

From: AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>
Sent: August-12-20 3:09 PM
To: Kelly Lush
Subject: AMO Policy Update – Municipal Emergency Fiscal Relief, Quarter 1 Fiscal and COVID-19 Action Plan Updates

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August 12, 2020

AMO Policy Update – Municipal Emergency Fiscal Relief, Quarter 1 Fiscal and COVID-19 Action Plan Updates

1st Round of Municipal Emergency Funding Coming Soon – Safe Restart Agreement

The Province today [announced](#) how up to \$4 billion in federal-provincial financial assistance for municipalities and transit operations will be made available to municipalities. The Province is employing an immediate allocation-based distribution, followed by a distribution based on an assessment of COVID-19-related financial impacts.

“The Province has taken a commonsense approach to the distribution of financial assistance to municipalities”, said AMO President Jamie McGarvey. “A straightforward phase 1 allocation formula will ensure every municipality and municipal transit provider will benefit from immediate assistance, while a later assessment of actual costs will ensure those hardest hit by COVID-19 are able to fulfill their role in the economic recovery.”

\$2B in Operational Funding Assistance

New operational funding assistance of \$1.39 billion will be delivered in two equal phases, and an additional \$212 million will be invested in the \$350 million Social Assistance Relief Fund (SSRF):

Phase 1:

\$695 million will be distributed immediately on per household basis. All 444

municipalities will receive a letter from the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing setting out their Phase 1 allocation. Where there is a two-tier system, the allocation will be shared equally between the lower and upper tier.

Phase 2:

\$695 million will be available to all 444 municipalities but will require an assessment of actual COVID-19 related costs and losses.

In addition, **\$212 million** will be added to existing \$350 million Social Services Relief fund, which is available to the 47 Service Managers, i.e. municipalities and DSSABs delivering provincial health and social services programs.

The total new investment listed above is \$1.6 billion. This new funding is in addition to \$350 million already invested in the SSRF (announced March and July) and \$100 million already invested in municipal long-term care, bringing the total to more than \$2 billion.

\$2B Transit Funding Assistance:

Up to \$2 billion in financial assistance for transit costs and losses will be provided to transit operating municipalities through two separate investments.

1. An immediate distribution of more than \$660 million to 110 municipalities operating transit based on ridership data plus a base amount that ensures smaller transit operations will receive substantial funding.
2. A second distribution will be provided to municipal transit operators based on an assessment of actual COVID-19 fiscal pressures.

Ontario 2020-21 First Quarter Finances and Update on Ontario's COVID-19 Action Plan

The Honourable Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, has [released Ontario's 2020-21 First Quarter Finances](#) and provided an [update](#) to *Ontario's Action Plan: Responding to COVID-19*.

The Minister outlined Ontario's direct support to the COVID-19 pandemic and noted a projected budget deficit of \$38.5B – an increase from his March update of \$20.5B. The increased deficit is accounted for through reduced provincial revenues, additional investments, and financial contingency planning.

Highlights from the Minister's update include:

- Total revenues fall to \$150.6 billion for 2020-21. This is \$5.7B lower than projected and expenses are projected to increase by \$13.1B higher than forecasted in March.
- In March, the government outlined a \$17B plan to support Ontario's response to COVID-19. Today, the Minister announced additional investments that will bring the government's COVID-19 response action plan to a projected \$30B. These additional investments include:

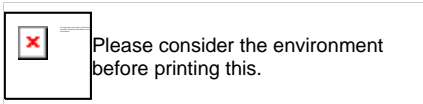
- Increased support for health care from \$4.4B to \$7.7B. This will assist hospital capacity, manage COVID-19 in long-term care homes, increased testing, and procuring PPE and medical supplies.
 - Increased support from \$7.3B to \$11B for people and jobs, which includes temporary pandemic pay for eligible workers (\$1.5B), up to \$4B in targeted funding for municipalities and transit agencies, and temporary immediate relief for residential, farm, small business, industrial and commercial electricity consumers.
- The government is also extending provincial tax deferrals for businesses to October 1st, 2020. This additional cash flow is estimated to be \$7.5B over a six-month period.

Minister Phillips stressed that fiscal flexibility was prudent and necessary to help guard against potential impacts of a "second wave". To this end, he announced that the government is ensuring \$9.6 billion is available in reserves and several contingency funds.

The Province's next fiscal update will be a multi-year provincial Budget and will be delivered no later than November 15th, 2020.

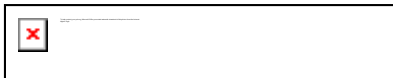
AMO's [COVID-19 Resources](#) page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to covid19@amo.on.ca.

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AMO WatchFile - August 13, 2020

AMO Communications <Communicate@amo.on.ca>

Thu 2020-08-13 10:04 AM

To: Kelly Lush <klush@huronkinloss.com>

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August 13, 2020

In This Issue

- COVID-19 resources.
- Nominations for Canada's Volunteer Awards 2020 now open.
- Important things you need to know for the AMO 2020 Conference.
- Only days left to register for AMO 2020 Conference!
- Join AMO's Delegate Conference Orientation - August 13, 10:00 am.
- Don't forget about the AMO Conference Exhibit Hall.
- Everything you need to know about Land Use Planning.
- Modernizing and managing municipal meetings.
- Visit the LAS and ONE Investment booth at the AMO Conference.
- Sports field lighting upgrades save energy.
- LAS pivots to online Energy Workshops.
- Municipal Group Buying Program: New vendors added.
- Career with County of Simcoe.

COVID-19 Resources

AMO's [COVID-19 Resources page](#) is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. It now has a section on mandatory face masks bylaws/directives for municipal governments considering similar bylaws. Send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to covid19@amo.on.ca.

Federal Matters

Employment and Social Development Canada accepting nominations for individuals/organizations that have made significant community contributions. Nominations for the [Canada's Volunteer Awards](#) are open until September 30. Recipients will have access to funding, learning and networking opportunities.

Eye on Events

AMO has provided important information to registered delegates on registering, voting and participating in the virtual event. You can access this information [here](#).

Online registration for this year's exciting event closes noon on Friday, August 14th. [Register today!](#)

The virtual environment is new to all of us so we will take registered delegates through the platform showing you all you need to know. [Delegate Conference Orientation](#): August 13, 10:00 - 11:00 am, Passcode: 319138.

The AMO team is bringing registered delegates an eye-catching and dynamic environment in this year's [Exhibit Hall](#). Enjoy access to products services and great prizes like two tickets from Air Canada to anywhere in Canada.

Back by popular demand, *Land Use Planning: Beyond the Basics* is coming to you virtually. This training provides insight and tools to support your central role in implementing and managing the land use policy framework. [Registration details](#).

Municipalities across Canada are discovering the benefits of implementing meeting management, especially during these days of physical distancing. Join eSCRIBE, [AMO's preferred provider](#) of digital meeting management solutions, and the City of Port Moody, BC, for a webinar on [August 19 at 2pm](#) as they showcase how the City unlocked efficiencies using eSCRIBE technology.

LAS

Are you attending the [AMO Virtual Conference](#)? Take a coffee break and visit the exhibit hall. Come chat with the LAS and ONE Investment staff and learn about programs that could benefit your municipality.

The [LAS Facility Lighting Service](#) is working with City of Kenora to upgrade its sports field lighting this year. Have a similar project in your municipality? Contact [Christian](#) to find out how LAS can save you time and money while improving your lighting.

In January, staff from 18 municipalities attended an exciting and informative [Energy Training Workshop](#) in St. Mary's. Due to COVID-19, this workshop is now offered in an ONLINE version. Just one of the ways we can help you work better. Contact [Christian](#) for details.

The LAS [Municipal Group Buying Program](#) is expanding to serve you better. We've recently added new categories and vendors including Firefighting Equipment, IT Solutions, and Airport Equipment. Contact [Tanner](#) (Southern Ontario) or [Ainsley](#) (Northern Ontario) to discuss how you can take advantage of this exciting program.

Careers

[General Manager, Engineering, Planning & Environment - County of Simcoe](#).
Employment Status: Permanent Full-Time. Closing Date: August 31, 2020. Location: Midhurst, Ontario. Reports directly to the CAO. To view the job description in its entirety and submit your application online, please visit [Simcoe County Jobs](#).

About AMO

AMO is a non-profit organization representing almost all of Ontario's 444 municipal governments. AMO supports strong and effective municipal government in Ontario and promotes the value of municipal government as a vital and essential component of Ontario's and Canada's political system. Follow [@AMOPolicy](#) on Twitter!

AMO Contacts

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[Policy and Funding Programs](#)

[LAS Local Authority Services](#)


[MEPCO Municipal Employer Pension Centre of Ontario](#)

[ONE Investment](#)

[Media Inquiries](#) Tel: 416.729.5425

[Municipal Wire, Career/Employment and Council Resolution Distributions](#)

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From: [AMO Communications](#)
To: [Kelly Lush](#)
Subject: AMO Policy Update – New Recreational Facility Guidance, Canada Healthy Communities Initiative, 2021-22 Connecting Links Program
Date: August-14-20 5:03:06 PM

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AMO Policy Update



August 14, 2020

AMO Policy Update – New Recreational Facility Guidance, Canada Healthy Communities Initiative, and 2021-22 Connecting Links Program

More Spaces Can Open in Sport, Fitness, and Recreational Facilities

The Ontario government has [released](#) additional guidance to support the safe reopening of many sport, fitness, and recreation facilities by applying a capacity limit on a per room basis. This was guidance municipalities and others have been asking for to enable their multi-room facilities to reopen safely which will allow greater use of these community facilities. Beginning August 15, 2020 at 12:01 a.m., these facilities can have up to 50 patrons for each indoor sport or fitness room, while ensuring physical distancing of at least two metres.

Businesses, not-for-profits, and municipalities may need or choose to take more time before implementing this change in capacity limits. Facilities may also adopt their own protocols that are more restrictive than the provincial guidance in consultation with their local medical officers of health.

The Province is also investing \$8 million through the Ontario Amateur Sport Fund to help the Province's sports organizations to continue to serve athletes of all levels as access to sports and recreational facilities increases.

Federal Funding for Pandemic Resilient Communities

The Honourable Federal Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, Catherine McKenna, [announced](#) she is making available \$31 million through a new program called the [Canada Healthy Communities Initiative](#). This program seeks to help communities build on initiatives that are being used to adapt to the realities of COVID-19. The program targets non-governmental organizations and community

groups to partner with municipalities and identify projects over the next two years.

2021-2022 Connecting Links Program Accepting Applications

The Premier announced on August 13, that the 2020-2021 [intake](#) for applications under the Ontario Connecting Links Program is open to eligible municipalities. Connecting links are municipal roads that connect provincial highways.

The Province allocates \$30 million annually to support capital works on these roads and bridges, however, the Minister of Transportation allocated an additional \$10 million in 2019-20 as part of the COVID-19 Action Plan. The intake is open to municipal applications until **5:00 p.m. on November 20, 2020**.

AMO's [COVID-19 Resources](#) page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to covid19@amo.on.ca.

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From: [AMCTO | The Municipal Experts](#)
To: [Kelly Lush](#)
Subject: AMCTO Legislative Express
Date: August-17-20 9:01:42 AM

August 2020 Legislative Express



About AMCTO | Education & Events | Advocacy & Policy



August 17, 2020

As a result of COVID-19, the Provincial Government and the Ontario Legislature remained very active during June and July, with the Legislature rising for the summer later than usual.

Over the last few months, we have continued to engage and advocate to the Provincial government on a number of key items including the issuing of marriage licences and hosting electronic meetings – both of which have resulted in positive changes for our members.

The Annual AMO Conference and Trade Show is now underway! We are looking forward to attending (virtually) and listening to the keynote speakers, government leaders and of course the Minister's Forum, this year with three times the fun. The conference is an opportunity to glean possible government priorities for the fall legislative session.

In addition, we are happy to announce that we have secured a delegation with Honourable Minister Clark (Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing) to talk about issues that are top of mind to members including reporting burden, the municipal voters' list and onerous provincial processes. We look forward to speaking with the Minister and working with his team on creating positive changes to advance the work of municipalities and our members.

Here is a summary of the most relevant policy developments from the last several weeks:

In this issue...

- [Policy Spotlight](#)
- [Policy Updates](#)
- [Bills and Lawmaking](#)
- [Resources](#)

POLICY SPOTLIGHT

COVID Updates

Ontario has seen a decrease in its number of total active cases and death rate allowing for the safe re-opening of businesses in stages as set out by the Ontario Government's Framework for Re-Opening the Province.

All Ontario regions have entered into Stage 3 as of August 12th, increasing the number of businesses and public spaces that will re-open across the province. However, workplaces that can continue to allow employees to work from home have been encouraged to do so.

Multiple municipalities have put by-laws in place mandating the wearing of masks in public and indoor spaces, while taking public transit and where physical distancing is not possible. AMO has compiled a listing which may be viewed by clicking the button below.

[Municipal Mask By-laws](#)

Ontario's Declaration of Emergency came to a quiet end on July 24th. To manage any ongoing risks and impacts of COVID-19, Bill 195, *Reopening Ontario Act* 2020 received Royal Assent on July 21st.

[Bill 195, Re-opening Ontario Act, 2020](#)

Policy Highlights

Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Information Sheets on Proxy Voting and E-Meetings

On July 21st 2020, Bill 197, The *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act* received Royal Assent. In addition to other amendments, municipalities can now choose under certain conditions to utilize proxy voting and e-meetings (beyond emergencies) as long as these items are captured in procedural by-laws.

To assist with this, the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing has provided an information sheet for e-meetings and proxy voting. We are reviewing these materials and will be evaluating opportunities to update existing resources to support members.

In the meantime, if you have questions or concerns about proxy-voting or if your Council is considering proxy voting at a future meeting, we encourage you to connect with AMCTO Manager - Policy and Government Relations, [Alana Del Greco](#).

[Proxy Voting](#)

[E-Meetings](#)

On July 27th 2020, the Province announced \$4 billion in funding for Ontario municipalities through the Safe Restart Agreement. On August 12th, the Province announced the allocation of Phase 1 funding.

Announcement: Funding for Municipalities Under Safe Restart Agreement

As a result of our continued advocacy, there have been some positive changes to provincial processes. This includes:

- Extending the validity of marriage licences purchased during the COVID-19 pandemic for 24 months
- Updates to Provincial forms - making it easier for AMCTO members to process marriage licences

We will continue our advocacy efforts to modernize life event processes such as the issuance of marriage licences, which are based on Provincial rules but administered by municipalities. A big thank you to those members who have been working with us on this issue for the last several months. We appreciate your support on our advocacy initiatives and look forward to continue working with you to create positive change.

Revised Communications from ORG re: Marriage Licence Updates - A Win for AMCTO members

The Province has published O.Reg 431/20 under the *Commissioners for Taking Affidavits Act* which allows for oaths or declarations to be taken by remote means. It is our understanding that this could apply to a number of services including commissioning for marriage licenses.

New Reg: Administering Oath or Declaration Remotely

AMCTO Continues to Seek Input from Members on Areas of Burden

Back in the February edition of the Legislative Express, we had talked about the ongoing opportunity to work with members on areas of municipal burden.

We have received several submissions from members so far. To those who made submissions: thank you! We look forward to connecting with you on these issues and will continue to seek further input from members as needed.

If you haven't had the opportunity to make a submission, we encourage you to provide us with further information on the issues or legislation/regulations that are impacting local government administration and service delivery in your respective municipalities. By completing the form below, we will be able to follow-up with you to develop solutions and bring forward your requests to Government.

Submit Feedback

For further information or if you have any questions, please reach out to AMCTO Manager - Policy and Government Relations, [Alana Del Greco](#).

POLICY UPDATES

Announcement: ICIP Changes for Pandemic-Resilient

Infrastructure: The federal government announced a new time-limited resilience stream as well as expanded criteria under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program (ICIP).

[Read More](#)

ORG asks for Original death and still born registrations: The Deputy Registrar General has asked that as municipalities begin to re-open, original death and still born registrations are to be forwarded to the Ontario Registrar General (ORG).

[Read More](#)

AGCO makes temporary regulatory changes on liquor

delivery and service on licenced boats: To assist the tourism and hospitality sector with recovery from COVID-19, the Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario (AGCO) made regulatory changes under the *Liquor Licence Act* (LLA).

[Read More](#)

OMERS 2020 Plan Review Update: As part of their 2020 Plan Review, the OMERS Sponsors Corporation Board made several amendments to the OMERS Pension Plans, some of which may be beneficial as a result of COVID-19 impacts.

[Read More](#)

BILLS AND LAWMAKING

The Ontario legislature is currently adjourned until September 14th.

Bills Passed

Bill 197 *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act*, makes amendments to 20 Acts and includes provisions that extended marriage license validity periods during an emergency, changes *City of Toronto Act* (COTA) and *Marriage Act* (MA) to include permissive provisions for e-meetings outside of an emergency, and for municipal council members to use proxy voting.

[Read More](#)

Bill 195 *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19 Act)*, allows the Province to take certain measures with the end of the provincial emergency declared under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* (EMCPA).

[Read More](#)

Bill 184 *Protecting Tenants and Strengthening Community Housing Act*, makes changes to several acts said to strengthen protections for tenants to make it easier to resolve landlord and tenant disputes and prevent unlawful evictions.

[Read More](#)

Private Members' Bills:

A summary of Private Members' Bills from Queen's Park that are of relevance to Ontario's local governments.

Bill 194 *WSIB Coverage for Workers in Residential Care Facilities and Group Home Act*, 2020 (Passed First Reading): an employer who operates a residential care facility or a group home is a Schedule 1 employer for the purposes of the Act. Such employers have mandatory coverage and must contribute to the insurance fund and are protected from collective liability.

[Read More](#)

Bill 191 *Workplace Safety and Insurance Amendment Act (Presumption Respecting COVID-19)*, 2020 (Passed First Reading): workers from businesses listed as an essential business in an order made under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* (EMCPA) would be covered by the Act. If such a worker tests positive for COVID-19 it is presumed that it was contracted through working for the business.

[Read More](#)

RESOURCES

The Policy Clinic: The Policy Shop has launched a free, 5-minute risk rating tool for finance policies.

[Read More](#)

MFOA Posts Municipal Re-Opening and Recovery Strategies: MFOA is compiling a list of municipal reopening and recovery strategies.

[Read More](#)

Urban Policy Observatory: Gabriel Eidelman and Neil Bradford have proposed the creation of a Canadian Urban Policy Observatory which would be a one stop shop for learnings and best practices, collaboration and innovation.

[Read More](#)

Playbook for Voluntary Regional Governance in the Toronto Region: In a paper for the Institute on Municipal Finance & Governance (IMFG)'s Perspective, Gabriel Eidelman, Michael Fenn and André Côté have proposed a playbook for creating more effective regional governance in the Toronto region.

[Read More](#)

Rural Well-Being Report: The Rural Ontario Institute commissioned a report on Rural Well-Being which provides a benchmark on well-being for rural Ontario using the eight domains of the Canadian Well-Being Index (CWI).

[Read More](#)

 [Read More](#)

AMO: Submission to Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs regarding financial implications of COVID-19 the week of July 13 2020.

 [Read More](#)

Call for Project Proposals: Do you have some research or benchmarking you have been looking to start but haven't found the time? Need some policy analysis completed or a program evaluated? Want to get a jump ahead at some P.E.S.T factors affecting your business line? IPAC Toronto Regional Group (TRG) and York University's School of Public Policy and Administration (SPPA) are partnering to offer an exciting opportunity for IPAC TRG members! Not only can you get some help with your side projects or get a head start on identifying future needs for your business line, but you can provide keen fourth year SPPA students - the next generation of public servants – with great experience!

 [Read More](#)



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August 20, 2020

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- The Virtual 2020 AMO Conference - Thank you!
- Delegates elect new AMO Board.
- Peter J. Marshall Awards winners announced.
- Niagara Region wins 2020 Federal Gas Tax Award.
- 2020 Women of Influence in Local Government Award.
- Everything you need to know about Land Use Planning.
- eSCRIBE versus typical meeting management software.
- Investments 101 Training - Coming soon!
- Register now! Habitat in Towns - Collingwood World Summit.
- Careers with City of Windsor.

AMO Matters - 2020 AMO Conference

Thank you to the 1,500 delegates who attended our first ever virtual Conference. All content on the [platform](#) will remain available for 30 days to watch again at your leisure.

Graydon Smith, Mayor, Town of Bracebridge, has been elected as the new AMO President by delegates at the virtual 2020 AMO Conference. Congratulations to Mayor Smith and the [new Board](#).

The Peter J. Marshall Municipal Innovation Awards winners [announced](#) - the City of Markham won the PJ Marshall Plaque, while York Region and the Township of South Frontenac were given Certificates of Merit at the virtual 2020 AMO Conference.

Niagara Region's innovative [Stamford Interceptor project](#) has been named the winner of the 2020 AMO Federal Gas Tax Awards, announced at the virtual AMO Conference.

Former AMO President Lynn Dollin has been named winner of [Municipal World's 2020 Women of Influence in Local Government Award](#). Her success was announced at the virtual 2020 AMO Conference.

Eye on Events

Back by popular demand, *Land Use Planning: Beyond the Basics* is coming to you virtually. This training provides insight and tools to support your central role in implementing and managing the land use policy framework. [Registration details](#).

Join AMO's [partner](#), eSCRIBE, for a [webinar](#) on August 27 at 1 pm EDT as they discuss the benefits of implementing digital meeting management technology, including cost and time savings.

ONE Investment

Online investment learning coming this fall (September 1 - December, 2020). To register [click here](#). This year's course will cover the Prudent Investor Standard and understanding of the existing investments under the Legal List.

Municipal Wire*

Join us at [Habitat in Towns - Collingwood World Summit](#) hosted by the Town of Collingwood with Urban Economy Forum (UEF) and UN-Habitat, September 1 & 2, 2020. This virtual summit will work toward realizing the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), in particular the urban SDG: creating resilient and sustainable towns and communities.

Careers

[City Engineer/Corporate Leader, Environmental, Protection & Infrastructure Services - City of Windsor](#). Position Status: Regular, Full-Time. Reports to the Chief Administrative Officer. Closing Date for Applications: 4:30 p.m., Saturday, September 5, 2020. An online application is available and must be completed and submitted by no later than the posting period noted. To apply for this position, click [APPLY NOW](#).

[Corporate Leader/Commissioner, Parks, Recreation, Culture & Corporate Facilities - City of Windsor](#). Position Status: Regular, Full-Time. Reports to the Chief Administrative Officer. Closing Date for Applications: 4:30 p.m., Saturday, September 5, 2020. An online application is available and must be completed and submitted by no later than the posting period noted. To apply for this position, click [APPLY NOW](#).

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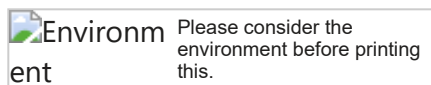
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Date: August-24-20 3:14:43 PM

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August 24, 2020

AMO Policy Update – Orders Extended, New Direction regarding Facilities

COVID-19 Emergency Orders Extended

The Province has [extended](#) its COVID-19 emergency orders for up to 30 more days. All orders under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020* (ROA) have been extended to September 22, 2020, with the following exceptions:

- the [Education Sector](#) order will end on August 31, 2020
- the [Limitation Periods](#) order will end and suspended time periods will resume running on September 14, 2020.

Additional Direction for Facilities

The Ontario government is [easing restrictions for facilities](#) that rent out professional meeting and event spaces. Beginning August 21, 2020, facilities can have up to 50 guests for each indoor meeting room or event space within the facility. The facility must follow a plan approved by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

The current indoor gathering limit will now apply on a per meeting room or event space basis at professional meeting and event facilities, including convention centres, hotels, motels, resorts, banquet halls and conference centres. Outdoor meeting and event facilities remain subject to the 100-person gathering limit for the entire outdoor area. Capacity limits exclude employees or event personnel.

In addition, new regulatory amendments have come into force requiring contact information for only one person in a party entering indoor or outdoor dining areas starting today, with exceptions. This is designed to reduce the administrative burden, while continuing to support case and contact tracing.

AMO's [COVID-19 Resources](#) page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to covid19@amo.on.ca.

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