

## COVID-19: Emergency Measures Tracker

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In light of the outbreak of COVID-19, our team is closely monitoring updates from governments across Canada as they respond to the pandemic. The following summarizes the emergency measures that have been imposed in each jurisdiction. We will continue to update this summary as further measures are introduced across the country.

This roundup was last updated on September ~~14~~, 15, 2020. To see what has changed since our last update, please download our blackline, [here](#).

### Federal

- **August 31, 2020:** The Canada Border Services Agency announced that travel restrictions are still in place ahead of the Labour Day long weekend at all Canadian international border crossings ([link](#)).
- **July 30, 2020:** The Canada Border Services Agency announced that as of July 31, 2020, stricter rules and additional entry conditions will be imposed on travelers transiting through Canada to Alaska for a non-discretionary purpose ([link](#)).
- **July 5, 2020:** The Canada Border Services Agency announced that it will be temporarily reducing service hours at additional land, air and marine ports of entry in addition to deferring seasonal opening hours at select points of entry ([link](#)).
- **July 3, 2020:** The Government of Canada extended the requirement for anyone crossing the Canadian border to be isolated for 14 days until August 31, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 12, 2020:** The Minister of Transport announced that the Government of Canada will now require temperature screenings for all passengers travelling to Canada or travellers departing Canadian airports for either international or domestic destinations ([link](#)).
- **June 8, 2020:** The Canada Border Services Agency announced that as of June 8, 2020 23:59 EDT, foreign nationals who are immediate family members of Canadian citizens and permanent residents, and who do not have COVID-19 or exhibit any signs or symptoms of COVID-19, or who do not have any reason to believe they have COVID-19, will be exempt from the prohibition on entry to Canada if entering to be with an immediate family member for a period of at least 15 days ([link](#)).
- **June 5, 2020:** The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, announced the delay of the coming into force of changes to the *Divorce Act*, due to the extraordinary circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic ([link](#)).
- **June 3, 2020:** The Minister of Transport announced the expansion of requirements for the use of face coverings by workers and others involved in the transportation system,

to reduce the risk of COVID-19. The measures will be implemented through a combination of mandatory orders and guidance ([link](#)).

- **May 28, 2020:** The Government of Canada announced that cruise ships with the capability of providing overnight accommodations to 100 or more people are prohibited from operating in Canadian waters until October 31, 2020 and that passenger vessels must follow provincial, territorial, local and regional health authority requirements for timelines and processes to resume operations starting July 1, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 27, 2020:** The Minister of Health authorized certain changes for clinical trials related to COVID-19 in order to accelerate efforts and create a more flexible process ([link](#)).
- **May 22, 2020:** The Government of Canada announced the launch of a web-based benefits finder tool, “Find financial help during COVID-19” to assist Canadians with determining which government benefits programs best meet their needs ([link](#)).
- **May 22, 2020:** The Canada Border Services Agency advised travellers that the seasonal opening of the Little Gold Creek port of entry will be delayed until further notice due to COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **May 15, 2020:** The Canada Border Services Agency announced the temporary suspension of service at the Four Falls, New Brunswick port of entry along the Canada-United States land border, effective May 17, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 14, 2020:** The Government of Canada announced pleasure craft will be prohibited from operating within Canada’s Arctic coastal waters starting June 1, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 12, 2020:** The Canada Border Services Agency announced the temporary suspension of service at certain small vessel reporting sites, small airports of entry, ferry terminals and to the Remote Area Border Crossing program ([link](#)).
- **April 29, 2020:** The Government of Canada made temporary changes to the *Employment Insurance Act* regarding the Employment Insurance Emergency Response Benefit. Further information can be found [here](#) and [here](#).
- **April 22, 2020:** The Government of Canada will support students and recent graduates by launching the “I Want to Help” platform, funding various student employment organizations, enhancing student financial assistance for fall 2020, and providing access to benefits over the summer ([link](#)).
- **April 22, 2020:** The Government of Canada removed the restriction that allows international students to work a maximum of 20 hours per week while classes are in session, provided they are working in an essential service or function, such as health care, critical infrastructure, or the supply of food or other critical goods ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** The Minister of Transport announced measures requiring all air passengers to have a non-medical mask or face covering to cover their mouth and nose during travel. These measures come into effect at noon EDT on April 20, 2020 ([link](#)).

- **April 17, 2020:** Through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership, the federal and provincial governments will connect people with job opportunities in the sector ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) liaison and reconnaissance elements will be dispatched to Québec to gather information in support of the upcoming deployment of CAF medical personnel and resources to help with the ongoing situation in long-term care facilities ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** The Government of Canada announced its intent to introduce the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) for small businesses ([link](#)).
- **April 15, 2020:** Canada Border Services Agency reduced service hours at 27 Canadian land border locations. Further information on locations and times can be found [here](#).
- **April 15, 2020:** Parks Canada extended the suspension of camping reservations and events until May 31, 2020, at the earliest ([link](#)).
- **April 15, 2020:** The Canadian Minister of Health launched the Wellness Together Canada portal to connect Canadians to peer support workers, social workers, psychologists and other professionals for confidential chat sessions or phone calls. This is also intended to make it easier to find credible information and help address mental health and substance use issues ([link](#)).
- **April 14, 2020:** The Government of Canada ordered that travellers arriving in Canada cannot isolate or quarantine in a place where they would be in contact with people who are vulnerable. Upon arrival, travellers must confirm they have a suitable place to isolate or quarantine. If they cannot do so, the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada will designate a place ([link](#)).
- **April 14, 2020:** Regulatory amendments to the *Contraventions Act* came into force. These amendments allow law enforcement agencies to ticket individuals who do not comply with the Federal *Quarantine Act*. Offences may result in fines ranging from \$275 to \$1000, or criminal proceedings ([link](#)).
- **April 13, 2020:** The Government of Canada granted an exemption for temporary foreign workers from the travel restrictions to Canada, along with other foreigners with student and work visas, provided they adhere to a strict 14-day isolation protocol upon arrival. The federal government will provide \$1,500 for each temporary foreign worker, to employers or those working with them to ensure requirements are fully met. The funding is conditional on employers not violating the mandatory 14-day isolation protocols or any other public health order ([link](#)).
- **April 10, 2020:** The Government of Canada established the COVID-19 Disability Advisory Group to ensure that the interests and needs of persons with a disability are being taken into account in response measures to COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **April 8, 2020:** The Competition Bureau signalled that it will generally refrain from exercising scrutiny in circumstances where there is a clear imperative for companies to be collaborating in the short-term to respond to the crisis, so long as those collaborations are undertaken and executed in good faith and do not go further than what is needed ([link](#)).

- **April 8, 2020:** The Government of Canada announced that it will invest \$3 million in several organizations through the Digital Citizen Initiative's Digital Citizen Contribution Program to help combat false and misleading COVID-19 information as well as the racism and stigmatization that are often the result ([link](#)).
- **April 6, 2020:** The Minister of Seniors announced the New Horizons for Seniors Program allowing for the reallocation of funding previously received by organizations to go towards COVID-19 supports ([link](#)).
- **April 6, 2020:** The Canada Border Services Agency has temporarily changed the regulations for driving U.S.-plated vehicles in Canada. The Canada Border Services Agency will facilitate entry for residents driving U.S.-plated vehicles by permitting the temporary import of U.S. vehicles without paying duties and taxes for up to 60 days from the date of importation in accordance with the *Temporary Importation of Conveyances by Residents of Canada* ([link](#)).
- **April 5, 2020:** The Minister of Transport, the Honourable Marc Garneau, announced new measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission on commercial passenger vessels and ferries ([link](#)).
- **April 3, 2020:** The Government of Canada partnered with Amazon Canada for the distribution of personal protective equipment and supplies ([link](#)).
- **April 3, 2020:** The Canadian Armed Forces will be dispatched to Nunavik in northern Québec to support the community during a regional lockdown.
- **April 2, 2020:** Public Safety Canada developed a set of functions deemed essential in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic to help provinces/territories, Indigenous communities, and municipalities protect their communities while maintaining the reliable operation of critical infrastructure services and functions to ensure the health, safety, and economic well-being of the population. The guidance is not, nor should it be considered to be a federal directive or standard. Further information on Public Safety Canada's guidance on essential services and functions in Canada during the COVID-19 pandemic can be found [here](#).
- **March 28, 2020:** The Government of Canada introduced new domestic transportation measures. All air operators must conduct a health check of travellers before they board a flight within Canada or departing from Canada, based on guidance from the Public Health Agency of Canada. Passengers that present COVID-19 symptoms must be refused by air operators. Individuals who are refused will not be able to travel for a period of 14 days, or until a medical certificate is presented confirming that the traveller's symptoms are not related to COVID-19. They must also notify travellers that they may be subject to provincial or territorial measures at their final destination. Similar restrictions apply to rail companies. More on these orders can be found [here](#).
- **March 26, 2020:** All in person Service Canada Centres have closed ([link](#)).
- **March 25, 2020:** *An Act respecting certain measures in response to COVID-19* has been enacted. It amended the *Canada Labour Code* to include a COVID-19 related

leave of up to 16 weeks and additional job protections. It also amended other laws to assist with implementing the Government of Canada's emergency response ([link](#)).

- **March 25, 2020:** The Government of Canada has mandated an immediate 14 day quarantine for all Canadians returning to Canada as of 11:59 pm on March 25, 2020. The Government of Canada has advised that this mandated quarantine will be enforced under the *Quarantine Act*.
- **March 24, 2020:** Parks Canada temporarily suspended all motor vehicle access to all national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas. These measures are effective as of 12:01 a.m. on March 25, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **March 19, 2020:** All Canadians returning home from travel outside of Canada urged to self-isolate for 14 days.
- **March 18, 2020:** Government of Canada, in conjunction with the United States, closed the Canadian-US border to all non-essential travel.
- **March 16, 2020:** Government of Canada banned the entry of all non-Canadian or non-permanent residents into Canada.
- **March 14, 2020:** Government of Canada issued a travel advisory to avoid all non-essential travel outside of Canada and all travel by cruise ship. Canadians were urged to return home via commercial means while they still remain available.
- Further information is available on the Government of Canada's [website](#).
- To date the Government of Canada has imposed emergency measures under the *Quarantine Act*, the *Aeronautics Act*, and other federal legislation. It has not yet invoked its extraordinary powers under the *Emergencies Act*. Further information on the federal government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" series of explainers, available on [our COVID-19 hub](#).

### **British Columbia**

- **September 8, 2020:** The Provincial Health Officer amended her order regarding bars, nightclubs and banquet halls. All nightclubs and stand-alone banquet halls are ordered closed. Liquor sales in bars, pubs and restaurants must cease at 10 pm, and the establishment must close at 11 pm unless they provide full meal service (however liquor sales must cease at 10 pm regardless). Music or other background sounds must be no louder than the volume of normal conversation ([link](#)).
- **September 2, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia extends online variance applications for temporary layoff provisions past August 30, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **September 1, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia extended the province's state of emergency extended until September 15, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **August 21, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia introduces new measures to enforce COVID-19-related emergency orders ([link](#)).

- **August 18, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia extended the province's state of emergency extended until September 1, 2020.
- **August 17, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia is extending the provincial temporary crisis supplement for people on income or disability assistance and low-income seniors for an additional four months ([link](#)).
- **August 4, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia extended the province's state of emergency extended until August 18, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **July 30, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia restricts non-resident travel to Haida Gwaii in response to a community outbreak ([link](#)).
- **July 30, 2020:** Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General issues emergency order to ensure BC Ferries can provide priority medical-assured loading on the first available vessel for any individual, their vehicle and an escort ([link](#)).
- **July 21, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia has extended the province's state of emergency until August 4, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **July 7, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia has extended the province's state of emergency until July 21, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 26, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia extended the temporary layoffs provisions to a maximum of 24 weeks expiring on August 30, 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic ([link](#)).
- **June 25, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia is funding and implementing new safety measures for seasonal domestic fruit pickers with respect to COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **June 24, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia has extended the province's state of emergency until at least July 7, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 23, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia introduced the *COVID-19 Related Measures Act*, legislation that will allow for the provisions created for citizens and businesses in response to the pandemic to be formalized and unwound as appropriate after the provincial state of emergency ends ([link](#)).
- **June 19, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia announced that it will end provincially led border check points on June 20, 2020. Federal screening measures currently in place will continue and Service BC will also continue compliance and wellness checks to ensure travelers can effectively maintain their 14-day self-isolation ([link](#)).
- **June 11, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia has formally extended the provincial state of emergency, allowing the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General to continue to use extraordinary powers under the *Emergency Program Act* ([link](#)).
- **June 5, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia extended a temporary ministerial order until December 31, 2020, to continue to allow health-care workers and other public

sector staff to use communication tools not normally permitted for use during the COVID-19 state of emergency ([link](#)).

- **June 5, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia announced temporary relief to hospitality licensees who have had to suspend their operations as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic ([link](#)).
- **May 28, 2020:** The Provincial Health Officer issues a Vending Markets Order, which repealed and replaced the order made April 15, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 27, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia extended the state of emergency to June 9, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 22, 2020:** The Provincial Health Officer issued a Mass Gatherings Order, which repealed and replaced the order made March 16, 2020 regarding mass gatherings. The Order provides that an owner/occupier must not permit the gathering of more than 50 patrons. The owner/operator of a drive-in event must not permit more than 50 vehicles to be present at one event ([link](#)).
- **May 20, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia issued two emergency orders that temporarily suspend in-person execution requirements for wills and personal planning instruments ([link](#)).
- **May 13, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia extended the state of emergency to May 26, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 12, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia announced a program to provide smartphones to vulnerable people experiencing less connectivity due to the closure of libraries ([link](#)).
- **May 12, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia launched Buy BC e-commerce funding to assist farmers and food and beverage processors with selling their products online ([link](#)).
- **May 5, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia announced the establishment of an emergency response centre to provide temporary accommodation for individuals experiencing homelessness ([link](#)).
- **May 1, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia will permit local governments to hold public hearings electronically ([link](#)).
- **April 30, 2020:** The Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General issued a Ministerial Order which enables credit union meetings to be held by telephone or other electronic means ([link](#)).
- **April 30, 2020:** The British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development announced it is deferring stumpage fees for the forestry sector for three months ([link](#)).

- **April 29, 2020:** The Parliamentary Secretary for Gender Equity announced that the Province has secured 300 additional spaces in communities for people leaving violent and unstable situations ([link](#)).
- **April 29, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia extended the state of emergency to May 12, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 29, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia announced that animal care facilities, including BC SPCA facilities, zoos and aquariums, may apply for emergency COVID-19 funding ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** The Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General issued the Employment and Assistance (COVID-19) Order under the *Emergency Program Act*, which provides that any requirement under the *Employment and Assistance Act*, or the *Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Act* to provide or do certain things may be satisfied by verbal means or verbal confirmation ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia will not enforce restrictions on food trucks that set up at key stops for commercial truck drivers ([link](#)).
- **April 26, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia announced it is doubling this year's funding for Family Caregivers of British Columbia to \$1 million. Family Caregivers of British Columbia is a not-for-profit organization that supports people who are caring for elderly relations or friends ([link](#)).
- **April 25, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia is working with the cities of Vancouver and Victoria to move individuals living in parks into safe, temporary accommodations ([link](#)).
- **April 24, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia announced rent relief for small businesses by at least 75% through the federal-provincial Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance Program (CECRA) ([link](#)).
- **April 24, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia will provide funding to internet service providers to give people in rural, remote and Indigenous communities access to faster internet service ([link](#)).
- **April 24, 2020:** The Ministry of Attorney General established two advisory groups to support courts and tribunals in delivering services and minimizing the impact of the pandemic on the justice system ([link](#)).
- **April 23, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia announced a public health order outlining obligations of employers and workers in the agriculture, aquaculture, forestry and resource sectors, including prevention, control and inspection protocols ([link](#)).
- **April 23, 2020:** The Ministry of Finance announced that applications for the \$1,000 BC Emergency Benefit for Workers will open May 1, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 22, 2020:** The Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General issued an order under the *Emergency Program Act* which enables companies, societies and



cooperatives to meet electronically for the duration of the provincial state of emergency ([link](#)).

- **April 21, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia announced that up to \$35.6 million in provincial emergency COVID-19 funding will be distributed through Community Living BC to people with developmental disabilities over the next three months ([link](#)).
- **April 20, 2020:** The British Columbia Court of Appeal extended the suspension of service and filing deadlines to June 1, 2020. Beginning May 4, 2020, all civil appeals and chambers applications will be heard either by videoconference, by telephone or in writing ([link](#)).
- **April 20, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia partnered with the First Nations Health Authority and launched a framework to ensure the wellbeing of rural and remote Indigenous communities ([link](#)).
- **April 20, 2020:** All individuals that attended the Kearl Lake project near Fort McMurray, Alberta from March to present were ordered to self-isolate for 14 days ([link](#)).
- **April 20, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia partnered with the District of Squamish and Squamish Helping Hands Society to provide 49 new temporary homes for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness in the community ([link](#)).
- **April 19, 2020:** Police and enforcement officers can now issue \$2,000 tickets for violations. They will also enforce the ban on reselling essential goods and supplies and price gouging ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia announced a temporary change under the *Emergency Program Act*, to allow strata corporations to hold meetings electronically ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** The British Columbia Supreme Court extended the adjournment of all civil and family hearings scheduled before May 1, 2020, to all civil and family hearings scheduled before May 29, 2020. The suspension of filing and service deadlines for civil and family matters was also extended to May 29, 2020. All jury selections have been cancelled up to and including July 3, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** The Provincial Court of British Columbia announced that matters related to public health and safety and the COVID-19 pandemic, including matters under the *Quarantine Act*, *Public Health Act* and similar statutes and regulations, will be considered urgent hearings and will proceed with all participants appearing by telephone or video conference ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia launched Here2Talk, a free mental-health counselling service for post-secondary students ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** The Insurance Corporation of British Columbia announced further steps to reduce the financial burden for drivers during the COVID-19 pandemic, including waiving the fees for cancelling and then re-insuring vehicles, and allowing fleet vehicle customers to suspend their insurance, among other measures ([link](#)).

- **April 16, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia launched the B.C. Business COVID-19 Support Service to act as a one-stop resource to answer questions about supports available to businesses from the provincial and federal governments, industry and community partners ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia announced it will reduce most commercial property tax bills by an average of 25%, along with new measures to support local governments facing temporary revenue shortfalls as a result of COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **April 15, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia extended the state of emergency to April 28, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 15, 2020:** The Provincial Health Officer issued a revised Facility Staff Assignment Order, which amends a prior order made April 10, 2020, to enable long term care facility workers to work at a single facility ([link](#)).
- **April 15, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia temporarily extended hours of retail liquor service to provide a greater opportunity for physical distancing for seniors and people who are immunocompromised. Delivery services are also authorized to purchase unopened liquor products from a liquor store during the same extended hours ([link](#)).
- **April 15, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia will install portable toilets at vehicle pull-outs and inspection stations to improve travel for commercial truck drivers ([link](#)).
- **April 14, 2020:** The Provincial Health Officer issued a revised Travellers and Employers Order, which revises the previous Travellers and Employers Order made April 10, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 14, 2020:** All temporary foreign workers will be required to self-isolate in government-managed accommodations for 14 days before being transported to farms throughout British Columbia ([link](#)).
- **April 10, 2020:** The Provincial Health Officer made an order under the *Public Health Act* requiring travellers that arrive at Vancouver International Airport or at a Canada/US land border crossing to present themselves to a Provincial Information and Support Officer and submit a self-isolation plan. The order also provides guidance to employers of workers and essential workers returning to British Columbia ([link](#)). Dr. Henry also issued an order delegating certain powers under the *Public Health Act* to Provincial Information and Support Officers ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** The Provincial Health Officer issued an order under the *Public Health Act*, and the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General issued an order under the *Emergency Program Act*, which in concert enable long term care facility workers to work at a single facility (link [here](#) and [here](#)).
- **April 8, 2020:** The Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General issued a new limitations order which exempts mandatory limitation periods and other mandatory time periods established under the *Builders Lien Act* and Division 5, Part 5 of the *Strata Property Act* from the suspension of mandatory limitation periods. This limitations order

will take effect on April 15, 2020. All other mandatory limitation periods and other mandatory time periods established in an enactment or law of British Columbia within which a civil action, claim or appeal must be commenced continue to be suspended ([link](#)).

- **April 8, 2020:** International travelers arriving in British Columbia, must provide a self-isolation plan before entry that demonstrates they have supports in place to self-isolate for 14 days. If sufficient supports are not demonstrated, the traveler may be taken to a provincial accommodation site ([link](#)).
- **April 8, 2020:** BC Parks closed all provincial parks ([link](#)). Overnight camping and motorized recreation (including the use of off-road vehicles) is restricted in the Kooecanusa area for spring and summer ([link](#)).
- **April 8, 2020:** The British Columbia Civil Resolution Tribunal (CRT) extended statutory deadlines and waived fees for those struggling financially ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia acquired 900 spaces at 23 sites for individuals who need a place to self-isolate ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** Most open burning activities will be prohibited throughout British Columbia as of noon on April 16, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General issued a Ministerial Order which protects essential services from being held liable for damages caused by exposure to COVID-19 while continuing to operate, so long as they are complying with orders from the provincial health officer and other authorities ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training announced \$3.5 million in emergency financial assistance for students attending public post-secondary institutions ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction announced new emergency supports for people on income or disability assistance and low-income seniors ([link](#)).
- **April 1, 2020:** BC Hydro announced a credit for residential customers who have lost their jobs or are unable to work due to COVID-19 to help cover their electricity bills. Small businesses forced to close as a result of COVID-19 will have their power bill forgiven for three months, from April to June 2020. Major industries, such as pulp and paper mills and mines may defer 50% of their bill payments for three months. Further details are available [here](#).
- **April 1, 2020:** The provincial health officer issued guidelines to support compliance with orders on business closures and gatherings, under the *Public Health Act*. The new guidelines provide instruction on warnings, public education, and fines ([link](#)).
- **April 1, 2020:** The Ministry of Education has secured and funded licences for the application Zoom for all K-12 public and independent schools in British Columbia ([link](#)).

- **March 31, 2020:** The Government of British Columbia extended the state of emergency through to the end of day on April 14, 2020. Evictions have been halted. The Government of British Columbia is also amending the *Employment Standards Act* to protect jobs for those unable to work for reasons related to COVID-19 and intends to launch a process to match essential service workers with child care in their communities while supporting child care providers with temporary emergency funding. Further information on these measures can be found [here](#).
- **March 30, 2020:** Youth and young adults that are receiving care through government assistance will continue receiving the same level of service and will continue to reside where they are during the pandemic, even if they were set to age out ([link](#)). Effective April 1, 2020, pay parking is temporarily suspended at all health authority owned and operated sites ([link](#)).
- **March 29, 2020:** The Minister of Citizens' Services made an order enabling the broader use of communication tools for health-care workers and other public-sector staff who are responding to COVID-19 under the *Freedom of Information and Privacy Protection Act* ([link](#)).
- **March 28, 2020:** Dr. Bonnie Henry ordered that all episodic vending markets (such as farmers markets) must only allow vendors to serve food at these events. Vendors of all other merchandise are prohibited at these events ([link](#)).
- **March 27, 2020:** Limitation periods to commence court proceedings in British Columbia have been suspended, and statutory decision-makers have been provided discretion to waive, suspend or extend time periods related to their powers ([link](#)).
- **March 26, 2020:** Mike Farnworth, Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, issued a series of orders in response to COVID-19. First, the government established a Provincial Supply Chain Coordination Unit to co-ordinate goods and services distribution, and to allow the delivery of goods at any time of day. The government banned the resale of food, medical supplies, personal protective equipment, cleaning supplies and other essential supplies, and restricted the quantity of these items that may be purchased. Provincial health officer's orders may now be enforced by municipal bylaw officers. The government also suspended local states of emergency, except in the City of Vancouver. More on these orders can be found [here](#).
- **March 24, 2020:** BC Ferries advised customers to avoid non-essential travel. The Province has closed certain parks and recreational areas.
- **March 23, 2020:** City of Vancouver passed a motion allowing the City to fine businesses up to \$50,000, and individuals up to \$1,000, for not following social distancing rules.
- **March 21, 2020:** Dr. Bonnie Henry, British Columbia's Provincial Health Officer, ordered the immediate closure of personal service establishments – like barbershops, salons, nail estheticians, health spas, massage parlours, tattoo shops and others.
- **March 20, 2020:** Dr. Henry ordered owners and operators of premises where food and drink is served, and retail liquor stores, that they may only provide take-out or delivery services. Holders of liquor licenses that do not provide meal service must close.

- **March 18, 2020:** BC Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Mike Farnworth, declares provincial “state of emergency” under the *Emergency Program Act*. The declaration will be in effect for 14 days, but can be extended. Mike Farnworth also announced that the provincial legislature would convene on Monday, March 23, 2020 to discuss amendments to the British Columbia’s *Employment Standards Act* to protect individuals affected by COVID-19 and the measures imposed to contain it.
- **March 17, 2020:** Dr. Henry declared a “public health emergency” under British Columbia’s *Public Health Act*. Dr. Henry ordered travelers who have returned to Canada on or after March 12, 2020 to self-isolate for 14 days. Dr. Henry also ordered all bars, nightclubs and pubs to close. Businesses that remain open, such as grocery stores and pharmacies, must take measures to ensure social distancing. Restaurants and cafes that cannot meet the social distancing requirement must switch to take-out only.
- **March 16, 2020:** Dr. Henry issued an order prohibiting owners, occupiers and operators from allowing gatherings of 50 people or more. This had the effect of closing public spaces from community centres to swimming pools and libraries in municipalities across the province.
- Further information is available on the Government of British Columbia’s [website](#).
- Further information on the B.C. government’s emergency powers, can be found on our “Can they do that?” explainer, [here](#).

## Alberta

- **June 23, 2020:** The Government of Alberta’s environmental reporting temporarily paused by government during the provincial public health emergency will resume on July 15, 2020. It will resume four weeks earlier than planned ([link](#)).
- **June 8, 2020:** The Government of Alberta announced that Albertans can now access 20 million free, non-medical face masks to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **June 4, 2020:** Long-term changes to Alberta’s nursing homes regulations will come into effect on August 15, 2020. Changes will be made to the two regulations under the *Nursing Homes Act*: the Nursing Homes General Regulation and the Nursing Homes Operation Regulation ([link](#)).
- **May 12, 2020:** *Bill 13: Emergency Management Amendment Act, 2020 (No. 2)* came into force, allowing police enhanced authority during a state of emergency, allowing municipalities to declare a 90-day state of local emergency, and granting the Government of Alberta powers to cancel, rescind or restrict actions taken by a municipality pursuant to a state of local emergency ([link](#)).
- **May 5, 2020:** The Government of Alberta introduced new orders that will allow individual COVID-19 test results to be provided to police if an individual had deliberately put an officer at risk by coughing, sneezing or spitting on the officer. The new orders also expand the number of health-care practitioners who are able to assist in contact tracing ([link](#)).

- **May 4, 2020:** The Government of Alberta suspended time limitations set out in legislation (including the *Adult Adoption Act*, the *Assured Income for the Severely Handicapped Act*, the *Income and Employment Supports Act*, etc.) including for appeals of decisions on Community and Social Services programs. Appeals can still be filed. If proper isolation and physical distancing measures can be maintained—and all of the necessary steps taken for the appeal to be filed—a decision can be appealed ([link](#)).
- **May 4, 2020:** The Government of Alberta temporarily changed regulations to permit nurse practitioners to act as primary care providers in nursing homes, admitting and assessing residents, as well as offering follow-up care. Changes will also enable nurse practitioners and other qualified health professionals to prescribe medication and order treatments in nursing homes, according to their scopes of practice ([link](#)).
- **May 3, 2020:** The Government of Alberta modified the *Occupational Health and Safety Code* to add additional approved respiratory protective equipment required for use at a work site ([link](#)).
- **April 29, 2020:** The Government of Alberta exempted individuals in the Fort McMurray area who are engaged in flood suppression and prevention activities from the physical distancing orders ([link](#)).
- **April 29, 2020:** The Government of Alberta made orders related to long-term care and supportive living environments. There will be more expansive testing and new measures will allow for individuals to continue to receive treatment for addictions ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** The Government of Alberta announced that it will offer corporate registry services, personal property services and select motor vehicle services remotely ([link](#)).
- **April 24, 2020:** The Government of Alberta announced rent relief of 50% for small businesses through the federal-provincial Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance Program (CECRA). Landlords and tenants are each responsible for 25% of the remaining costs ([link](#)).
- **April 24, 2020:** The Minister of Labour and Immigration issued an order updating requirements for health care workers respecting working for more than one employer or at more than one worksite, including (a) selection of the worksite or employer (b) leaves of absence, (c) scheduling of workers, and (d) dispute resolution ([link](#)).
- **April 24, 2020:** The Site Rehabilitation Program will launch on May 1, 2020, creating around 5,300 jobs to perform reclamation work on well, pipeline, and oil and gas sites ([link](#)).
- **April 23, 2020:** The Government of Alberta has developed a mobile contact tracing application called *AB TraceTogether*. The application will be available for voluntary download ([link](#)).
- **April 22, 2020:** The Court of Queen's Bench extended limiting hearings to only emergency and urgent matters to May 31, 2020, and the adjournment of criminal jury trials and jury selections to September 8, 2020 ([link](#)).

- **April 17, 2020:** The Chief Medical Officer can now compel Health Care Facilities operators to disclose information about staff members in order to restrict movement of staff members among health care facilities ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** The Government of Alberta extended the filing due date for the IFTA Quarterly Tax Return to June 30, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** Camping reservations at Alberta Parks have been suspended and will be refunded up to and including May 19, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services created an Alternative Relationship Plan to pay physicians who adjust their practice to provide care for Albertans during the COVID-19 pandemic ([link](#)).
- **April 14, 2020:** Alberta Community and Social Services will allow direct assistance for food to be provided to individuals and families during the pandemic ([link](#)).
- **April 14, 2020:** Military families have been added to the list of provincial workers who can access child care ([link](#)).
- **April 14, 2020:** In preparation for wildfire season, the Government of Alberta will hire 200 additional fire fighters, invoke a fire ban, implement off-highway vehicle restrictions, increase fine violations, and fund community FireSmart initiatives ([link](#)).
- **April, 13, 2020:** The Chief Medical Officer issued conditions for exemptions from mandatory isolation for quarantined or isolated persons who are required to take minor children for scheduled medical care, or who have minor children who require emergency care or admittance to a hospital or other medical facility ([link](#)).
- **April 12, 2020:** The Government of Alberta launched a charitable giving matching donation program to increase support to charities responding to COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **April 10, 2020:** Service Alberta issued an order to help organizations and businesses comply with legislative and regulatory provisions related to time, location, distance, access to information and collection of utility payments. Further information can be found [here](#).
- **April 10, 2020:** Effective next week, continuing care workers will be required to wear masks when providing direct patient care or working in patient care areas. They may also only work at one site ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** The Government of Alberta launched the Agriculture Jobs Connector. The new Agriculture Jobs Connector website is a tool for Albertans to find essential agriculture work opportunities and for essential agriculture businesses to find workers ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** A temporary health measure will allow international visitors to receive health care, even if they do not have coverage ([link](#)).

- **April 8, 2020:** The Government of Alberta deferred specific reporting requirements for energy companies under the *Coal Conservation Act*, the *Oil and Gas Conservation Act* and the *Oil Sands Conservation Act* ([link](#)).
- **April 8, 2020:** Electronic hearings before the Alberta Court of Appeal are open to participants, their counsel and the accredited media which represents the public interest. Non-lawyer participants are required to sign an Undertaking prohibiting recording and rebroadcasting of Court proceedings ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** Pursuant to a new public health order, visitors are prohibited from attending long-term care centres, licensed group homes and other facilities, unless a resident is dying ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** The Government of Alberta proposed amendments to the *Emergency Management Act*. The amendments include: (1) allowing states of local emergency to last for 90 days, (2) clarifying language regarding offences for non-compliance with emergency orders, (3) clarifying that the minister can modify a state of emergency without terminating it, and (4) clarifying that a state of emergency can be for any pandemic ([link](#)).
- **April 6, 2020:** The Government of Alberta has enacted changes to Alberta's *Employment Standards Code* and *Employment Standards Regulation*. The changes are: (1) the maximum length of a temporary layoff will be increased from 60 days to 120 days, (2) the 24 hour written notice requirement for employers to notify employees of a shift change has been removed, (3) employers are no longer required to provide notice of group termination to affected employees, unions or the Minister of Labour and Immigration, (4) the process for obtaining a variance or exemption under the *Employment Standards Code* will be streamlined to enable employers better flexibility to adapt to rapidly changing working conditions, and (5) employees who have had to take time off work due to COVID-19 will have the ability to access unpaid job-protected leave. Further information on these changes can be found [here](#).
- **April 6, 2020:** Alberta Health Services has prohibited visitors to long-term care, supportive living, congregate living, hospice care and acute care settings, with limited exceptions ([link](#)).
- **April 4, 2020:** The Minister of Health established the Calgary Homeless Foundation and HomeSpace society to provide services to operate Lakeview Signature Suites in Calgary as an isolation centre serving homeless or home insecure individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **April 3, 2020:** The Government of Alberta launched the "Bits and Pieces" program with more than 1,100 offers of support from private and non-profit organizations. Offers include commercial vehicles, hotel rooms and mobile trailers, food and water services, hospital gowns, face masks, ventilators and other personal protective equipment ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** It is now free for healthcare workers and the public to park at all Alberta Health Services facilities ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** New outbreak standards were implemented in supportive living, long-term care, and residential addiction treatment centers. These standards direct how to deploy



staff and resources where most needed, implement isolation measures, and ensure staff have up-to-date training on care and protective equipment in an effort to contain the virus ([link](#)).

- **April 2, 2020:** The Minister of Justice and Solicitor General ordered that limitation periods be suspended from March 17, 2020 to June 1, 2020. Additionally, any period of time within which any step must be taken in any proceeding or intended proceeding is suspended from March 17, 2020 to June 1, 2020, subject to the discretion of the court, tribunal or decision-maker. The order can be found [here](#).
- **April 2, 2020:** Royal assent is given to Bill 10: *Public Health (Emergency Powers) Amendment Act, 2020* ([link](#)), Bill 11, *Tenancies Statutes (Emergency Provisions) Amendment Act, 2020* ([link](#)) and Bill 12, *Liabilities Management Statutes Amendment Act, 2020* ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** Service Alberta will allow the Land Titles Office to register documents that have been witnessed, sworn or affirmed by Alberta lawyers using two-way video conferencing ([link](#)).
- **April 1, 2020:** The Government of Alberta expanded child care eligibility to include children of critical infrastructure workers and first responders and anyone outlined as essential by government. Child care services were previously only available to front-line health-care workers ([link](#)).
- **April 1, 2020:** The Government of Alberta partnered with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) to increase food inspector capacity and meet increased demand in the food processing industry ([link](#)).
- **April 1, 2020:** The Chief Medical Officer provides conditions for the exemption from mandatory self-isolation for quarantined or isolated persons who require COVID-19 testing or require emergency care or critical care for pre-existing medical conditions ([link](#)).
- **March 31, 2020:** The Government of Alberta proposed three new bills: (i) Bill 10, *Public Health (Emergency Powers) Amendment Act, 2020* will provide law enforcement agencies full authority to enforce public health orders during a pandemic; (ii) Bill 11, *Tenancies Statutes (Emergency Provisions) Amendment Act, 2020* will ensure no one will be retroactively charged for residential rent increases or late fees while the state of public health emergency is in effect; and (iii) Bill 12, *Liabilities Management Statutes Amendment Act, 2020*, which will enable the Government of Alberta to clarify and enable expanded, delegated authority for the Orphan Well Association to maintain and manage orphan sites ([link](#)).
- **March 31, 2020:** The Lieutenant Governor in Council announced the *Electronic Documents Regulation*, prescribing requirements for electronic documents filed at the Provincial Court of Alberta ([link](#)).
- **March 30, 2020:** Albertans under mandatory self-isolation (such as those returning from travel, experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, or in close contact with a person who tested positive for COVID-19) will be required to remain inside and can only go for walks on their own property for the duration of their self-isolation. People isolating who live in

apartment buildings or high-rises must stay inside and cannot use the elevators or stairwells to go outside. If an individual becomes sick during self-isolation, they must self-isolate for an additional 10 days from the beginning of symptoms or until they are feeling well, whichever takes longer ([link](#)). The deadline to submit compliance reports and emissions reduction plan reports under the *Technology Innovation and Emissions Reduction Regulation* is extended to June 30, 2020 ([link](#)). The deadline for fuel suppliers, approved contributors, and renewable fuel providers to submit compliance reports under the *Renewable Fuel Standard Regulation* is extended to June 30, 2020 ([link](#)). A variety of reporting requirements under the *Environmental Protection and Enhancement Act*, *Water Act*, and *Public Lands Act* have been suspended ([link](#)).

- **March 28, 2020:** Alberta adjusted funding for schooling in order to reallocate funds not being utilized to Alberta's COVID-19 response ([link](#)).
- **March 27, 2020:** The Provincial Court of Alberta closed all of its case management offices. The Court of Queen's Bench will allow remote commissioning of affidavits in certain situations. Alberta Transportation extended the timeline to 90 days for most drivers requiring a medical evaluation to complete their medical form when applying for or renewing their licence. The Alberta Emergency Management Agency Unsolicited Offers Program was set up in response to growing offers of generosity from individuals and organizations to help with the challenges many Albertans are facing due to the COVID-19 pandemic ([link](#)). Service Alberta suspended civil enforcement of evictions for non-payment of rent to April 30, 2020 ([link](#)) and prohibits landlords from increasing rent and charging fees in respect of late rental payments. The Minister of Environment and Parks restricted access to public lands, provincial parks and recreation areas to employees, law enforcement and emergency personnel.
- **March 27, 2020:** Alberta's Chief Medical Officer passed a Public Health Order prohibiting public gatherings in excess of 15 people, requiring all persons to maintain a minimum of 2 meters distance from one another, and mandating the closure of all non-essential businesses including personal services, wellness services, and retail stores ([link](#)); violation is subject to fines. A list of essential business services can be found [here](#). The Alberta Minister of Health issued a Public Health Order increasing fines for violations of the *Public Health Act* to \$100,000 for a first offence and \$500,000 for subsequent offences ([link](#)) (Order repealed on April 2, 2020 upon passage of Bill 10: *Public Health (Emergency Powers) Amendment Act, 2020*).
- **March 26, 2020:** The Lieutenant Governor in Council issued [Order in Council 100/200](#) amending the *Procedures Regulation* to allow community and police officers to issue fines of \$1000 for violation of public health orders.
- **March 25, 2020:** Government of Alberta specified the eligibility requirements to receive emergency isolation support payment; qualifying applicants will receive a one-time payment of \$1,146.
- **March 25, 2020:** Government of Alberta announced that through amendments to the *Procedures Regulation* under the *Provincial Offences Procedures Act*, peace and police officers will be able to issue tickets to enforce COVID-19 Public Health Orders (orders subject to fines for violation include those respecting self-isolation and mass gatherings; a full list can be found [here](#)). Fines for violating Public Health Orders have increased to a prescribed fine of \$1,000 per occurrence and courts will have powers to administer

fines of up to \$100,000 for a first offence and up to \$500,000 for a subsequent offence. Alberta's Chief Medical Officer passed a Public Health Order requiring mandatory 14-day self isolation for international travelers returning to Alberta, mandatory 14-day isolation for close contacts of persons confirmed to have COVID-19, and mandatory minimum 10-day isolation for persons with COVID-19 or experiencing symptoms such as cough and fever ([link](#)); failure to self-isolate is subject to fines. Health care service providers must adhere to new operational protocols ([link](#)).

- **March 23, 2020:** Government of Alberta committed \$25 million to support homeless-serving agencies in response to COVID-19. Further, the Government announced an education property tax freeze, the deferral of education property tax for businesses for six months and the deferral of WCB premiums for private sector businesses (in addition to 50% WCB premium coverage for small and medium private businesses in 2020).
- **March 22, 2020:** Government of Alberta announced it is working to open up 15,000 childcare spaces to assist individuals providing services upon which Albertans are relying during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **March 20, 2020:** Government of Alberta amended the *Emergency Management Act* with the result that a provincial state of emergency will no longer nullify a local (municipal) state of emergency. As a result, a provincial state of emergency can now supplement and reinforce a local authority's state of emergency. *Note that a state of emergency remains distinct from a public health emergency, and has not yet been declared in the province.* Further, the Government of Alberta struck a provincial economic recovery council to focus on long-term recovery from the crisis and extends a series of energy sector initiatives aimed at enhancing liquidity of energy companies, including: (i) providing 5 months of funding for the Alberta Energy Regulator; (ii) granting extensions for oil and gas agreement tenures; and (iii) extending a loan to the Orphan Well Association. Alberta's Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Hinshaw, restricts attendance at child care programs to children of essential services workers ([link](#)).
- **March 18, 2020:** Government of Alberta announced a series of funding and supportive measures for immediate financial relief to Alberta's families, vulnerable populations and local businesses, including in respect of: (i) emergency isolation support; (ii) utility payment deferral; (iii) a moratorium on student loan repayment; (iv) relief for ATB Financial and Alberta credit union members; and (v) a deferral on corporate income tax balance collection until August 31, 2020.
- **March 17, 2020:** Government of Alberta declared a provincial public health emergency. Alberta's provincial government has not yet declared a (broader) provincial state of emergency.
- **March 14, 2020:** Given the rapid global increase in the spread of COVID-19, the Government of Alberta advised that it was no longer possible to assess health risks related to international travel. As such, it recommended against travel outside of Canada.
  - Effective March 12, 2020, all Albertans who are currently travelling outside of Canada should self-isolate on their return for 14 days, independent of the country they were visiting.

- Further information is available on the Government of Alberta's [website](#).
- Further information on the Alberta government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" explainer, [here](#).

## Saskatchewan

- **June 12, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan extended the state of emergency until June 24, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 5, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced temporary commercial eviction protection for small business tenants during the COVID-19 emergency. The moratorium on evictions applies to landlords that are eligible to apply for the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) program but choose not to ([link](#)).
- **May 28, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan extended the state of emergency for an additional two weeks ([link](#)).
- **May 13, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan extended the state of emergency for a further two weeks ([link](#)).
- **May 7, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced that in-class learning will not take place until September, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 6, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan expanded the northern travel restrictions to include the regions of Stony Rapids and La Ronge ([link](#)).
- **April 30, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced further travel restrictions for the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District ([link](#)).
- **April 24, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced a public health order restricting all non-critical travel into northern Saskatchewan, specifically the Northern Saskatchewan Administration District ([link](#)).
- **April 24, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan released further information on the timing for the opening of campgrounds and the use of provincial parks ([link](#)).
- **April 23, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced the Re-Open Saskatchewan plan. The Re-Open Saskatchewan plan introduces five phases to re-open businesses and services across Saskatchewan, beginning May 4, 2020. It also details physical distancing measures and restrictions that will remain in place throughout all five phases ([link](#)).
- **April 20, 2020:** The AgriStability enrollment deadline for the 2020 program year has been extended without penalty to July 3, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** As of April 28, 2020, long-term care and personal care homes must ensure that each staff member works in only one facility. A care home may seek approval from a medical health officer to permit a staff member to work in more than one facility if they are unable to ensure adequate staffing levels as a result of complying with this order. All staff members in long-term care, personal care and affiliate care

homes must undergo a health screening prior to entry to the facility, including a temperature check. At all times while on shift, all staff members in long-term care, personal care, and affiliate care homes shall wear, at minimum, a procedural/surgical mask ([link](#)).

- **April 17, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan will work with Saskatchewan Association of Rural Municipalities to lift spring road bans for priority goods. Permit requirements for priority goods have been suspended ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan amended *The Pensions Benefits Regulations, 1993*, to put a freeze on transfers or payments out of Defined Benefits plans unless they receive written consent from the Superintendent of Pensions ([link](#)).
- **April 15, 2020:** Wills may be now witnessed remotely where one of the two required witnesses is a lawyer ([link](#)).
- **April 14, 2020:** The Saskatchewan Health Authority will require staff, physicians, learners, trainees, vendors and contractors to be screened daily for influenza like illness as they enter facilities. Additionally, anyone working in patient/client/resident care must wear a mask ([link](#)).
- **April 14, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan will implement a series of relief measures for the provincial oil and gas sector including: (i) extending filing and other deadlines; (ii) extending mineral rights, scheduled to expire in 2020, by one year; and (iii) reducing the Oil and Gas Administrative Levy by 50 per cent, whilst delaying invoicing of the remaining balance until October 1, 2020 will be extended by one year ([link](#)).
- **April 13, 2020:** The Financial and Consumer Affairs Authority warned that price gouging is an unfair practice and businesses could face regulatory action and prosecution for engaging in this conduct ([link](#)).
- **April 6, 2020:** Saskatchewan Public Safety Agency released the SaskAlert App to provide emergency public alerts ([link](#)).
- **April 3, 2020:** The Ministry of Health partnered with professional health bodies to provide temporary licenses for retired, non-practicing and student members ([link](#)).
- **March 30, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan announced the deadline to apply, reinstate, cancel or make changes to Crop Insurance contracts is extended to April 13, 2020 ([link](#)). Additionally, the hours of service regulations for commercial truck drivers transporting goods and supplies to meet immediate needs related to COVID-19 will be temporarily modified ([link](#)).
- **March 27, 2020:** Provincial parks remain closed and people are advised not to gather in the parks. Tenants that are not able to pay their rent during the state of emergency are expected to pay their rent in full once the state of emergency is over.
- **March 26, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan enacted three emergency regulations that enable lawyers to execute and witness certain documents remotely. Further information can be found [here](#).

- **March 25, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan has further limited the size of public gatherings to 10 people. Additionally, effective March 26, 2020, “non-allowable business services” will be unable to provide public facing services. The Government of Saskatchewan will provide additional information clarifying allowable and non-allowable business services. Various examples provided to date, can be found [here](#).
- **March 23, 2020:** Effective as of March 23, 2020, recreational and entertainment facilities including fitness centers, casinos, bingo halls, arenas, curling rinks, swimming pools, galleries, theatres, museums and similar facilities ordered closed. Additionally, the Government ordered the closure of all personal service facilities including tattooists, hairdressers, barbers, acupuncturists, acupressurists, cosmetologists, electrologists, estheticians, manicurists, pedicurists, suntanning parlours, relaxation masseuses, and facilities in which body piercing, bone grafting or scarification services are performed. In the health sector, the closure of dental, optometrist, chiropractic, registered massage therapy and podiatry clinics except for non-elective procedures. Day care centers may only have a maximum of eight children and if they are co-located with a long-term care or personal care home, they shall have a separate entrance.
- **March 22, 2020:** All persons returning from international travel or anyone in close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case will be required to self-isolate for 14 days. Violation of the order may result in a \$2000 fine.
- **March 20, 2020:** Premier Scott Moe signed an order pursuant to the provincial State of Emergency directing that all orders of the government and Chief Medical Health Officer must be followed and that law enforcement agencies in Saskatchewan have the full authority to enforce those orders. Public gatherings of more than 25 people in one room are prohibited except where two-meter distancing between people can be maintained; workplace and meeting settings where people are distributed into multiple rooms or buildings; and retail locations (ie. grocery stores, pharmacies, gas stations). He ordered the closure of all nightclubs, bars, lounges and similar facilities. Take out of alcohol or food products is permitted with two-meter distancing between customers and the delivery of alcohol or food products. In-person classes in all primary and secondary educational institutions, both public and private, are suspended. Visitors to long-term care homes, hospitals, personal care homes and group homes shall be restricted to family visiting for compassionate reasons.
- **March 18, 2020:** The Government of Saskatchewan declared a provincial state of emergency. With this declaration, the government mandated all restaurants, bars and event venues to limit their seating to 50% capacity or a maximum of 50 people, whichever is lesser. The order also mandates the implementation of social distancing procedures in retail centers.
- **March 18, 2020:** Saskatchewan’s Chief Medical Health Officer advised all residents to avoid non-essential international travel until further notice and strongly advised all returning travelers to self-isolate for 14 days.
- Further information is available on the Government of Saskatchewan’s [website](#).
- Further information on the Saskatchewan government’s emergency powers, can be found on our “Can they do that?” explainer, [here](#).

## Manitoba

- **August 12, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba extended the state of emergency for a period of 30 days ([link](#)).
- **July 24, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba released a revised phase four plan to restart the Province's economy ([link](#)).
- **July 14, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba will extend the province wide state of emergency under *The Emergency Measures Act* beginning July 14, 2020 for a period of 30 days ([link](#)).
- **June 15, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba extended the state of emergency for a period of 30 days ([link](#)).
- **May 15, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba extended the state of emergency for a period of 30 days ([link](#)).
- **May 14, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba introduced an additional temporary order to extend deadlines, social service and child-care provisions, and reduce municipal government regulatory burdens to help address the COVID-19 pandemic ([link](#)).
- **May 14, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba announced a new order designating additional provincial government officials to enforce public health emergency orders and emergency health hazard orders ([link](#)).
- **May 1, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba restricted individuals from working in more than one licenced personal care home ([link](#)).
- **April 29, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba announced a phased approach to opening the economy which will begin on May 4, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba implemented four temporary orders to help the economy, and to ensure the flow of goods and supplies into and out of Manitoba: (i) Youth in Care Provisions Order, (ii) Student Aid Provisions Order, (iii) International Fuel Tax Agreement Credential Provisions Order, and (iv) Trucking and Transportation Provisions Order ([link](#)).
- **April 27, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba will support local food producers and farmers' markets by enabling them to sell their products and produce online ([link](#)).
- **April 24, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba launched the Summer Student Recovery Plan which will provide a wage subsidy for students employed in the private and non-profit sectors ([link](#)).
- **April 20, 2020:** The state of emergency is extended for 30 days ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** New public health orders require anyone travelling into Manitoba (regardless of whether their travel was restricted to within Canada), to self-isolate for 14 days. All travel to northern Manitoba is also prohibited ([link](#)).

- **April 16, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba updated emergency orders. Businesses not listed as critical may operate, and have customers attend to pick up ordered items, provided social distancing measures are in place. Farmers markets, garden centres and greenhouses may operate, provided social distancing measures are in place. Hotels may operate, but must close common areas such as pools, hot tubs and game rooms. Campgrounds can provide accommodation to recreational vehicles that act as a primary residence. Lastly, appliance, electronic and furniture stores are excluded, and should not be open to the public, except where orders are placed remotely and orders are delivered or picked up with social distancing measures in place ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba launched the AbilitiCBT program, a free and confidential virtual-therapy platform to help Manitobans cope with COVID-19 anxiety ([link](#)).
- **April 15, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba announced that it will make additional amendments to *The Emergency Measures Act*, and enable provincial orders that will aid in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The amendments will increase penalties for violating *The Emergency Measures Act*, to a maximum of \$100,000 and/or one year imprisonment for individuals and a maximum of \$1,000,000 for corporations. They will also give courts the option to increase the fine for a person convicted of a price gouging offence by an amount equal to the financial benefit acquired ([link](#)).
- **April 14, 2020:** The chief provincial public health officer extended public health orders to April 28, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 14, 2020:** Health-care workers will be provided with a paid administrative leave if they are required to self-isolate for 14 days due to possible exposure to COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba has set penalties for breaches of emergency orders ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** Child care options have now been made available to all parents working in critical services, including support staff at hospitals and clinics, grocery store staff, farmers and farm workers, construction workers, and bank or credit union employees ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba closed all facilities in provincial parks, but the parks remain open ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba launched a web portal to support Manitoba families whose children are learning at home ([link](#)).
- **April 8, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba created a fund to support COVID-19 treatment and vaccine research ([link](#)).
- **April 8, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba will continue to extend supports to all youth currently in the Child and Family Services system who turn 18 between March 20 and September 30, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 8, 2020:** Major Manitoba 150 celebrations have been postponed ([link](#)).



- **April 4, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba set up isolation centers for those needing additional support to self-isolate ([link](#)).
- **April 1, 2020:** Pursuant to a new order, the College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba will be allowed to waive or modify registration requirements for former registered nurses, so they may apply for temporary registration during the pandemic on an expedited basis ([link](#)).
- **March 31, 2020:** Manitoba suspended in classroom learning for kindergarten to Grade 12 students indefinitely for this school year ([link](#)). They also revised Spring Road Restrictions to more readily allow vehicles to transport essential commodities ([link](#)).
- **March 30, 2020:** Restaurants providing takeout and delivery service are authorized to sell liquor if they are a licensed establishment ([link](#)).
- **March 30, 2020:** The Government of Manitoba introduced several new measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. As of April 1 2020, public gatherings will be limited to 10 people, restaurants may only serve food for delivery and takeout, and all businesses not in the schedule of critical services must close until April 14, 2020. Further information can be found [here](#).
- **March 27, 2020:** As of 12:01 a.m. on March 30, 2020, public gatherings are limited to no more than 10 people. Retail businesses and public transportation must ensure separation of one to two meters between persons. All non-essential travel is strongly not recommended. Employment standards are to be temporarily amended so that any period of layoff occurring after March 1, 2020, will not be counted toward the period after which a temporary layoff would become a permanent termination. The Government will establish five highway checkpoints and provide information in airports to inform travelers on public health measures and the requirement to self-isolate.
- **March 24, 2020:** Manitoba Premier Brian Pallister announced that the province would be postponing all non-urgent eviction hearings at the Residential Tenancies Branch and the Residential Tenancies Commission until the end of May. All new hearings and previously scheduled hearings were included.
- **March 20, 2020:** Government of Manitoba declared a provincial state of emergency amidst the ongoing COVID-9 pandemic. The decision, made under the province's *Emergency Measures Act*, officially limits public gatherings of more than 50 people on any indoor or outdoor premise. Retail businesses, such as grocery or food stores, shopping centers, pharmacies and gas stations must ensure separation of one to two meters between patron and public transportation facilities must also make sure people assembling are able to reasonably maintain a separation of one to two meters from others. All hospitality premises and theatres are limited to 50 people, or 50 per cent of the capacity of the premises, whichever is less, and all fitness facilities are to close.
- Further information is available on the Government of Manitoba's [website](#).
- Further information on the Manitoba government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" explainer, [here](#).

## Ontario

- **July 16, 2020:** The Government of Ontario has extended most emergency orders currently in force under s. 7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until July 29, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **July 9, 2020:** The Government of Ontario has extended all emergency orders currently in force under s. 7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until July 22, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **July 7, 2020:** The Government of Ontario introduced legislation to protect public health as the economy reopens ([link](#)).
- **June 30, 2020:** Toronto City Council voted unanimously in favour of requiring masks or face coverings in all enclosed public places as of July 7, 2020 to stop the spread of COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **June 28, 2020:** The Government of Ontario has extended all emergency orders currently in force under s. 7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until July 10, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 24, 2020:** The Government of Ontario extended the provincial Declaration of Emergency to July 15, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 24, 2020:** The Government of Ontario announced that it will implement a three-point plan to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 on farms and throughout the community in Windsor-Essex ([link](#)).
- **June 17, 2020:** The Government of Ontario has extended all emergency orders currently in force under s. 7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*. This extension will be in effect until June 30, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 10, 2020:** The Ontario Labour Relations Board announced that all in-person hearing are cancelled up to July 31, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 8, 2020:** The Government of Ontario announced that it intends to introduce changes to the *Commercial Tenancies Act* to protect commercial tenants from being locked out or having their assets seized by their landlords due to the negative impacts of COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **June 6, 2020:** The Government of Ontario extended the suspension of limitation periods and time periods in proceedings until September 11, 2020 under s. 7.1 of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* ([link](#)).
- **June 6, 2020:** The Government of Ontario extended all emergency orders currently in force under s.7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until June 19, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 4, 2020:** The Ministry of Long-Term Care appointed William Osler Health System as interim manager at Woodbridge Vista Care Community long-term care home in Vaughan, Ontario ([link](#)).

- **June 2, 2020:** The Government of Ontario extended the provincial Declaration of Emergency to June 30, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 2, 2020:** The Ministry of Long-Term Care has issued a Mandatory Management Order appointing St. Mary's General Hospital, a member of St. Joseph's Health System, in Kitchener to temporarily manage Forest Heights long-term care home for 90 days. The order may be extended beyond the 90 days, if necessary ([link](#)).
- **June 1, 2020:** The Government of Ontario enacted a new regulatory amendment that will put non-unionized employees on Infectious Disease Emergency Leave during the COVID-19 outbreak any time their hours of work are temporarily reduced by their employer due to COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **May 28, 2020:** The Government of Ontario extended the Incident Management System Long-Term Care Table mandate ([link](#)).
- **May 27, 2020:** The Government of Ontario extended all emergency orders in force under s.7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until June 9, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 25, 2020:** The Ministry of Long-Term Care ordered local hospitals to temporarily manage two long-term care homes for 90 days ([link](#)).
- **May 19, 2020:** The Government of Ontario extended emergency orders which will remain in force until May 29, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 13, 2020:** The Government of Ontario adopted an emergency order allowing the province to issue a mandatory management order for a long-term care home struggling to deal with a COVID-19 outbreak ([link](#)).
- **May 13, 2020:** The Government of Ontario announced that it is working with the education sector to voluntarily place available employees in staffing roles needed at congregate care settings during the COVID-19 outbreak ([link](#)).
- **May 12, 2020:** The Government of Ontario passed legislative amendments in the *COVID-19 Response and Reforms to Modernize Ontario Act, 2020* that will provide relief and flexibility to different types of corporations and businesses in Ontario ([link](#)).
- **May 12, 2020:** The Government of Ontario extended the state of emergency to June 2, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 9, 2020:** The Government of Ontario approved an order that will enable available school board employees to be voluntarily redeployed to congregate care settings during the COVID-19 pandemic, including hospitals, long-term care homes, retirement homes, and women's shelters ([link](#)).
- **May 8, 2020:** The Government of Ontario is investing in supportive housing in Kingston and Bracebridge to assist individuals experiencing homelessness. Further information can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

- **May 6, 2020:** The Government of Ontario extended the state of emergency to May 19, 2020.
- **May 5, 2020:** The Ontario Superior Court of Justice announced it will not resume in-person hearings of certain matters until at least July 6, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 5, 2020:** The Government of Ontario expanded virtual mental health services to help Ontarians experiencing anxiety and depression during the COVID-19 outbreak ([link](#)).
- **May 1, 2020:** The Government of Ontario issued new temporary emergency orders under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* to support the needs of the province's hospitals and health care workers so that they can better manage critical health care human resources during COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **April 30, 2020:** The Human Rights Tribunal of Ontario released further guidance on current processes and procedures ([link](#)).
- **April 30, 2020:** The Government of Ontario announced a new free 511 app which will provide truck drivers immediate access to the information they need to stay safe, fed and rested while delivering essential goods across the province during the COVID-19 outbreak ([link](#)).
- **April 29, 2020:** The Government of Ontario expanded the list of essential workers eligible to receive free emergency child care during the COVID-19 outbreak ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** The Government of Ontario launched the *COVID-19: Tackling the Barriers* website to assist businesses in overcoming challenges created by COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **April 27, 2020:** The Government of Ontario released *A Framework for Reopening our Province*. It outlines the principles the government will use to reopen businesses, services and public spaces in gradual stages ([link](#)).
- **April 26, 2020:** The Government of Ontario extended school closures until at least May 31, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 25, 2020:** The Government of Ontario introduced new measures and amended previous emergency orders to allow for the redeployment of staff, including those working in long-term care homes, to ensure they can work where they are needed most during the COVID-19 outbreak ([link](#)).
- **April 25, 2020:** The closure of Ontario's provincial parks was extended to May 31, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 23, 2020:** The Government of Ontario announced the *COVID-19 Action Plan for Vulnerable People* to better protect vulnerable populations during the outbreak of COVID-19 ([link](#)).

- **April 23, 2020:** The Government of Ontario extended all emergency orders under s.7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until May 6, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 23, 2020:** The Government of Ontario introduced a measure which allows mental health and addictions agencies to redeploy staff within different locations or between programs, and employ extra part-time staff, temporary staff or contractors ([link](#)).
- **April 21, 2020:** The Government of Ontario announced a series of measures to provide relief to vulnerable provincial residents. The Government of Ontario partnered with the Ontario Community Support Program to serve meals to low-income seniors and people with disabilities. It has also doubled the Guaranteed Annual Income System (GAINS) payments ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** The Government of Ontario partnered with Rogers Communications and Apple to help support the educational needs of students and families during the COVID-19 outbreak ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** Through the Partnership's Place to Grow: Agri-Food Innovation Initiative, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) will immediately accept applications and will expedite the approval process to address sector labour concerns ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** The Government of Ontario expanded the list of essential workers eligible to receive emergency child care. The list of additional frontline workers who can now access emergency childcare services can be found [here](#).
- **April 17, 2020:** The Government of Ontario introduced a temporary emergency order. It will: (1) restrict retirement home employees from working in more than one health care setting, (2) allow Local Health Integration Networks to direct home care service providing organizations to safely reassign frontline staff to areas where they are most needed, and (3) allow reassignments of certain staff to locations where there is a local need during the outbreak, including child care, by-law enforcement, and public health services. Additionally, ambulance services can hire college students to provide services appropriate to their competence level and scope of practice ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** The Government of Ontario removed restrictions on auto insurance companies, allowing them to provide temporary insurance premium rebates to drivers during the COVID-19 pandemic ([link](#)).
- **April 15, 2020:** The Government of Ontario restricted long-term care staff from working in more than one long-term care home, retirement home or health care setting ([link](#)).
- **April 14, 2020:** The Government of Ontario passed the *Coronavirus (COVID-19) Support and Protection Act* to amend the *Education Act*, *Planning Act*, *Development Charges Act*, *Police Services Act* and the *Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities Act*. Changes to the *Education Act* allow school boards to continue charging fees on new construction and provides a province-wide approach to school suspensions and expulsions. Changes to the *Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities Act* will temporarily suspend student loan payments for OSAP borrowers and initiate a six-month

interest-free moratorium on OSAP loans. Changes to *the Development Charges Act* suspend certain municipal planning timelines ([link](#)).

- **April 14, 2020:** The Government of Ontario extended the Declaration of Emergency under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* for a further 28 days to May 12, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 13, 2020:** In consultation with the Ontario Privacy Commissioner, the Government of Ontario is developing a platform called Pandemic Threat Response (PANTHR) to hold secure health data and allow researchers to better support health system plans and responses ([link](#)).
- **April 11, 2020:** The Government of Ontario extended the state of emergency until April 23, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 11, 2020:** The Government of Ontario introduced a series of new emergency orders. These orders address surge capacity in retirement homes, allow hospitals to increase capacity by using beds and services of retirement homes without labour relations implications, make it easier to repurpose buildings and put up temporary structures for healthcare facilities to use, and prohibit recreational camping on Crown land ([link](#)).
- **April 10, 2020:** The Government of Ontario enacted an emergency order to prohibit the collection of child care fees while child care services are not being provided. The order also prevents the loss of a child care space obtained prior to the closing of child care facilities ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** An emergency order has been amended to lift the suspension of limitation periods and procedural time periods under the *Construction Act*. This will allow for the release of holdback payments to contractors and subcontractors in the normal course, helping to resolve a potentially significant cash flow problem for the construction industry ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** The Government of Ontario partnered with SPARK Ontario and created a volunteer hub to help seniors and people with disabilities stay connected ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** The Government of Ontario launched an Ontario Jobs and Recovery Committee to focus on getting businesses running and people back to work when the pandemic is over ([link](#)).
- **April 8, 2020:** The Chief Medical Officer of Health provided a list of directives to protect long-term care homes from COVID-19 outbreaks. Among the directives is the mandatory testing and self-isolation of new residents, and the requirement for staff and essential visitors to wear masks ([link](#)).
- **April 8, 2020:** The Ontario Labour Relations Board issued a notice to the community regarding practice changes ([link](#)).

- **April 8, 2020:** The Government of Ontario extended construction hours to 24 hours per day for essential construction projects ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** The Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario authorized the delivery and curbside pick-up of cannabis from authorized retail stores ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** The Lieutenant Governor in Council made an order permitting the virtual witnessing for wills and powers of attorney ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** The Government of Ontario launched the Health Workforce Matching Portal to match health care workers with health care centres ([link](#)).
- **April 6, 2020:** The Government of Ontario has made an emergency order that will allow police, firefighters and paramedics to obtain COVID-19 positive status information about individuals with whom they come into contact with ([link](#)).
- **April 4, 2020:** The Government of Ontario announced an emergency order to offer staffing flexibility for services providing supports to adults with disabilities ([link](#)).
- **April 4, 2020:** The Government of Ontario intends to launch an online portal to connect workers with employers looking to fill positions in the agri-food sector ([link](#)).
- **April 3, 2020:** The Government of Ontario issued a temporary order allowing for more flexibility to recruit and reassign staff in retirement homes. The *Retirement Homes Act, 2010* has been amended to now require that retirement homes follow the Chief Medical Officer of Health's guidance and recommendations regarding infection control and prevention ([link](#)).
- **April 3, 2020:** The Government of Ontario introduced further business closures that will be effective April 4, 2020 at 11:59 p.m. These closures will remain in effect for 14 days ([link](#)). The list of essential workplaces can be found [here](#).
- **April 2, 2020:** Ontario Superior Court of Justice issued a Notice to the Profession concerning remote hearings and other procedures. Further information can be found [here](#).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Government of Ontario has taken action to protect people and communities from the risk of preventable human-caused fires. Residents who live in a restricted fire zone cannot have an outdoor fire ([link](#)). Further information on fire zones can be found [here](#).
- **March 31, 2020:** Pursuant to a new Emergency Order, individuals who are being charged with an offence under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* (EMCPA) will be required to identify themselves if asked by a provincial offences officer. Individuals who fail to correctly identify themselves may be fined \$750 or \$1,000 for obstructing any person in exercising a power if a provincial offences officer issues a ticket. Failure to comply with an Emergency Order could result in up to one-year imprisonment or a fine of up to \$100,000 for an individual, \$500,000 for a director of a corporation, or \$10,000,000 for a corporation. These penalties apply in addition to the penalties for breaching other emergency orders ([link](#)).

- March 31, 2020:** The Government of Ontario implemented an Emergency Order to provide flexibility to corporate meetings. The Emergency Order allows all corporations under the *Corporations Act* and *Business Corporations Act* to hold meetings of directors, shareholders, and members virtually (i.e., electronically or by telephone). The timeframes by which corporations under both pieces of legislation must hold Annual General Meetings in certain circumstances related to the emergency have been extended. Further information on this Emergency Order, can be found [here](#).
- March 31, 2020:** Public schools will remain closed to teachers until at least May 1, 2020, and students until May 4, 2020. Private schools, child care centres and EarlyON programs will remain closed until April 13, 2020. The second phase of Learn at Home to help reconnect students and teachers will also commence ([link](#)).
- March 31, 2020:** Payments for Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) loans will be temporarily deferred, and there will be an interest-free moratorium until September 30, 2020. The Government of Ontario will also make online learning supports, including year-end exams, available to post-secondary institutions ([link](#)).
- March 30, 2020:** Premier Doug Ford announced that the state of emergency which is set to expire on March 31, 2020, will be extended for another two weeks. In addition, the new order additionally closed all communal or shared, public or private, outdoor recreational amenities, including but not limited to playgrounds, sports fields, basketball and tennis courts, off-leash dog parks, beaches, skateboard and BMX parks, picnic areas, outdoor community gardens, park shelters, outdoor exercise equipment, condo parks and gardens, and other outdoor recreational amenities ([link](#)).
- March 28, 2020:** The Government of Ontario restricted gatherings to no more than 5 people. They also made orders prohibiting price gouging for “necessary” goods, including personal protective equipment such as masks and gloves, non-prescription medications for the treatment of symptoms of COVID-19, disinfecting agents or personal hygiene products. Under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, individuals who breach these restrictions will face a maximum penalty of \$100,000 and a year in jail, directors of corporations will face a maximum penalty of \$500,000 and a year in jail, and corporations will face fines of up to \$10 million ([link](#)).
- March 28, 2020:** New provincial regulations will enable the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services and the Ministry of Health to centrally manage public sector supply chains ([link](#)).
- March 28, 2020:** Ontario will implement an emergency order to address restrictions around staffing, reporting complaints, and documentation to help ensure there are enough staff to care for residents in long-term care homes. The order will also redeploy inspectors to critical areas ([link](#)).
- March 27, 2020:** Travellers returning to Ontario are required to self-isolate for 14 days. They may not visit stores, family or friends.
- March 25, 2020:** The Government of Ontario released Ontario Regulation 82/20 filed March 24, 2020 under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*. It mandates the closure of non-essential businesses. It authorizes temporary access to a non-essential business (businesses not listed in Schedule 2), for the purposes of:



performing work in order to comply with any applicable laws, allowing inspections and repairs, allowing security services to be provided, to deal with critical matters that cannot be dealt with remotely, or accessing materials that are necessary to operate remotely. It further provides that businesses are not precluded from operating remotely. Ontario Regulation 82/20 can be accessed [here](#).

- **March 24, 2020:** Pursuant to the declared emergency, a new order was issued for health sector workers, including long-term care workers. The order allows for the redeploying of staff to or between locations, changing work assignments, changing shift assignments, deferring or cancelling vacations and leaves, employing extra temporary or part-time staff, greater use of volunteers, and the provision of new education and training of individuals in new roles ([link](#)).
- **March 23, 2020:** Premier Doug Ford announced the mandatory closure of all non-essential workplaces. This takes effect on March 24, 2020 at 11:59 PM and will continue for 14 days. The list of essential workplaces in Ontario can be found [here](#).
- **March 20, 2020:** The Cabinet made an order under s. 7.1 of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* to suspend limitation periods and procedural time periods. The suspension is retroactive to March 16, 2020.
- **March 17, 2020:** The Government of Ontario declared a provincial state of emergency to help contain the spread of COVID-19 and protect the public. The following establishments are required to close until March 31, 2020: all bars and restaurants, except to the extent that such facilities provide takeout and food delivery, all facilities providing indoor recreational programs, all public libraries, all private schools, all licensed child care centres, all movie cinemas, all theatres, including those offering live performances of music, dance and other art forms and all concert venues.
  - The Government of Ontario also prohibited all organized public events of over 50 people, including parades, events and communal services within places of worship.
- **March 17, 2020:** Dr. David Williams, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, advised Ontarians to self-isolate for 14 days following their return from travel outside Canada, including the United States.
- Further information is available on the Government of Ontario's [website](#).
- Further information about the Ontario government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" explainer, [here](#).

## Québec

- **September 12, 2020:** The Government of Québec issued a new order regarding fines for those who refuse to wear masks ([link](#)).
- **September 9, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the state of emergency until September 16, 2020 ([link](#)).

- **September 9, 2020:** The Government of Québec ordered measures to protect the health of the population of Québec ([link](#)).
- **September 2, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the state of emergency until September 9, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **August 26, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the state of emergency until September 2, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **August 19, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the order declaring a public health emergency until August 26, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **August 12, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the order declaring a public health emergency until August 19, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **August 5, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the order declaring a public health emergency until August 12, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **July 29, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the order declaring a public health emergency until August 5, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **July 22, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the state of emergency until July 29, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **July 17, 2020:** Effective on July 18, 2020, the Société des alcools du Québec (“SAQ”) customers entering a branch must wear a face covering in order to comply with the new government and public health directives ([link](#)).
- **July 10, 2020:** The Government of Québec issued a new order regarding health instructions to be followed in bars ([link](#)).
- **July 9, 2020:** The Minister of Health and Social Services and the national Director of Public Health announced additional measures to ensure health instructions are followed in bars ([link](#)).
- **July 8, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the state of emergency until July 15, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **July 2, 2020:** The National Directorate of Public Health and the Government of Québec announced that it will be mandatory for people aged 12 years and over to wear face masks on public transport as of July 13, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 30, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the state of emergency until July 8, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 30, 2020:** The Government of Québec amended the order of measures to protect the health of the population in the COVID-19 pandemic situation regarding educational and teaching services ([link](#)).
- **June 29, 2020:** The Government of Québec revealed that wearing masks on public transit will soon be mandatory ([link](#)).

- **June 28, 2020:** In accordance with Public Health directives, the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing who is responsible for the administration of the Elections Act and referendums in municipalities has requested to postpone any by-election until August 7, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 26, 2020:** The Government of Québec amended the order of measures to protect the health of the population in the COVID-19 pandemic situation ([link](#)).
- **June 23, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the state of emergency until June 30, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 17, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the state of emergency until June 23, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 10, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the state of emergency for a further 8 days ([link](#)).
- **June 4, 2020:** The Minister of the Economy and Innovation announced additional protections for commercial tenants ([link](#)).
- **June 2, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced the new accelerated program, *Support for assistance care in health care facilities*, to make up for the scarcity of resources in the field of care for the elderly and vulnerable ([link](#)).
- **May 25, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced the establishment of more than 1,000 prevention officers from several departments and agencies. They will aim to inform and educate employers and workers on the health standards to put in the workplace to reduce and control the spread of COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **May 15, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced salary regulation for health care sector workers hired through placement agencies ([link](#)).
- **May 14, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced primary schools in the territory of the Metropolitan Community of Montreal (CMM) will not re-open before August, 2020. The re-opening of daycares in the region has been postponed to June 1, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 13, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced a new measure increasing the autonomy of specialized nurse practitioners ([link](#)).
- **May 13, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced that starting May 16, 2020, the exemption allowing heavy vehicles to not abide by regulations restricting hours of driving announced on April 6, 2020, will no longer apply ([link](#)).
- **April 30, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced that “buffer zones” will be set up in community living environments to accommodate users who have been hospitalized before they are transferred to their living environment ([link](#)).
- **April 30, 2020:** The Government of Québec suspended the coming into force of certain provisions of the Act mainly aimed at establishing the Centre d'acquisitions

gouvernementales (CAG) and Infrastructures technologiques Québec (ITQ). The provisions were initially supposed to come into force on June 1, 2020 ([link](#)).

- **April 30, 2020:** The Government of Québec extended the Minister of Immigration's consent to the stay of foreign students whose Certificate Quebec Acceptance Agreement expires on April 30, 2020, until December 31, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 29, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced that regional travel restrictions will be lifted. Starting May 4, 2020 the regions of Laurentides, Lanaudière, Chaudière-Appalaches and the city of Rouyn-Noranda will reopen. Starting May 11, 2020, if the situation remains the same, the Outaouais except for Gatineau, Abitibi-Témiscamingue, La Tuque and Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean regions will reopen. Finally on May 18, 2020, the Bas-Saint-Laurent, Gaspésie, Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Charlevoix and Côte-Nord regions will reopen ([link](#)).
- **April 29, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced that it will launch a special program to support the bereaved during the COVID-19 pandemic ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** The Government of Québec and the Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail, announced that it will launch a virtual toolkit to help and support employers and workers in complying with the sanitary instructions issued by public health authorities ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** Retail operations outside of the Montreal region with exterior operating doors will be allowed to open May 4, 2020, and those inside the Montreal region may reopen May 11, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** Manufacturing companies in all regions of Québec may resume activities on May 11, 2020, with a maximum of 50 workers + 50% of surplus employees per shift at any time on the same site. On May 25, 2020, manufacturing companies from all regions of Québec may resume activities ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced that on May 11, 2020 the construction industry can reopen ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** With the gradual reopening of businesses, the CNESST has published a guide of sanitary norms to protect workers from COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **April 27, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced a temporary measure allowing certain corporate meetings to be held virtually ([link](#)).
- **April 27, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced that preschools, primary schools and educational childcare services outside the Metropolitan Community of Montreal (CMM) will re-open on May 11, 2020. It is anticipated that preschools, primary schools and educational childcare services within the CMM will re-open on May 19, 2020. Students may return to class on a voluntary basis. Secondary schools, Cégeps and Universities will remain closed until September, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 26, 2020:** The Minister of Health ordered that: (i) any meeting, sitting or assembly that takes place in person, including that of a deliberative body, may be held using a means that enables all members to communicate with each other immediately, (ii)

emergency childcare services are extended to a child whose parent is employed by a slaughterhouse or is a member of the Canadian Armed Forces, and (iii) biofood producers and processors are authorized to rent accommodation units in an accommodation establishment to house their employees ([link](#)).

- **April 23, 2020:** The Government of Québec modified the regions effected by the fire ban ([link](#)).
- **April 22, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the state of emergency for a further 8 days ([link](#)).
- **April 22, 2020:** The Minister of Health empowered the Commission de la construction du Québec to exercise its supervisory powers for the purposes of verifying on construction sites, the application of certain measures contained in the *Guide COVID-19 - Chantiers de construction* published by CNESST on April 13, 2020, and inform CNESST of any breach ([link](#)).
- **April 22, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced that it will present a plan to gradually reopen schools and to restart the economy outside of Montreal and Laval next week ([link](#)).
- **April 21, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced that employers in priority sectors can post job offers on an online platform at Québec.ca ([link](#)).
- **April 20, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced schools will remain closed beyond May 4, 2020, but it is exploring the possibility of reopening them on May 11, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** The Government of Québec added domestic storage, printing (media and telecommunications), and sales services (transport and logistics) to the list of essential services ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** Persons enrolled in college or university programs whose diploma grants them access to a permit to practice within certain professions have been granted a special authorization to practice. The professions concerned are: nurses, nursing assistants, respiratory therapists, medical technologists, medical imaging technologists in the field of radiodiagnostics or in the field of nuclear medicine, and social workers ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** The Government of Québec extended the payment of annual registration fees with the *Registraire des entreprises* to September 1, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** The Government of Québec introduced temporary measures to help administrators of supplemental pension plans and their participants. Deadlines linked to certain regulatory and legislative obligations have been extended. All acquittals (transfers and refunds) made by December 31, 2020, must be calculated based on the estimated credit worthiness, updated on March 31, 2020 or on the last working day of the month preceding the date on which the participant's rights were valued, if this date is later. Rules on disbursement of sums immobilized in life income funds have been relaxed ([link](#)).

- **April 16, 2020:** The Government of Québec banned open fires in or near forests to preserve the operational capacity of the Society for the Protection of Forests against Fire (SOPFEU) and of the various municipal fire departments during the pandemic ([link](#)).
- **April 15, 2020:** On May 1, 2020, the general minimum wage rate will increase by 60 cents to \$13.10 per hour. Further information on minimum wage increases can be found [here](#).
- **April 13, 2020:** The CNESST published a Guide for the management of COVID-19 on construction sites ([link](#)).
- **April 13, 2020:** Mining activities were added to the list of priority activities and services. Mining activities will be permitted in a gradual and supervised manner starting April 15, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 13, 2020:** Residential construction projects scheduled for July 31, 2020 have been added to the list of priority services and activities. Such projects will be allowed to resume on April 20, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 13, 2020:** Effective April 15, 2020, the list of essential services and commercial activities has been expanded to include, landscaping and landscape maintenance (including nurseries, garden centers and businesses selling swimming pools); products, parts and other equipment necessary for transportation and logistics services; service stations, vehicle maintenance and repair, tow truck firms, trucks and specialized equipment, and roadside assistance. ([link](#))
- **April 11, 2020:** The Government of Québec ordered the inspection of all 40 private unfunded long-term care facilities in the province ([link](#)).
- **April 11, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced a temporary suspension of custody or access rights of one parent when the other parent resides in a shelter for victims of domestic violence which imposes isolation measures on the people it receives ([link](#)).
- **April 10, 2020:** The Government of Québec reinforced protection measures for seniors and vulnerable people ([link](#)).
- **April 10, 2020:** The Government of Québec has requested the cancellation of festivals, sporting events, and cultural events until August 31, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** The Minister of Energy and Natural Resources temporarily changed the date required for the switch to summer gasoline from April 9, 2020 to June 30, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** The Government of Québec lifted the road ban on large transport trucks for Good Friday and Easter Monday ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** The Autorité des marchés financiers introduced new measures to support insurers, financial planners, and money and financial services. These measures include

the deferral of payments for fees payable, extensions of expired certificates and other relief measures ([link](#)).

- **April 9, 2020:** The Government of Québec suspended the validity period of all mining claims in force in Québec for a period of 12 months ([link](#)).
- **April 8, 2020:** Premier Legault announced that health care workers will be redeployed to various senior residences to meet increased needs ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** The Government of Québec announced the containment of Notre-Dame-des-Sept-Douleurs in the Bas-Saint-Laurent health region. People will no longer be able to leave or access the region unless they fall within an enumerated exception. Further travel restrictions have also been implemented to prevent non-essential movement in the regional county municipalities of Bellechasse, L'Islet and Montmagny, and the Chaudière-Appalaches health region ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** Premier Legault announced that there should be no physical gatherings for Easter ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** The Québec Tourism and Hospitality Institute will provide 800,000 meals to those in need ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** The Court of Appeal for Québec has established a digital registry that will allow for the electronic filing of an appeal ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** The City of Montreal canceled all summer festivals and events until July 2, 2020. ([link](#))
- **April 7, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the state of emergency for a further 10-day period ([link](#)).
- **April 6, 2020:** The Government of Québec exempted owners and operators of heavy vehicles from legislative and regulatory obligations related to driving and rest hours for those transporting essential goods ([link](#)).
- **April 6, 2020:** The Government of Québec launched a \$100 million program to subsidize businesses that initiate employee training ([link](#)).
- **April 6, 2020:** A new learning platform for students will launch on April 13, 2020 and can be accessed at [enclasse.telequebec.tv](http://enclasse.telequebec.tv) ([link](#)).
- **April 5, 2020:** The Government of Québec extended the closure of all non-essential businesses until May 4, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 3, 2020:** The Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing announced that in an effort to continue municipal projects, municipal organizations must open tenders without the presence of the public or those who have bid ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Minister of Environment instituted a temporary measure exempting companies from the requirement to obtain an environmental authorization before being

able to modify production to meet the demand for a priority service or activity related to the pandemic ([link](#)).

- **April 2, 2020:** The Government of Québec postponed planting deadlines to provide additional time for farmers to plant their crops without being penalized ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Premier of Québec has requested that provincial and municipal police officers enforce emergency measures against individuals and businesses. Fines of \$1,000 to \$6,000 can be imposed by the police ([link](#)).
- **April 1, 2020:** Justice Québec announced several new temporary orders. The payment of legal fees to the court is postponed. The territorial powers of Justices of the Peace and Judicial Officers have been extended to all judicial districts. Procedural documents may now be filed in a district different from where it was to be filed and hearings may be transferred to a new district ([link](#)).
- **April 1, 2020:** Further travel restrictions have been implemented to prevent non-essential movement in four new regions: l'Outaouais health region, the territories and municipalities of Antoine-Labelle and Argenteuil in the Laurentians health region, the territories of Autray, Joliette, Matawinie and Montcalm in the Lanaudière health region, and l'agglomération de La Tuque in the Mauricie et Centre-du-Québec health region ([link](#)).
- **March 31, 2020:** Pharmacies, grocery stores, and establishments offering grocery or pharmacy services in outside shopping centers are allowed to extend their hours of operation beyond legal periods from Monday to Saturday in order to meet the needs of their clientele ([link](#)).
- **March 31, 2020:** Maritime service to l'île d'Anticosti and la Basse-Côte-Nord has prohibited passenger transport, vehicle transport, receipt of goods from individuals, and the vessels will not stop in ports where cargo operations are not required ([link](#)).
- **March 30, 2020:** Québec Premier François Legault announced that all stores must close every Sunday in April, with the exception of gas stations, convenience stores, pharmacies and restaurants providing takeout and delivery ([link](#)).
- **March 30, 2020:** The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Québec announced a temporary measure to suspend decisions and orders of the Superior Court concerning supervised visits, generally by community organizations, between a child and his parent, grandparents or any other person ([link](#)).
- **March 30, 2020:** The Caisse de dépôt et de placements du Québec announced a \$4-billion envelope to support Québec companies impacted by COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **March 30, 2020:** Government of Québec announced the launch of *Open school*, an online platform aimed at teaching children and teenagers whose schools are closed ([link](#)).
- **March 29, 2020:** Government of Québec announced \$133-million to help senior and special care residences cope with the new health measures ([link](#)).



- **March 29, 2020:** Government of Québec renewed the state of emergency for a further 10-day period ([link](#)).
- **March 28, 2020:** The Government of Québec ordered the closure of tourist accommodation establishments, such as chalets, second homes for rent, Bed and Breakfasts and inns. Certain campsites hosting snowbirds with no other accommodation option that have sufficient sanitary facilities and hotels are exempt ([link](#)).
- **March 28, 2020:** Temporary measures were announced that allow notaries and bailiffs to complete their functions remotely.
- **March 28, 2020:** Only essential travel into le Bas-Saint-Laurent, l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue, la Côte-Nord, le Nord-du-Québec, le Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean, la Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine, le Nunavik, and les Terres-Cries-de-la-Baie-James will be permitted. Police checkpoints will be set up to enforce this measure ([link](#)).
- **March 28, 2020:** Health care workers who wish to interrupt their parental leave will have six additional months to use their benefits from the Québec Parental Insurance Plan (QPIP). ([link](#))
- **March 27, 2020:** The Government of Québec has allowed businesses to postpone filing their returns until June 30, 2020 and payments in respect of the March 31, April 30 and May 31 QST remittances, without interest or penalties. It will also accelerate the processing of requests for tax credits intended for businesses and tax refunds ([link](#)).
- **March 27, 2020:** City of Montreal declared a state of emergency pursuant to section 42 of the *Civil protection act*.
- **March 27, 2020:** The Ministère des Transports announced the reopening of several rest stops to support those that must travel. However, the Government of Québec still advised against non-essential interregional travel ([link](#)). As of April 3, 2020, any unsubsidized daycare that remains open must close. The Government of Québec will provide childcare, free of charge, for health workers and essential services at a subsidized daycare. More information on childcare can be found [here](#).
- **March 26, 2020:** As a result of a decline in the use of public transit, Montreal and Québec City have announced that new public transit services will be reduced effective March 30, 2020. Further information on the new Montreal public transit schedules can be found [here](#). Further information on the Québec City public transit schedules can be found [here](#).
- **March 24, 2020:** Following the March 23<sup>rd</sup> order that all non-essential businesses must close, the Government of Québec added that businesses that are non-essential, excluding stores, can maintain minimal operations to ensure the resumption of their activities, bearing in mind the directives issued by public health authorities ([link](#)). Minister of Justice announced the suspension of certain time limits for penal proceedings until the declaration of a public health emergency expired, except for cases deemed urgent by the courts. Also suspended during this period are time limits to retain a thing seized or the proceeds of a sale thereof and to obtain an extension of the

retention (ss. 40.4 and 40.7 of the *Tax Administration Act*). In addition, any search may be authorized by a telewarrant ([link](#)).

- **March 23, 2020:** Premier François Legault announced the mandatory closure of all non-essential businesses, effective midnight of March 24, 2020. This order will remain in effect until April 13, 2020. The list of essential services and commercial activities in Québec can be found [here](#).
- **March 22, 2020:** As of midnight on March 22, 2020, Québec closed all shopping malls and hair and beauty salons. Grocery stores, pharmacies, and SAQ stores will remain open, as well as stores that are accessible by an exterior entrance. All restaurants must close dining-room service, while take-out service can continue. Schools and daycares remain closed until at least May 1, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **March 21, 2020:** The Government of Québec renewed the state of emergency for a further 10-day period. All gatherings of people indoors and outdoors are forbidden unless it:
  - Is required by a work environment that is not the subject of a suspension by decree;
  - Is to obtain a good or a service from an establishment or a person whose activities are not suspended by decree;
  - Is in a transportation vehicle;
  - For an exterior assembly if, a) the people assembling live in the same residence, b) if one person is receiving a service from another, c) if a minimum distance of 2 meters is observed;
  - Is inside a private residence for its occupants.

For the first 3 exceptions, a distance of 2 meters must be respected amongst the people gathering. By the same decree, the Government of Québec suspended all periods of time to introduce an action until the end of the state of emergency for the Tribunal administratif du Québec, the Tribunal administratif du travail, the Tribunal administratif des marchés financiers, the Commission de la fonction publique and the section jurisdictional section of the Commission d'accès à l'information. The exception to this is with respect to an action introduced following section 22 of the *Labour code* concerning certification of employee associations (i.e. certification of unions) ([link](#)). The renewal of the state of health emergency also has the effect of renewing, until March 29, 2020, the suspension of limitation periods and procedural delays initially ordered on March 15, 2020.

- **March 21, 2020:** Government of Québec adopted a decree allowing for the modification of several provisions of health sector collective agreements ([link](#)).
- **March 20, 2020:** Public health officials asked hotels to accommodate non-infectious minor hospital cases in order to free up beds for COVID-19 patients in hospitals ([link](#)).
- **March 20, 2020:** The Ministère de la Justice issued an interpretation bulletin recognizing the validity of affidavits completed remotely via technological means that meet certain conditions ([link](#)).

- **March 19, 2020:** Premier of Québec asked people not to travel between regions unless essential ([link](#)).
- **March 18, 2020:** Government of Québec suspended the education system's collective agreements in order to dispatch education personnel where needed during the crisis ([link](#)).
- **March 17, 2020:** Government of Québec announced delaying income tax declarations until June 1, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **March 17, 2020:** Emergency daycare services were extended to include more parents working in services considered essential.
- **March 17, 2020:** Montreal public transit adopted measures limiting interactions between staff, drivers and the public ([link](#)).
- **March 16, 2020:** Government of Québec announced a special allocation program of \$573/week (Programme d'aide temporaire aux travailleurs) to help workers that are not otherwise compensated for isolation measures ([link](#)).
- **March 15, 2020:** To impede the spread of COVID-19 in Québec, the Government of Québec ordered the closure of the following businesses and public spaces until March 30, 2020: aquariums, skating rinks, bars and discotheques, libraries, sugar shacks, training gyms, dance halls and spinning, zumba and yoga centres, indoor soccer arenas, outdoor recreation centres, cinemas and games arcades, sample counters and booths in grocery and department stores, recreational sites (ski resorts, amusement parks, trampoline centres, etc.), museums, water parks, swimming pools, spas and saunas, restaurants offering buffet service, performance spaces, theatres, zoos and all other similar facilities.
  - The Government of Québec also asked restaurants and coffee shop owners to limit the number of customers to 50% of the rooms' capacity, that is, to one out of every two tables. However, buffet-style restaurants and sugar shacks must close temporarily. Take-out orders, deliveries and drive-through services are permitted. The SQDC and SAQ remain open, but the number of clients must be limited in order to respect social distancing. Online orders are encouraged. For places of worship, religious gatherings of all faiths should be suspended, unless they are essential. If a gathering takes place, social distancing must be observed.
  - Collective agreements between school boards and unions were modified ([link](#)). The Ministerial Order can be found [here](#).
- **March 15, 2020:** Chief Justice of Québec and Québec Minister for Justice jointly ordered the suspension of certain limitation periods and procedural periods of time pending the duration of the state of health emergency decreed on March 13, 2020. The joint order can be found [here](#).
- **March 14, 2020:** Government of Québec prohibited non-essential visits to hospitals, residential and long-term care centres (CHSLD), intermediate resources, family-type resources for the elderly and vulnerable adults and private seniors' homes.

- **March 14, 2020** Government of Québec recommended that people aged 70 and over stay at home and limit their movements except in exceptional situations, such as medical appointments ([link](#)).
- **March 13, 2020:** Government of Québec declared a provincial public health emergency. This granted the government the power to put in place measures aimed at ensuring the protection of the population's health. The state of emergency is declared for 10 days and is renewable for another 10 days thereafter. The following measure were notably adopted along with the health emergency:
  - Education establishments must suspend their activities;
  - Daycares must suspend their activities, however child care must be organized for children of healthcare workers, police, firefighters, ambulance workers, correctional services agents and special constables;
  - Indoor assemblies of over 250 people are forbidden;
  - Services provided by healthcare workers regarding COVID-19 by correspondence or by telecommunication are considered insured services;
  - The *Ministre de la Santé et des Services sociaux* (Minister of Health) can make the expenses considered necessary;
  - The Minister of Health and the healthcare establishments can without delay or formalities conclude the contracts which they deem necessary, notably to acquire furniture, equipment, medication or to undertake construction;
  - The Minister of Health can take all other measures required to insure that the healthcare system has the human resources it requires; and
  - The Minister of Health can order all other measures necessary to protect the health of the population ([link](#)).
- **March 13, 2020:** The Government of Québec recommended voluntary self-isolation for 14 days for anyone who returned from abroad on or after March 12, 2020.
  - The Government of Québec also mandated isolation for 14 days for all public service employees and health care, education and daycare workers, both private and public, who return from abroad on or after March 12, 2020.
- **March 13, 2020:** The Superior Court and the Québec Court suspended activities except with respect to emergency proceedings.
- Further information is available on the Government of Québec's [website](#).

### **Newfoundland and Labrador**

- **June 12, 2020:** The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador extended the time period that converts a temporary layoff into a permanent termination under the *Labour Standards Act*. The time period for making a complaint to the Director of Labour Standards has also been extended ([link](#)).
- **June 8, 2020:** The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador announced a further two-month extension of tax return filing deadlines to August 20, 2020 ([link](#)).

- **May 22, 2020:** The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador announced the deferral or waiver of a number of fees, as well as steps to reduce regulatory burden for businesses ([link](#)).
- **May 15, 2020:** The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador announced schools will remain closed for the remainder of the school year ([link](#)).
- **May 15, 2020:** The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador announced the Students Supporting Communities Program. It will provide funding for student positions that help seniors and other vulnerable groups facing social isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic ([link](#)).
- **May 6, 2020:** The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador announced additional supports for businesses to mitigate the future impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic ([link](#)).
- **May 4, 2020:** The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador partnered with 811 Healthline to connect individuals experiencing food insecurity with community food programs and other supports to access food during the COVID-19 public health emergency ([link](#)).
- **April 22, 2020:** The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador declared a ban on open fires including the setting of all open fires on forest land or within 300 metres of forest land for all regions within the province ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** The Minister of Children, Seniors and Social Development announced the provision of technology to facilitate virtual visits for families who, before COVID-19, were having in person visits with their children in care ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** Select ecological reserves and nature parks will remain closed ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** Youth set to age out of a Youth Services Program will lose access to required supports during the pandemic ([link](#)).
- **April 6, 2020:** An amendment has been made to the Shops' Closing Regulations to allow select stores to open for business on Good Friday. Stores that are not exempt under the Regulations, but are deemed by order of the Chief Medical Officer of Health as services essential to the life, health or personal safety of individuals and animals, will be provided the option to open for business on Good Friday ([link](#)).
- **April 3, 2020:** The Department of Fisheries and Land Resources extended the annual validation expiry date for aquaculture licences from March 31, 2020 to May 31, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Minister of Education announced the cancellation of public examinations in schools. Students' grades will be based on work completed up to March 13, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **March 26, 2020:** Various legislative amendments were introduced at the House of Assembly to respond to COVID-19. The potential amendments ensure that tenants of rental properties cannot be evicted if they cannot pay rent due to lost income related to COVID-19. The amendments would also introduce a variety of economic supports.

- **March 25, 2020:** Effective March 26, 2020, passengers travelling on provincial ferries will be restricted to essential workers travelling to their workplace, patients travelling for medical reasons and those transporting essential goods.
- **March 23, 2020:** Dr. Janice Fitzgerald, Chief Medical Officer of Health, ordered certain businesses to close immediately. All those announced as part of the March 18<sup>th</sup> order, were ordered to remain closed, with the additional closure of personal service establishments and retail stores (unless they provide services essential to the life, health or personal safety of individuals and animals). The new order prohibited gatherings of more than 10 people, including at funerals, visitations and weddings ([link](#)).
- **March 20, 2020:** Dr. Janice Fitzgerald, Chief Medical Officer of Health, ordered all individuals arriving in Newfoundland and Labrador from outside the province to self-isolate for 14 days. Individuals arriving from other provinces and territories were included.
- **March 18, 2020:** The Minister of Health and Community Services declared COVID-19 a public health emergency under the *Public Health Protection and Promotion Act*. The Government of Newfoundland and Labrador ordered the closure of the following businesses: gyms and fitness facilities, including yoga studios, tennis and squash facilities, dance studios, businesses that hold a license under the *Liquor Control Act* whose primary purpose is the consumption of beer, wine, or spirits, cinemas, arenas, performance spaces, and bingo halls.
  - Restaurants are permitted to operate at 50 per cent capacity, as long as appropriate social distancing (2 arms' length from others) can be maintained. Gatherings of 50 or more are not permitted. This includes funerals and visitation to funeral homes.
- Further information is available on the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador's [website](#).
- Further information on the Newfoundland and Labrador government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" explainer, [here](#).

### **New Brunswick**

- **June 5, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick announced that Zone 5 will transition to the Yellow level on Friday, June 26, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 11, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick extended the state of emergency for a further 14 days ([link](#)).
- **May 28, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick extended the state of emergency for a further 14 days ([link](#)).
- **May 27, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick announced that Zone 5 will transition back to Orange level ([link](#)).
- **May 14, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick extended the state of emergency for a further 14 days ([link](#)).

- **April 30, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick extended the state of emergency to May 14, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 30, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick introduced retroactive job protection measures for those who are not able to work because they have COVID-19, are caring for a person with whom they have a close family relationship who has the virus, are following self-isolation or quarantine protocols as directed by Public Health, or who cannot report to work because they are caring for their children due to school or daycare closures ([link](#)).
- **April 30, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick extended the validity of licences, registrations, certificates and permits issued under provincial laws that were valid as of March 16, 2020 to June 30, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 30, 2020:** Municipal councils and council committees may now hold meetings electronically ([link](#)).
- **April 30, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick will launch a job matching platform on May 4, 2020, to fill positions previously filled by temporary foreign workers ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick announced a mandatory order restricting temporary foreign workers from entering the province ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick announced that students moving out of universities and community colleges, and those helping them, may enter the province for no longer than 24 hours ([link](#)).
- **April 24, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick announced the first phase of New Brunswick's recovery plan and the loosening of some public health restrictions ([link](#)).
- **April 23, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick removed the 30-day limit for prescriptions where shortages do not exist ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick passed legislative amendments that allow the government to quickly set up child care centres for children of essential service workers, if necessary. Amendments were also made to the *Employment Standards Act* to address issues related to leaves of absences due to a state of emergency ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick extended the state of emergency to April 30, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** Premier Blaine Higgs announced that gardening and agricultural retailers can reopen ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** Premier Blaine Higgs announced that restaurants with a licence can sell liquor off their menu for take-out or delivery ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** The Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development delayed the opening of all recreational fishing seasons and the spring bear hunting season until at least May 1, 2020 ([link](#)).

- **April 6, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick established a pandemic task force vested with authority to determine the response of the health-care system ([link](#)).
- **April 3, 2020:** All provincial parks and playgrounds have been closed ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick announced that campgrounds and other social venues will remain closed until further notice ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** Barring drastic improvements related to COVID-19, schools will not reopen to students this school year. The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development released home learning plans and resources for families to support the continuity of learning while schools remain closed to students. Grade 12 students that were on track to graduate will graduate on time, and students positioned to continue to the next grade level will do so ([link](#)).
- **April 1, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick extended the state of emergency for another 14 days. Failing to comply with emergency orders could result in fines ranging from \$292.50 to \$10,200 ([link](#)).
- **March 28, 2020:** Service New Brunswick locations closed until April 1, 2020, at which point select service centres will open by appointment only.
- **March 27, 2020:** Health care workers that develop symptoms of COVID-19 are directed to immediately self-isolate. All school playgrounds and playgrounds associated with public housing facilities, are closed. Businesses that are allowed to be open must limit the number of customers to maintain physical distancing and must check that customers entering are not among those required to be in self-isolation. Failing to comply could result in enforcement by the Department of Public Safety or a stop-work order by WorkSafeNB.
- **March 25, 2020:** Dr. Jennifer Russell, Chief Medical Officer of Health, mandated 14 days of self-isolation for all individuals arriving from outside of the province. Additionally, all unnecessary travel into the province is prohibited and peace officers may turn away visitors ([link](#)).
- **March 19, 2020:** The Government of New Brunswick declared a provincial state of emergency. With this declaration, the government mandated the closure of many public facing businesses and all businesses in retail sales are required to stop admitting patrons. Exceptions include: grocery stores, pharmacies, repair garages, post offices, financial and lending institutions, retailers of fuel, hardware and automotive parts, convenience stores, animal and fish feed providers, and corporate and agency stores of NB Liquor and Cannabis NB. All businesses required to stop admitting patrons are permitted to sell online, over the phone and to arrange delivery or pick-up of purchases.
  - As a result of the declaration: all food and beverage businesses reduced to take-out and delivery service only; all lounges and special facilities licensed under the Liquor Control Act will stop admitting patrons, all swimming pools, spas, saunas, waterparks, gymnasiums, yoga studios, dance studios, rinks and arenas, tennis courts, soccer and baseball fields, climbing walls, escape rooms, ski hills, golf courses, arcades, amusement centres, pool halls, bowling alleys, casinos, cinemas, libraries, museums, zoos, aquariums, barbers, hair stylists,



esthetics service providers, sugar bush operations, theatres or other live performance venues will stop admitting members of the public; and schools, colleges, universities and private schools must be closed to students, online course delivery may continue (institutions with students in residence are permitted to allow them to remain in residence until they can safely return home).

- **March 13, 2020:** Given the vast number of countries reporting community or widespread transmission of COVID-19, the Government of New Brunswick ordered all travelers returning to Canada after March 13, 2020 to self-isolate for 14 days.
- Further information is available on the Government of New Brunswick's [website](#).
- Further information on the New Brunswick government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" explainer, [here](#).

### Nova Scotia

- **September 4, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia extended the state of emergency until September 20, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **August 21, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia extended the state of emergency until September 6, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **August 8, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia extended the state of emergency until August 23, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **July 24, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced that effective July 31, 2020, masks will become mandatory in most indoor public places ([link](#)) .
- **June 14, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia extended the state of emergency until June 28, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 8, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced that the last day of the school-year will be June 5, 2020 and that licenced daycares will remain closed until then ([link](#)).
- **May 1, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia extended the state of emergency until May 17, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia extended school closures until at least May 19, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 24, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia extended the deadline for certain Registry of Motor Vehicle services such as drivers licences, motor vehicle inspections, vehicle registrations, temporary permits, driving tests, and accessible parking permits ([link](#)).
- **April 24, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced that effective 11:59 p.m. on April 26, 2020, spring weight restrictions on provincial roads will be removed in listed regions. Further weight restrictions will be removed in other regions on a rolling basis ([link](#)).

- **April 19, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia and the Nova Scotia Health Authority are working to help Northwood implement an emergency plan to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak at its Halifax Campus ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia extended the state of emergency to May 3, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 13, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced front-line workers in long-term care homes, residential care facilities and home-care agencies will be expected to wear masks ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia announced three new emergency orders. First, private camp grounds remain closed until at least May 1, 2020. Only veterinarians working with the SPCA may carry out spay and neuter surgeries. Lastly, workers in the fishing and offshore industries must self-isolate when they enter the province ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** An order to extend the state of emergency for two more weeks will take effect at noon on April 5, 2020 and extend to noon, April 19, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **March 30, 2020:** All public schools and licensed child care providers will remain closed until at least May 1, 2020. Students will have access to e-learning or at-home learning materials for students without internet access. Students will proceed to the next grade or graduate in the usual timeframe ([link](#)).
- **March 27, 2020:** Individuals that have been in close contact with confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 have been directed to self-isolate for 14 days. The government is encouraging retail and commercial landlords to defer lease payments for the next three months for businesses that had to close due to a public health order. Landlords may not change locks or seize property of businesses who cannot pay rent, if the business closed due to a public health order. Starting March 30, 2020, restaurants may include alcohol with takeout and delivery orders if the cost of the alcohol is not more than three times the value of the food.
- **March 24, 2020:** Premier Stephen McNeil provided clarification on essential services, which are exempt from the five-person-or-fewer gathering rules. These sectors are health, food, agri-food and fisheries, transportation, construction and manufacturing, IT, telecommunications and critical infrastructure, and public services such as fire, police and ambulances.
- **March 22, 2020:** The Government of Nova Scotia declared a provincial state of emergency. Effective March 23, 2020, anyone travelling into the province from another Canadian province must self-isolate. An exception would be made for those bringing critical supplies or service to Nova Scotia. Effective immediately, social gatherings of more than five people are prohibited. Workplaces and businesses may remain open, but all individuals must remain two meters from one another. Mark Furey, Justice Minister said police may enforce orders related to self-isolation and social distancing under the *Health Protection Act*. Breaches may lead to individual fines up to \$1,000 and corporate fines up to \$7,500.

- **March 19, 2020:** The Province of Nova Scotia, under the authority of the *Health Protection Act*, has required anyone who has travelled outside Canada to self-isolate for 14 days upon return.
- **March 17, 2020:** The Province of Nova Scotia banned gatherings of more than 50 people and ordered the following measures effective as of March 19, 2020: restaurants are restricted to take-out and delivery only and no in-person dining, drinking establishments, winery and distillery tasting rooms and craft taprooms must close, private liquor stores can continue to operate and craft breweries, wineries and distilleries can continue to sell their product from their storefronts.
  - Closure of all Halifax Municipally owned recreation facilities, community centres and arenas.
- **March 16, 2020:** Closure of long term care facilities, all public schools (closed for two weeks after March Break), licensed childcare providers and casinos.
- Further information is available on the Government of Nova Scotia's [website](#).
- Further information on the Nova Scotia government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" explainer, [here](#).

### **Prince Edward Island**

- **April 28, 2020:** The Government of Prince Edward Island announced their plans to reopen businesses starting May 1, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 16, 2020:** The Government of Prince Edward Island declared a state of emergency and renewed the state of public health emergency for an additional thirty days ([link](#)).
- **April 14, 2020:** The Government of Prince Edward Island enhanced employment and economic opportunities for Island high-school and post-secondary students through the creation of 1,000 new job placements ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** The opening of the recreational fishing season has been delayed until at least June 1, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 9, 2020:** The Minister of Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy, Steven Myers, announced a partnership with the PEI Trucking Sector Council, Emergency Measures Organization and Rodd Royalty Inn & Suites. The partnership will make rooms available for truck drivers so they can practice self-isolation between trips ([link](#)).
- **April 8, 2020:** The Province of Prince Edward Island expanded partnerships and efforts to support safe and healthy families during COVID-19 ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Government of Prince Edward Island announced eviction orders will not be enforced during the COVID-19 pandemic ([link](#)).
- **March 31, 2020:** Schools will remain closed until at least May 11, 2020. Teachers will provide both online and printed learning materials. All provincial skill assessments are

cancelled. School counsellors and psychologists will be made available for students that need support. The province has also suspended repayment of student loans for six months ([link](#)).

- **March 30, 2020:** There is a moratorium on evictions until the end of June ([link](#)).
- **March 27, 2020:** Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Heather Morrison, announced all schools and daycares remain closed until at least May 11, 2020. Non-essential government services and non-essential businesses remain closed indefinitely as the situation continues to be re-evaluated on a regular basis. Travel across Confederation Bridge should be limited to necessary travel only ([link](#)).
- **March 25, 2020:** Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Heather Morrison recommended that Islanders remain on their own property while self-isolating.
- **March 24, 2020:** Chief Public Health Officer, Dr. Heather Morrison, announced the closure of public playgrounds.
- **March 23, 2020:** PEI's Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Bloyce Thompson, announced that mandatory self-isolation would be enforced. Individuals that do not comply with public health orders may be fined \$1000 for a first offence, \$2000 for a second offence, and \$10,000 for a third offence and every offence thereafter.
- **March 18, 2020:** Prince Edward Island's Chief Public Health Officer ordered the closure of all "non-essential" businesses until further notice. Noted exceptions include grocery stores and pharmacies. Any spaces intended for public gatherings are being asked to close immediately.
  - Non-essential business closures include: restaurants and bars (not providing take out or delivery service), theatres, gyms and recreation centres, salons and spas, tattoo and piercing studios, personal service facilities, museums, casinos, shopping malls (except that part of the shopping mall operating an essential service), bowling alleys, sporting and concert venue and retail stores.
  - PEI Liquor Control Commission government-operated retail stores and PEI Cannabis retail stores closed as of 2:00 p.m. on March 19, 2020 (agency stores licensed to sell liquor and breweries will continue to operate and online and mail delivery will continue).
- **March 17, 2020:** The Government of Prince Edward Island ordered the closure of all "non-essential" provincial government services to the public including: various provincial offices (courts, family law, legal aid, victim services, community and correctional services are operational but public access is limited), libraries, museums, all public schools (all public schools closed with March break extended by an additional two weeks), education offices, PEI early years centres and licensed childcare centres, all Health PEI facilities closed to visitors (including hospitals and long-term care facilities), Worker's Compensation Board, Agricultural and Land offices.
  - Dental clinics ordered closed effective March 17, 2020 for 14 days (emergencies handled on a case-by-case basis). The National Optometry Association

provided guidance to its members to only take emergency appointments until further notice.

- Funerals and wakes at funeral homes ordered open for family only with no more than 20 people present.
- **March 16, 2020:** The Government of Prince Edward Island declared a public health emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Further information is available on the Prince Edward Island's [website](#).
- Further information on the Prince Edward Island government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" explainer, [here](#).

## Yukon

- **July 2, 2020:** The Government of Yukon worked with Public Safety Canada to develop a community safety plan for the Whitehorse Emergency Shelter ([link](#)).
- **July 2, 2020:** The Government of Yukon announced that non-medical masks are now required at all Yukon airports ([link](#)).
- **June 12, 2020:** The Government of Yukon announced that residential tenants who are under a health protection measure after June 25, 2020 or who need to breach their tenancy agreement because they are under a COVID-19 health protection order will continue to be protected from eviction ([link](#)).
- **June 12, 2020:** The Government of Yukon announced that it will be extending the state of emergency under the *Civil Emergency Measures Act* for an additional 90 days ([link](#)).
- **May 14, 2020:** The Government of Yukon announced new measures for pharmacists to increase options for extending prescriptions and create a limited ability to initiate prescriptions ([link](#)).
- **May 13, 2020:** The Government of Yukon announced societies, business corporations and cooperatives can now hold their official meetings online with electronic and teleconferencing technology ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** The Government of Yukon announced that businesses can reopen if their practices comply with current public health advice. It further announced that the ban on social gatherings does not apply to work environments ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** The Government of Yukon announced temporary changes to drivers licence requirements ([link](#)).
- **April 23, 2020:** The Government of Yukon extended the deadline for property tax payments from July 2, 2020 to September 2, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** The Government of Yukon has been directed to reduce the number of children in licensed child care spaces. Yukoners whose occupations are not considered critical or essential are not permitted to use licensed child care spaces at this time ([link](#)).

- **April 17, 2020:** The Government of Yukon introduced the Border Control Measures Order to ensure that enforcement officers stationed at Yukon’s borders have the legal authority and tools needed to deny entry to non-essential travellers while still permitting essential and critical services and people to return home ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** The Government of Yukon’s Minister of Education, suspended face-to-face classes for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year ([link](#)).
- **April 6, 2020:** Territorial parks and campgrounds will not open until June ([link](#)).
- **April 3, 2020:** Women vulnerable to violence will be given phones for the next four months so that they have a safe way to access support during the pandemic ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Government of Yukon introduced Civil Emergency Measures Health Protection (COVID-19) Orders to ensure that orders given under the *Civil Emergency Measures Act* are enforceable. Fines and jail time may now be issued to individuals that do not comply with orders. Non-residents who must transit through Yukon may do so but may only remain in Yukon for no more than 24 hours ([link](#)). A list of the orders can be found [here](#).
- **March 25, 2020:** The Government of Yukon established a COVID-19 Business Advisory Council to ensure the needs of Yukon’s business community are heard.
- **March 22, 2020:** Yukon’s Chief Medical Officer of Health advised against all non-essential travel into and out of the Yukon. Residents were advised to return home now. Anyone coming into the territory must self-isolate for 14 days. Restaurants must reduce seating capacity to 50 per cent and space people two meters apart, and only offer take-out and delivery as of March 26, 2020. Bars must close. Gatherings of more than 10 people are banned ([link](#)).
- **March 18, 2020:** Public health emergency declared in Yukon.
- Further information is available on the Government of Yukon’s [website](#).
- Further information on the Yukon government’s emergency powers, can be found on our “Can they do that?” explainer, [here](#).

### **Northwest Territories**

- **August 18, 2020:** The Minister of Health and Social Services has extended the territory-wide Public Health Emergency under the *Northwest Territories Health Act* through September 1, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **July 23, 2020:** The Minister of Health and Social Services extended the territory-wide Public Health Emergency under the *Northwest Territories’ Public Health Act* ([link](#)).
- **July 7, 2020:** The Minister of Health and Social Services extended the territory-wide Public Health Emergency under the *Northwest Territories’ Public Health Act* ([link](#)).

- **June 30, 2020:** The Government of the Northwest Territories adjusted its isolation centre payment policy which will now require certain non-residents to pay isolation centre costs([link](#)).
- **June 30, 2020:** The Government of the Northwest Territories implemented restrictions at Fred Henne Territorial Park ([link](#)).
- **June 24, 2020:** The Government of the Northwest Territories extended the territory-wide Public Health Emergency and State of Emergency until July 8, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **June 15, 2020:** The Government of the Northwest Territories relaxed certain restrictions at the Northwest Territories - Alberta border at Fort Smith ([link](#)).
- **June 5, 2020:** The Government of the Northwest Territories announced that a checkpoint will resume at the Northwest Territories Alberta border at Fort Smith ([link](#)).
- **May 14, 2020:** The Government of Northwest Territories announced that schools will remain closed for the remainder of the school year ([link](#)).
- **May 12, 2020:** The Government of Northwest Territories extended the state of emergency to May 26, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **May 8, 2020:** The Government of Northwest Territories announced new regulations which allow all Class A and Class B licenced establishments in the Northwest Territories to sell beer, wine and spirits for take-out and delivery without the need for an off-premises extension to their licence ([link](#)).
- **May 4, 2020:** The Government of Northwest Territories announced the opening of the Yellowknife Women's Centre individual housing suites and the return of regular programming at the Yellowknife Day and Sobering Centre to support individuals facing homelessness and addictions during the COVID-19 outbreak ([link](#)).
- **April 28, 2020:** The Government of Northwest Territories extended the public health emergency and the state of emergency to May 12, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 27, 2020:** The Government of Northwest Territories (GNWT) introduced new restrictions on essential service workers and those supporting them, infrastructure workers employed by the GNWT, Municipal Governments, Indigenous Governments and Organizations, and corrections officers returning to the territory ([link](#)).
- **April 24, 2020:** The Government of Northwest Territories announced new measures to support child care for essential workers ([link](#)).
- **April 23, 2020:** The Government of Northwest Territories changed the requirements of the Transitional Rent Supplement Program to make the program responsive to the pandemic and more accessible to residents ([link](#)).
- **April 15, 2020:** Both the public health emergency and the state of emergency were extended to April 28, 2020 ([link](#)).

- **April 15, 2020:** The Government of Northwest Territories enacted the Residential Tenancies (COVID-19) Regulations, a new temporary regulation that offers tenants a mechanism to defer their rent if they have lost their job or have had a significant decline in their income ([link](#)).
- **April 10, 2020:** The Government of Northwest Territories ordered all indoor gatherings to be cancelled. Outdoor gatherings are limited to 10 people and social distancing measures must be obeyed. A new order requires the shuttering of certain business. Dr. Kandola also ordered strict screening, tracking, and protection measures at mining and oil and gas sites ([link](#)).
- **April 10, 2020:** The Government of Northwest Territories delayed the opening of parks until an unspecified later date ([link](#)).
- **April 6, 2020:** The state of emergency under the *Emergency Management Act* has been extended ([link](#)).
- **April 3, 2020:** Due to a delay in renewing health care cards, those with recently expired cards will continue to receive physician and hospital services ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Government of Northwest Territories' (GNWT) Driver and Vehicle Services extended expiration dates on driver's licences, general identification cards and motor vehicle certificate of registrations. Further information can be found [here](#).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Public Health Emergency has been extended for another 14 days ([link](#)).
- **March 25, 2020:** Schools will remain closed for the remainder of the school year.
- **March 23, 2020:** The Government of the NWT closed Highway 7, the Liard Highway, to all traffic as of 5:00pm on Tuesday March 24, 2020 to support the travel prohibition announced on March 22, 2020.
- **March 22, 2020:** Dr. Kami Kandola, NWT Chief Public Health Officer, announced that all travel into the Northwest Territories (by air and road) is prohibited with limited exceptions. Residents returning from outside the NWT from any Canadian or international destination must self-isolate in Yellowknife, Inuvik, Hay River or Fort Smith only.
- **March 20, 2020:** Northwest Territories Finance Minister, Caroline Wawzonek and Industry Minister, Katrina Nokleby, announced the territory's economic response to the COVID-19 pandemic. They also announced other measures including the suspension of fees at the Deh Cho Bridge toll, truck permits and airport landing fees until the end of June, as well as advanced payments on resource revenue sharing for 2020 for indigenous governments.
- **March 19, 2020:** Northwest Territories declared a public health emergency to make it easier to enact precautions as needed.
- Further information is available on the Government of Northwest Territories' [website](#).



- Further information on the Northwest Territories government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" explainer, [here](#).

## Nunavut

- **August 21, 2020:** The Government of Nunavut's Minister of Health extended the territory's public health emergency until September 3, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **August 6, 2020:** The territory's Public Health Emergency has been extended until August 20, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **July 23, 2020:** The territory's Public Health Emergency has been extended until August 6, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **July 10, 2020:** The territory's Public Health Emergency has been extended until July 23, 2020 ([link](#)).
- **April 24, 2020:** The Government of Nunavut announced a new Order Respecting Social Distancing and Mass Gatherings to ensure the language is clear and understandable while remaining true to the order ([link](#)).
- **April 17, 2020:** The Government of Nunavut announced that schools will remain closed for the rest of the 2019-2020 school year ([link](#)).
- **April 7, 2020:** Teachers may return to school to develop learning packages for students ([link](#)).
- **April 2, 2020:** The Public Health Emergency has been extended to April 16, 2020. Dental services are limited to emergency services.
- **April 1, 2020:** The Department of Health Services has prohibited all visitors to long term care facilities ([link](#)).
- **March 30, 2020:** All persons under investigation for COVID-19 are subject to mandatory isolation. If in breach of mandatory isolation, individuals may be fined up to \$50,000 or up to six months in jail ([link](#)).
- **March 27, 2020:** All Territorial Parks are closed.
- **March 26, 2020:** Travelers returning to Nunavut must isolate at designated facilities outside of Nunavut for a period of 14 days, except for critical employees who are asymptomatic. To return to Nunavut, individuals are required to get the approval of the Office of the Chief Public Health Officer.
- **March 25, 2020:** The Government of Nunavut reduced many public services and closed various public offices. More information can be found [here](#).
- **March 23, 2020:** Premier Joe Savikataaq announced that travel into Nunavut will be restricted to residents and critical workers as of 11:59 p.m. on March 24, 2020. Everyone, except critical workers with permission from the Chief Public Health Officer,

must be in mandatory 14-day isolation before they can board a plane to Nunavut. All public gatherings are prohibited, and playgrounds and municipal parks are closed ([link](#)).

- **March 20, 2020:** Bars have been closed. All restaurants can remain open only for take-out/delivery, with a maximum of 10 people in line ups. Anyone who has travelled into Nunavut, including from elsewhere in Canada, must self-isolate for 14 days.
- **March 19, 2020:** Nunavut declares public health emergency ahead of any COVID-19 cases.
- **March 19, 2020:** The Government of Nunavut approved \$25,000 to each Hunter and Trapper Organization for community harvesting, and to provide food to their communities. It also approved \$531,000 to cover potential lost fees for Nunavut's child care workers in licensed facilities.
  - All restaurants open only for take-out/delivery and only up to 10 people allowed for line-ups. Pharmacies, gas stations and grocery stores will remain open.
- Further information is available on the Government of Nunavut's [website](#).
- Further information on the Nunavut government's emergency powers, can be found on our "Can they do that?" explainer, [here](#).

We recognize that change resulting from COVID-19 is happening in real-time. Our team will continue to monitor these developments and provide updates as necessary. If you require any assistance, please reach out to any member of our team.

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