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March 5, 2021

Dear business owner/operator,

I am writing to inform you that Timiskaming will be moving to the [Orange - Restrict](#) level of Ontario's COVID-19 response framework. This zone in the framework will take effect on **Monday March 8, 2021**. Your business may be required to make changes to your COVID-19 precautions.

Changes to our district's zone in the framework are not made lightly and are made by the government of Ontario in consultation with the Timiskaming Health Unit. Factors that are considered include the level of virus circulating within our community, the capacity of our hospitals and other healthcare partners, and the ability of public health to properly follow-up with cases of COVID-19 and their contacts in a timely manner.

While all businesses are required to read the [framework](#) and its accompanying [regulation](#) in order to determine what actions they must take to remain open, I have highlighted certain sections below.

If you have any questions, please contact the Timiskaming Health Unit at 1-866-747-4305.

Screening and maximum capacity

Screening of patrons is required across all sectors, in accordance with [instructions issued by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health](#). Maximum capacity is 50 for most settings.

Social gatherings

Limits are 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors. Different gathering limits are in place for events and gatherings in staffed businesses and facilities and for weddings, funerals, and religious services.

Retail

Fitting rooms must be limited to non-adjacent stalls. Reduce music volumes so that a normal conversation is possible. Venues must manage line-ups for patrons congregating outside by requiring a 2-meter distance and face coverings.

Bars and restaurants

There is now a strict limit of 4 patrons per table. Screening of patrons is required and the maximum number of patrons permitted is 50. All establishments must be closed between 10 pm and 5 am. Liquor may only be sold between 9 am and 9 pm. Strip clubs must be closed or may be permitted to operate as a restaurant or bar.



Sport and fitness facilities

Facilities are accessible by reservation only, and screening of patrons is required. Patrons may only be in the facility for 90 minutes. No spectators permitted, however each person under 18 may be accompanied by one parent or guardian. Spacing between patrons must be 3 meters. Maximum of 50 people total in areas with weights and exercise machines and all classes. Fitness classes are capped at 10 patrons indoors and 25 patrons outdoors. Contact information must be collected for everyone who enters the facility.

Personal care settings

Services requiring removal of face coverings prohibited. Sensory deprivation pods and adult venues closed.

If you have any questions, please refer to the links above or contact the Timiskaming Health Unit at 1-866-747-4305.

Sincerely,



Dr. Glenn Corneil, B.Sc., M.D., C.C.F.P., F.C.F.P.
Acting Medical Officer of Health/CEO