

Update on COVID-19

Chief Pegg, Fire Chief & General Manager of Emergency Management

October 5, 2020 at 2 p.m.

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

Good afternoon.

Before I begin my remarks this afternoon, I would like to extend our sincere condolences to family, friends and all those impacted by this morning's fatal fire on Warden Avenue in Scarborough.

The origin, cause and circumstances of this fire are under investigation by Toronto Fire Services and the Ontario Office of the Fire Marshal.

Today is the 209th day of continuous Emergency Operations Centre operations.

Our EOC continues to operate, and our critical and essential services are being provided without interruption.

This is also Fire Prevention Week across Ontario.

The theme of this year's campaign is "Serve up fire safety in the kitchen". The number one cause of residential fires in Toronto is unattended cooking.

Please remember to stay in the kitchen, and pay attention, whenever you are cooking.

Our Toronto Fire Services team will be delivering a number of important public education sessions over our social media and other online platforms, all week.

Our COVID-19 enforcement teams continue to work together to respond to complaints, ensuring compliance with public health measures, and enforcing the laws enacted in response to COVID-19 in Toronto.

Over the weekend, we received eight complaints regarding large gatherings.

Each of these complaints were investigated by our enforcement team and I am very pleased to advise that all were deemed to be in compliance.

I want to acknowledge and thank everyone who is working hard to ensure that they are remaining in compliance – you are making a difference and helping us to stop the spread of COVID-19 in Toronto.

We also responded to 12 complaints related to restaurants and bars, resulting in three charges being laid.

A further seven complaints, related to banquet halls and hookah lounges were investigated.

Two were not operating, four were found to be in compliance and one warning letter was issued.

Maintaining compliance with these important public health measures is critical to controlling the spread of COVID-19 in our City.

Complaints with respect to gatherings or other COVID-19 related orders should be submitted to the City via 311.

I want to thank everyone who continues to do their part to help us stop the spread of COVID-19.

As always, I remind everyone that toronto.ca/COVID-19 is the best source for reliable and timely information on COVID-19 in Toronto.