



The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1  
[doug.fordco@pc.ola.org](mailto:doug.fordco@pc.ola.org)

March 15<sup>th</sup> 2021

Sent via e-mail

**Re: Colour Coded Capacity Limits**

Please be advised that on March 10<sup>th</sup> 2021 the Town of Plympton-Wyoming Council passed the following motion to support the challenges local businesses are facing with respect to the colour coded system within the Province's COVID-19 Response Framework.

***Motion #13*** – Moved by Netty McEwen, Seconded by Tim Wilkins that Council support item "x)" from City of Sarnia regarding Colour Coded Capacity Limits.

***Motion Carried.***

If you have any questions regarding the above motion, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email at [ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca](mailto:ekwarciak@plympton-wyoming.ca).

Sincerely,

Erin Kwarciak  
Clerk  
Town of Plympton-Wyoming

Cc: All Ontario Municipalities  
Ms. Marilyn Gladu, MP Sarnia-Lambton  
Mr. Bob Bailey, MPP Sarnia-Lambton



**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF SARNIA**  
**City Clerk's Department**

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March 4, 2021

The Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford,

**Re: Colour Coded Capacity Limits**

At its meeting held on March 1, 2021, Sarnia City Council discussed the challenges local businesses are facing with respect to the colour coded system within the Province's COVID-19 Response Framework. The following motion was adopted:

***That Sarnia City Council strongly advocate to the Province of Ontario that they adjust the capacity limits for dining, restaurants, sporting and recreational facilities, places of worship, event centers, and all retail/small businesses as part of the colour coded system.***

The following rationale was provided with the introduction of the motion:

- The red zone currently only allows 10 people indoors at a dining or a sporting / recreational facility (regardless of the size), places of worship are capped at 30% or 50 people, and retail / small business is limited to a 50% capacity.
- These businesses and organizations have heavily invested in facility improvements and expensive upgrades to ensure safe social distancing and have all the appropriate safety and protection measures in place.
- Businesses in particular cannot properly plan under the current uncertainty and that means the loss of jobs and income for both workers and owners as well as mental health challenges.

- Indoor capacity limits for restaurants, dining, sporting / recreational facilities, event centers, retail / small business, and places of worship should not involve arbitrary numbers (regardless of size), but instead be changed to the amount of people per facility which ensures that strict and safe social distancing can be maintained.

Sarnia City Council has requested that all municipalities in Ontario join this advocacy effort.

On behalf of Sarnia City Council, I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Amy Burkhart'.

Amy Burkhart  
Acting City Clerk

Cc: All Ontario Municipalities  
Ms. Marilyn Gladu, MP Sarnia-Lambton  
Mr. Bob Bailey, MPP Sarnia-Lambton

March 2, 2021

*Via Email*

Honourable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford:

**RE: Capacity Limits for Restaurants in Stage 2 under the Reopening Ontario Act, 2020**

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On behalf of the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lake of Bays, please be advised Council is striving to support their local businesses during this pandemic however, the uncertainty they face day to day as rules change have become overwhelming and onerous to these small businesses and something needs to change. With that said, Council at their last regular meeting on March 2, 2021 had a wholesome discussion regarding the challenges our businesses are facing. The following resolution is a result of those discussions:

**"Resolution #8(b)/03/02/21**

**WHEREAS the Province of Ontario passed O. Reg. 263/20, Rules for Areas in Stage 2 under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020;**

**AND WHEREAS Schedule 2, Subsection 1(7) states that the total number of patrons permitted to be seated indoors in the establishment must be limited to the number that can maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from every other person in the establishment, and in any event cannot exceed 10 patrons;**

**AND WHEREAS restaurants throughout the Province are facing financial hardships due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the amount of patrons being turned away is impacting the overall experience of the restaurants;**

**AND WHEREAS many restaurants fluctuate in size and would be able to accommodate more than 10 patrons, while maintaining a physical**

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distance of at least two metres from every other person in the establishment;

**AND WHEREAS** the inequity of establishing a capacity limit of no more than 10 patrons for larger restaurants continues to impact the financial viability of the restaurants during this difficult time;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT** the Council of the Corporation of Township of Lake of Bays hereby requests that the Provincial Government review and reconsider the capacity limits for restaurants across the Province be based on the size of the square footage of the seating area instead of a flat occupancy.

**AND FURTHER THAT** the concept of introducing capacity limits for other businesses listed in Schedule 2 of O.Reg 263/20 being impacted by the constant uncertainty of their operations during this pandemic including restaurants, personal care services, resorts, camps, fitness and recreational amenities, churches, etc. be considered while in lockdown status.

**AND FURTHER THAT** this motion be forwarded to the Premier, Doug Ford, Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit and all Ontario municipalities.”

Council appreciates and thanks you for all your hard work and dedication during these unprecedented times and is hopeful that the above-noted resolution will assist in amending the restrictions set out in the COVID-19 Response Framework.

Sincerely,



Carrie Sykes, *Dipl. M.A., CMO, AOMC*,  
Director of Corporate Services/Clerk.  
CS/cw

Copy to: Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit  
All Ontario Municipalities