



Media Release

Town of Midland enters Step 1 of Ontario's Roadmap to Reopen

June 11, 2021 – As the Town moves into Step 1 of Ontario's *Roadmap to Reopen* today, it is important to keep in mind the guidelines and restrictions of this important first step to a fully reopened province.

“Moving into Step 1 of the *Roadmap to Reopen* is great news for all residents, especially our local businesses that were unable to operate during the Stay-at-Home order,” said Mayor Stewart Strathearn. “It will be a welcome sight to see more activity in downtown Midland and more people enjoying our new King Street as some of our local businesses begin to operate under these new guidelines.”

Step 1 - Retail/Shopping

Restrictions on the selling of non-essential goods have been lifted and new guidelines are in place, including:

- Essential retail businesses may operate at 25% capacity, and discount/big box stores can sell all goods;
- Non-essential retail businesses may operate at 15% capacity and can sell all goods; and
- Retail stores in malls without street facing entrances will remain closed.

Step 1 - Outdoor Activities:

More outdoor activities with smaller crowds may now resume, including:

- Outdoor gatherings of up to 10 people;
- Outdoor dining up to 4 people per table. Indoor dining is not permitted;
- Outdoor fitness classes, personal training and sports training up to 10 people;
- Outdoor religious services, rites and ceremonies (including weddings and funerals) are permitted with limited capacity to allow for physical distancing. These services can take place indoors as well, at 15% capacity of the room;
- Outdoor historic sites, landmarks and more can operate with 15% capacity; and
- Outdoor camping at campgrounds and campsites, including Ontario Parks.

Please note that while outdoor recreational amenities are open and available for use, team sports are not permitted to practice or play games.



For full details on Step 1:

- Step 1 regulations as part of Ontario Regulation 82/20:
www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/200082#BK14
- Step 1 Public Health Guidance from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit:
<https://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Topics/COVID-19/Partners-and-Municipalities#>
- Details on the *Roadmap to Reopen Ontario*, and all the steps in the roadmap, please visit: www.ontario.ca/page/reopening-ontario

“As exciting as it is to now be allowed to have small outdoor gatherings and begin taking part in many of the activities we enjoy this time of year, it’s important to recognize what Step 1 represents. It’s a first step towards fully reopening the province, with much work left to do. We are not out of the woods yet,” added Strathearn. “Please continue to practice physical distancing, wear your masks, and wash your hands. We have all worked hard and made sacrifices by staying at home and helping prevent the spread of COVID-19, and it’s beginning to show with the considerable drop in cases recently and in the accelerating rise in vaccination numbers. Let’s keep up the good work!”

The Town of Midland will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and provide updates on our website at Midland.ca/COVID-19, and we encourage residents to follow our social media channels for updates as well, [@MidlandON](https://twitter.com/MidlandON) on Twitter, and [@townofmidland](https://www.facebook.com/townofmidland) on Facebook.

For more information on the state of COVID-19 in our area, please contact the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit their website at simcoemuskokahealth.org.



For media enquiries, please contact:
Randy Fee | Communications & Marketing Coordinator
Town of Midland | 575 Dominion Avenue, Midland, ON L4R 1R2
705-526-4275 ext.2264 | rfee@midland.ca | Midland.ca | Engagingmidland.ca