



Office of the Mayor – Bureau du maire

For immediate release
November 3, 2020

Today's announcement by Premier Ford and Minister Elliott is welcome news for the residents of Ottawa and our business community. It gives us a sustainable path forward in keeping residents safe and businesses open. It also provides greater clarity on the decision-making process the Province will be using to impose and manage restrictions.

Over the last several weeks, Ottawa residents have done an incredible job of following the guidance of Dr. Etches and public health officials. Because of those efforts, we have seen our case numbers and hospitalizations stabilize. Where it was becoming common to see the new daily number of cases in the triple digits, we are now seeing them only in double digits.

With the reopening of businesses in Ottawa on the horizon, it is imperative that we continue to follow the advice of our professional public health officials.

Yesterday afternoon, Dr. Etches wrote to me with her feedback and suggestions on a new approach to public health measures as we near the 28 days of the modified Stage 2 restrictions. The approach is one of care and acknowledgment that this virus is not going anywhere anytime soon, and that we must learn to live with it for the time being. Much of what she has suggested is incorporated in the provincial guidance issued today.

Some highlights for Ottawa of the new Provincial guidelines that will come into effect on Saturday include: indoor dining permitted, restaurants to remain open until 10:00pm and serve alcohol until 9:00pm, and a limit of 4 people will be permitted at each table. Gyms will be able to reopen with new restrictions on mask wearing, time limits in facilities and greater screening protocols. Residents are encouraged to visit [Ontario.ca/coronavirus](https://www.ontario.ca/coronavirus) for specific details.

I will continue to consult with Dr. Etches, local businesses, BIAs and my Economic Task Force on how these new guidelines impact local businesses. As we learn more about these new measures, we will work to get that information to businesses in a responsive and clear manner.

If we want businesses to open and remain open, we must all follow the basic measures of regular mask wearing, proper physical distancing, good hand hygiene, staying home when you feel ill and minimizing our social contacts. I would like to thank the residents of Ottawa for their ongoing efforts in our fight against COVID-19.