



Dear Employees, Clients, Partners, and Suppliers:

Ontario has declared a second Provincial State of Emergency to address COVID-19 and has issued a stay-at-home order and has introduced enhanced enforcement measures to reduce mobility throughout the province.

A [province-wide stay-at-home order](#) and new restrictions on non-essential construction went into effect at midnight on Wednesday, November 13th. It is anticipated that this order will stay in effect “at least 28 days”, will require everyone to stay at home with some exemptions, like grocery shopping, health care, for exercise or essential work.

Updated regulations in play across the province that include every person in the premises of a business or organization that is open **shall ensure that they wear a mask or face covering that covers their mouth, nose and chin, when they are in indoor areas of the premises**, with limited exemptions. Non-essential construction has been further restricted, including below-grade, essential construction includes:

- **Projects associated with the healthcare/LTC sectors**
- **Schools/CC and critical infrastructure**
- **Industrial construction**
- **Construction due to be completed before July 2021**

Land surveying and demolition services are also permitted.

Below is more detail Premier Doug Ford’s office issued that outlines construction work that will be “deemed essential” and allowed to continue during the enhanced restrictions:

- Construction projects and services associated with the healthcare sector and long-term care, including new facilities, expansions, renovations and conversion of spaces that could be repurposed for health care space.
- Construction projects and services required to ensure safe and reliable operations of, or to provide new capacity in, provincial infrastructure, including transit, transportation, energy, mining and justice sectors beyond the day-to-day maintenance.
- Construction projects and services that support the operations of, and provide new capacity in schools, colleges, universities, municipal infrastructure and child care centres within the meaning of the Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014.
- Construction projects under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program
- Construction projects and services that support the operations of Broadband internet and cellular technologies and services.

- Critical industrial construction activities required for, the maintenance and operations of petrochemical plants and refineries, significant industrial petrochemical projects where preliminary work has already commenced, industrial construction and modifications to existing industrial structures limited solely to work necessary for the production, maintenance, and/or enhancement of Personal Protective Equipment, medical devices (such as ventilators), and other identified products directly related to combatting the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Construction projects that are due to be completed before July 2021 and that would provide additional capacity in the production, processing, manufacturing or distribution of food, beverages or agricultural products.
- Construction projects that were commenced before January 12, 2021, and that would, provide additional capacity for businesses that provide logistical support, distribution services, warehousing, storage or shipping and delivery services, or ii. provide additional capacity in the operation and delivery of Information Technology (IT) services or telecommunications services.
- Residential construction projects where, a footing permit has been granted for single family, semi-detached and townhomes the project is a condominium, mixed use or other residential building, or the project involves renovations to residential properties and construction work was started before January 12, 2021.
- Construction to prepare a site for an institutional, commercial, industrial or residential development, including any necessary excavation, grading, roads or utilities infrastructure.
- Construction and maintenance activities necessary to temporarily close construction sites that have paused or are not active and to ensure ongoing public safety.
- Below-grade multi-unit residential construction projects, such as apartments and condominiums. The Ontario government also provided that businesses must follow public health measures and should review the workplace safety guidelines.
- Construction on any project intended to provide either, affordable housing, or shelter or supports for vulnerable persons,
- If the project is being funded in whole or in part by, or is being undertaken by, any of the following:
 - A. the Crown in right of Canada or in right of Ontario,
 - B. an agency of the Crown in right of Canada or in right of Ontario,
 - C. a municipality,
 - D. a service manager as defined in the Housing Services Act, 2011, or
 - E. a registered charity and not for profit within the meaning of the Income Tax Act (Canada)

Fortunately, all of our existing and new projects fall within “Essential Construction” and are and continue to be fully operational and progressing without any disruption. That said, Physical distancing as well as a range of other updated enhanced safety precautions have continued on all of our sites, as well as at our administrative office location.

Personal safety continues to be our number one priority, by our own admission and as outlined by

the government of Ontario. A regularly updated and detailed reference for these guidelines, specifically for the construction sector can be [found here](#).

Continue Protecting Yourself and Your Coworkers:

Coronaviruses are spread through close contact, including at work. Here are some helpful tips to help prevent the spread:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Stay 2m away from others and maintain that separation at all times.
- Wear a mask when indoors, in common areas, or where others are present in closer proximity.
- Sneeze and cough into your sleeve.
- If you use a tissue, discard immediately and wash your hands afterward.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.
- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Stay home if you are sick.
- Avoid high-touch areas, where possible, or ensure you clean your hands after.
- Wipe down areas you touch in washrooms and lunch room areas
- Wash your clothes as soon as you get home.
- If you are ill: notify your supervisor immediately, complete the [self-assessment](#) and follow the instructions you get.
- Where possible, wear gloves when interacting with high-touch areas. Do not touch your face with gloved hands.
- Take care when removing gloves. Ensure you wash your hands after removing them.

Resources:

- Download the Governments free Covid Alert App [here](#).
- Health Canada also has a rich resource section relating to COVID-19, which can be [found here](#).
- The Canadian Construction Association has a resource centre centred specifically around the construction and development industry that includes financial relief details in addition to health & safety guides. [Learn more here](#)

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