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Ontario Dental Hygienists' Association

**COVID-19
Update**

May 14, 2020 update

Ontario government updates

Phase 1

Today, the Ontario government announced the province will start to reopen the economy and phase out some emergency restrictions imposed to combat COVID-19.

Additional seasonal services and activities (such as golf courses, marinas and private parks) will be permitted to open as early as Saturday May 16, 2020 at 12:01 a.m., with specified restrictions.

Ontario's first stage of reopening will begin on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 12:01 a.m. and includes services such as retail stores that are not in shopping malls, seasonal business and recreational activities, animal services, indoor and outdoor household services, lifting of essential construction limits, and very limited health and medical services. **Non-urgent, non-emergency and prevention oral health services are NOT included in Phase 1.** Learn more about Stage 1 of reopening of Ontario [here](#). See the list of Stage 1 businesses [here](#).

In its announcement, the government stressed the specified businesses may re-open **only** if they are prepared and can implement strict social distancing measures. Phase 1 will remain in place and depends on the continued downward trend of new COVID-19 cases. Read the full announcement [here](#).

NEW! PPE supplier directory

The Ontario government announced the launch of a new online resource businesses can use to find suppliers of personal protective equipment including masks, eye protection, gowns and coveralls, sanitization, gloves, sneeze/counter guards, and digital technologies and apps. The new directory is accessible at ontario.ca/ppe

Users will be prompted to review and accept the terms of use before accessing the directory.

COVID-19 fraud alert

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are warning the public hackers are actively using fake COVID-19 health websites, mimicking legitimate Canadian health-care sites, to steal personal information. The OPP's advice is to be wary of giving out any personal information online. Stay informed and learn tips to protect yourself on the [Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre](#) website.

Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB)

The Government of Canada announced the application period for the Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB) will begin this Friday, May 15, 2020. The CESB, which is administered by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), will provide temporary income support to eligible post-secondary students and new graduates who are unable to work or find work this summer due to COVID-19, or are working and are not making over \$1000. Read the full announcement [here](#).

To increase accessibility, COVID-19 email communications will be posted on the [COVID-19 update page](#) on the ODHA website.