

Update on COVID-19

Chief Pegg, Fire Chief & General Manager of Emergency Management

March 31, 2020 at 3:45 p.m.

Members' Lounge, Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen St. W

Good afternoon.

I will be very brief today, providing an update on the enforcement activities in parks amenities and compliance with respect to businesses, restaurants and bars.

As both Mayor Tory and I explained in detail yesterday, there are fines associated with violating the parks amenities closure, which is now also covered under a provincial order.

As always, education is the first line of enforcement and our bylaw enforcement officers, together with Toronto police, will continue to ensure public understanding before issuing fines.

Tomorrow, approximately 60 additional Bylaw Enforcement Officers are being deployed to work on the enforcement of parks amenities closures.

They will focus on hot spots where we see the most activity around non-compliance.

Parks Ambassadors are also patrolling hot spots, and staff continue to re-install removed signage, locks and caution tape that has been removed.

Since March 24, Municipal Licensing and Standards has received 597 complaints related to use of parks amenities. And police have issued nine tickets, in the amount of \$750 each, for non-compliance with Parks closure directives.

With respect to the enforcement of the provincial order around businesses and restaurants and bars being open, since March 24, Municipal Licensing and Standards has responded to a combined total of 496 complaints and issued 23 notices and 10 warning letters.

Finally, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the City staff who are working in our shelter system, including those staff who have been redeployed to shelters.

The City is taking, and continues to take, extraordinary measures to protect our most vulnerable and to ensure they remain as safe and healthy as possible.

These are, indeed, extraordinary times and I am heartened each and every day by those in the Toronto Public Service who are doing everything they can to help Toronto get through this emergency.

Thank you.