



Update – June 12, 2020

We are looking to share positive news about staff! If you've had some good news, please email rfee@midland.ca to include in a future update!

1) Ontario Extends Emergency Orders to Support Its Reopening Efforts

The Ontario government has extended all emergency orders in force under s.7.0.2 (4) of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act.

- Current emergency orders that have been extended include those that enable frontline care providers to redeploy staff where they are needed most, allow public health units to redeploy or hire staff to support case management and contact tracing, and prohibits long-term care and retirement home employees from working at more than one home or for another health service provider.

To read the full media release, visit: [Emergency Orders Extended until June 19](#)

2) Ontario Permits 24 Health Unit regions (including Simcoe-Muskoka) to move into Stage 2 of reopening as of 12:01 a.m. today.

- On Monday, the Ontario government announced that it is getting more people back to work and more recreational activities open by moving forward with a regional approach to Stage 2 of reopening the province.
- Effective at 12:01 a.m. today, the province will increase the limit on social gatherings from five to 10 people across the province, regardless of whether a region has moved to Stage 2. Additionally, all places of worship in Ontario will also be permitted to open with physical distancing in place and attendance limited to no more than 30 per cent of the building capacity to ensure the safety of worshippers.
- Businesses and services permitted to reopen with proper health and safety measures in place in regions entering Stage 2 include:
 - Outdoor dine-in services at restaurants, bars and other establishments, including patios, curbside, parking lots and adjacent properties;
 - Select personal and personal care services with the proper health and safety measures in place, including tattoo parlours, barber shops, hair salons and beauty salons;
 - Shopping malls under existing restrictions, including food services reopening for take-out and outdoor dining only;
 - Tour and guide services, such as bike and walking, bus and boat tours, as well as tasting and tours for wineries, breweries and distilleries;
 - Water recreational facilities such as outdoor splash pads and wading pools, and all swimming pools;
 - Beach access and additional camping at Ontario Parks;
 - Camping at private campgrounds;
 - Outdoor-only recreational facilities and training for outdoor team sports, with limits to enable physical distancing;
 - Drive-in and drive-through venues for theatres, concerts, animal attractions and cultural appreciation, such as art installations;
 - Film and television production activities, with limits to enable physical distancing; and
 - Weddings and funerals, with limits on social gatherings to 10 people..

To read the full media release, visit: [Ontario Permits More Businesses and Services to Reopen](#)
For more details on Stage 2, visit: [A Framework for Reopening our Province - Stage 2](#)



3) SMHDU guidance: Socially Distanced gatherings increase to 10

- Social gatherings can now include up to 10 people from five. But these groups must still maintain physical distancing of 2 metres from anyone not in their household.
- This means dinner parties in the dining room with the neighbours is not okay, but an outside gathering or campfire (if allowed in your area) with seating spread two metres apart for 10 or fewer people is okay. It is not an expansion of your intimate bubble to 10 people.
- The recommendation remains to stay with household members only at this point. You need to practise physical distancing from anyone not in your household and:
 - Monitor your health for symptoms
 - Wash hands and high touch areas frequently
 - Wear a mask in settings where you can't maintain the distance such as busy or small stores and public areas.
- This is all part of the process of learning to live with COVID-19 in the community while minimizing risks and the transmission of the virus. If you are experiencing any symptoms or are concerned you may have been exposed to someone with the virus, seek testing.
- A secondary Barrie site for COVID assessment and testing is now operating at the Barrie & Community Family Medicine Clinic (Prince William Way location).
- All assessment locations and hours of operation are posted on the [SMHDU website](#).

4) Beaches and Campsites to Open at Ontario Parks

- As part of the Ontario government's Stage 2 reopening plan, more facilities and services will be available at provincial parks in certain regions beginning on June 12, 2020. Gradually over the next several weeks, Ontario Parks will start opening campgrounds, providing more washrooms and drinking water, along with roofed accommodations, park store and rental operations, visitor centres, and sports fields. It's important to check what facilities and services are available before visiting a provincial park.
- The following is a list of recreational activities and facilities that will be opening soon at provincial parks in regions entering Stage 2:
 - On June 12, beaches at Ontario Parks will begin opening to the public as maintenance and water testing are completed.
 - On June 15, campers enrolled in this year's Ontario Parks' Seasonal Campsite Program will now have access to their campsites at the majority of participating provincial parks. Those who were preselected in 2019 for the program will be contacted by Ontario Parks directly regarding the status of their reservation.
 - Beginning the week of June 22, all other campgrounds in regions entering Stage 2 will gradually open at provincial parks, along with washrooms, water taps and trailer sanitation stations.
 - Roofed accommodations (e.g., yurts, cabins and lodges, where available), park store and rental operations, visitor centers, and sports fields will be phased in over the next several weeks.
- Facilities such as showers, laundry, group camping, picnic shelter rentals and swimming pools will remain closed for the rest of the 2020 season.

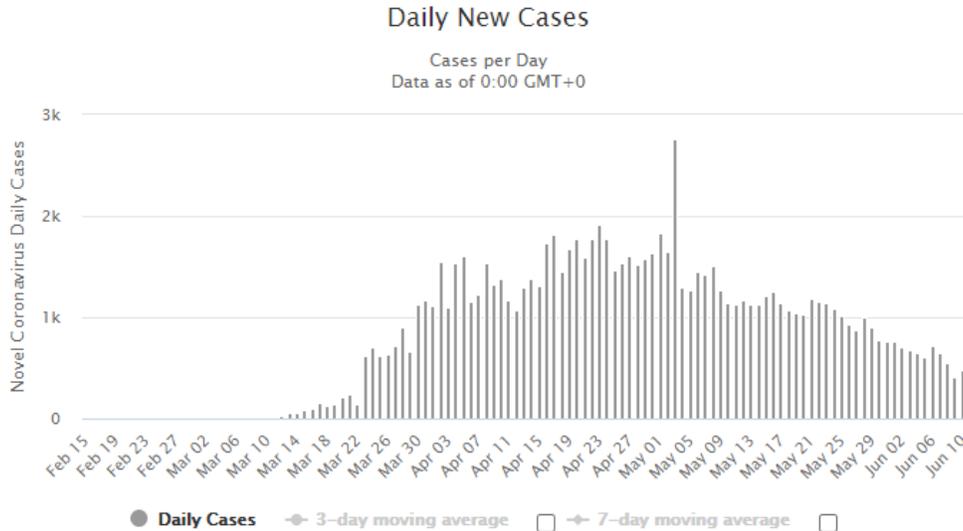
Visitors should check [OntarioParks.com](https://www.ontarioparks.com) to see what facilities and services are available before visiting a provincial park.

To read the full media release, visit: [Beaches & Campsites to Open at Ontario Parks](#)



5) Flattening the curve: Number of new COVID-19 cases in Canada dropping

- Since May 25, Canada has recorded less than 1,000 new cases per day, with the daily numbers steadily declining.
- On June 11 there were 409 new cases, representing the lowest daily total of new COVID-19 cases in Canada since March 22 and the third straight day with under 500 confirmed new cases.



(Source: <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/country/canada/>)

- This drop in new cases combined with the increase in recoveries has resulted in a steady drop in active cases in Canada. After peaking at 35,014 active cases on May 30, Canada now has 31,878 active cases as of June 11.
- The number of deaths from COVID-19 have slowly been dropping as well. Currently, Canada is averaging 51 deaths per day (7-day moving average), a large drop from the highest 7-day moving average of 176, reached on May 5.

What does this all mean? It means that Government interventions and efforts to reduce the spread (wearing masks, social distancing, handwashing) are working. However, even though most of Ontario is moving into Stage 2 of reopening, we must continue with these efforts to avoid a resurgence in cases.

If you think you may have COVID-19 symptoms or have been in close contact with someone who has it, first self-isolate and then use [Ontario's Self-Assessment Tool](#) to see if you need to seek further care.

Remember to pre-screen daily when entering any Town building.

Any changes within a department will now be provided to Randy to be included in an update and copied to Clerks@midland.ca for tracking.