding receptions held in private residences, backyards, or parks, where physical distancing can be maintained:
 - 10 people indoors
 - 25 people outdoors
- Limits for organized public events and gatherings in staffed businesses and facilities, where physical distancing can be maintained:
 - 50 people indoors
 - 100 people outdoors
- Limits for religious services rites or ceremonies, including wedding services and funeral services, where physical distancing can be maintained (applies in any venue other than a private dwelling):
 - 30% capacity of the room indoors
 - 100 people outdoors

Visit us at www.rcdhu.com or call (613) 732-3629 or 1-800-267-1097

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New Measurements Introduced in the Yellow – Protect zone

Please visit the [COVID-19 Response Framework: Keeping Ontario Safe and Open](#) for a complete description of the framework requirements.

Note: All public health measures and requirements that are included in the Green – Prevent zone are still in effect. Below is a list of the additional sector-specific requirements that are now in effect in the Yellow- Protect zone:

Restaurants, bars and other food and drink establishments:

- Limit of six (6) people may be seated together
- Require contact information for all seated patrons
- Establishments must be closed from 12 a.m. to 5 a.m.
- Liquor sold or served only between 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- No consumption of liquor permitted between 12 a.m. to 9 a.m.
- Limit volume of music to be low enough that a normal conversation is possible

Sports and recreational fitness facilities:

- Increase spacing between patrons to 3 metres for areas of a sport or recreational facility where there are weights or exercise equipment and in exercise and fitness classes
- Capacity limits per venue, where physical distancing can be maintained:
 - 50 people in indoor classes, however each indoor fitness or exercise class can only have a maximum of 10 people and must take place in a separate room or
 - 100 people in outdoor classes, however each outdoor fitness or exercise class can only have a maximum of 25 people
- Require contact information for all members of the public that enter the facility
- Require reservation for entry; one reservation for teams

Meeting and event spaces:

- Establishments must be closed from 12 a.m. to 5 a.m.
- Liquor sold or served only between 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- No consumption of liquor permitted between 12 a.m. to 9 a.m.
- Require contact information for all seated patrons

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Retail:

- Stores must have passive screening for patrons (for example, posting signs outside the store front about not entering if you have COVID-19 symptoms)
 - This does not apply to indoor malls, which are required to actively screen their customers before they enter the mall. Malls can use the [patron screening tool](#) to help meet this requirement.
- A [safety plan](#) is required to be prepared and made available upon request
- Limit volume of music to be low enough that a normal conversation is possible
- For malls, a [safety plan](#) is required to be prepared and made available upon request

Personal care services:

- Require contact information from all patrons

Casinos, bingo halls and gaming establishments:

- Liquor sold or served only between 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- No consumption of liquor permitted between 12 a.m. to 9 a.m.
- Require contact information from all patrons

Cinemas:

- Liquor sold or served only between 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- No consumption of liquor permitted between 12 a.m. to 9 a.m.
- Require contact information from all patrons

Performing arts facilities:

- Liquor sold or served only between 9 a.m. to 11 p.m.
- No consumption of liquor permitted between 12 a.m. to 9 a.m.
- Require contact information from all patrons

Additional Resources:

- [RCDHU Fact Sheet: Ontario's COVID-19 Response Framework](#)
- [COVID-19 Response Framework: Keeping Ontario Safe and Open](#)

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