



May 27, 2021

MEMORANDUM TO: Municipal Chief Administrative Officers and Clerks

SUBJECT: Three-Step Roadmap to Safely Reopen the Province of Ontario and Amendment to Orders under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act (ROA)*

As you heard on May 20, 2021, from the Premier of Ontario, the government has released its Roadmap to Reopen, a three-step plan to safely and cautiously reopen the province and gradually lift public health measures.

As our municipal partners in the continued efforts to keep communities safe and healthy, I am writing today to make sure that you stay informed about the roadmap and the corresponding changes to orders under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act (ROA)*.

It is important to note that the provincewide Stay-At-Home order under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act (EMCPA) remains in effect until June 2, 2021. However, the government has made changes to some of the existing orders under ROA that take effect prior to the end of the Stay-At-Home order.

Roadmap to Reopen

The Roadmap to Reopen is based on the provincewide vaccination rate and improvements in key public health and health care indicators. In summary:

- Step 1 is intended to focus on resuming outdoor activities with smaller crowds where the risk of transmission is lower and permitting retail with restrictions.
- Step 2 further expands outdoor activities and resumes limited indoor services with small number of people and with face coverings being worn.
- Step 3 expands access to indoor settings, with restrictions, including where there are larger numbers of people and where face coverings can't always be worn.

The government has indicated that the province will remain in each step for at least 21 days to evaluate any impacts on key public health and health system indicators. Vaccination thresholds will need to be met, along with positive trends in other key public health and health system indicators, in order to enter each respective step of the Roadmap.

To find out full details on the roadmap and its implementation, please review the [Roadmap to Reopen](#) on the Ontario government website.

Until the province moves to Step 1 of the roadmap, the rules and public health measures under the provincewide emergency brake must continue to be followed, subject to the following changes announced on May 20, 2021.

Outdoor Recreational Amenities

Several outdoor recreational amenities are permitted to open as of May 22, 2021 at 12:01 a.m. For a full list of these outdoor recreational amenities, please review [Ontario Regulation 344/21](#), and [Ontario Regulation 374/21](#), amendments to [Ontario Regulation 82/20](#) (Rules for Areas in Stage 1).

These outdoor recreational amenities may be open so long as:

- physical distancing of at least 2 metres is maintained; however, this physical distancing requirement does not apply to members of the same household, or a person who lives alone and has gathered with the household, or a caregiver for any member of the household;
- no team sports, or any other sports that are not compatible with physical distancing requirements, are practiced or played within the amenity, with limited exceptions; and,
- any locker rooms, changerooms, showers, clubhouses, restaurants, pools, meeting rooms, fitness centres or other recreational facilities on the premises remain closed, except to the extent they provide access to take-out or delivery services, equipment storage, a washroom or a portion of the amenity that is used to provide first aid.

In addition, any person responsible for a boat or watercraft shall ensure that, if it is used by a group for recreational purposes, it is only used by members of the same household, or a person who lives alone and has gathered with the household, or a caregiver for any member of the household.

Marinas, boating clubs and other organizations that maintain docking facilities for members or patrons may open provided that any clubhouse, restaurant, pool, communal steam room, sauna or whirlpool, meeting room, fitness centre or other recreational facility on the premises is closed to the public. Any portion of an area that must be closed that is used to provide first aid, used to provide take-out or delivery services, or contains a washroom may be open.

Lastly, social gatherings and organized public events of no more than five people that are held outdoors are permitted. The gathering limit does not apply to members of the same household, a gathering of a household plus one person who lives alone, or a gathering that includes a caregiver for any of those persons. All other public health and workplace safety measures under the Stay-at-Home order will remain in effect.

Overnight Camps

The government has made amendments to regulations pertaining to Rules for Areas in [Stage 1](#), [Stage 2](#) and [Stage 3](#) to permit the operation of overnight camps in Ontario. The amending regulations are as follows:

[Ontario Regulation 345/21 \(Rules for Areas in Stage 1\)](#)

[Ontario Regulation 347/21 \(Rules for Areas in Stage 2\)](#)

[Ontario Regulation 346/21 \(Rules for Areas in Stage 3\)](#)

Instructional Program in Post-Secondary Institutions

[Ontario Regulation 348/21](#) updates the permitted fields/occupations where instructional programs may continue to operate in post-secondary institutions.

Enforcement of Orders

As a reminder, for offences under the ROA and EMCPA, police and other provincial offences officers, including First Nation Constables, special constables, and municipal by-law officers, have discretion to either issue tickets to individuals for set fine amounts or issue a summons under Part I of the Provincial Offences Act (POA) or to proceed under Part III of the POA by laying an information.

Police and other provincial offences officers, including by-law officers, have the authority to disperse gatherings or organized public events that are not complying with gathering/event limits; and all provincial offences officers, including by-law officers, can temporarily close premises where prohibited gatherings are occurring and require individuals to vacate.

As the province prepares to reopen, the ministry recognizes that collaboration amongst municipalities, public health units, police, local enforcement partners and our multi-ministry teams is important to ensure coordinated compliance and enforcement activities in an effort to continue the recent progress on reducing the presence of COVID-19 in our communities.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Manson-Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kate Manson-Smith
Deputy Minister