

## Update on COVID-19

Chief Pegg, Fire Chief & General Manager of Emergency Management

October 9, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

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

Good afternoon.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the City of Toronto has been on the forefront of proactive planning and response.

We have worked hard to ensure that our plans are robust and flexible, such that we are well positioned to respond to the rapidly changing situations that continue to define COVID-19.

Our COVID-19 Strategic Command Team, in collaboration with the City's Senior and Corporate Leadership teams, remain focused on doing all we can to save lives and prevent our healthcare systems from becoming overwhelmed.

We have comprehensive COVID-19 resurgence plans in place and those plans are informing every decision we make.

Each of the city-operated critical and essential services have been provided without interruption throughout the pandemic and will continue to be.

In response to the challenges associated with COVID-19, we have evolved the vast majority of city services, such that they are being delivered in innovative ways, by leveraging technology-enabled platforms and other made-in-Toronto solutions.

We have worked hard to ensure that our city-services are well positioned to continue during this period of COVID-19 resurgence.

At present, more than 90% of city services are operational, with more than 65% of those services operating remotely though enhanced technology.

The handful of services that have not been restarted, are those that would require in-person attendance, and would necessitate opening our Civic Facilities to the public.

The restrictions and Regulatory framework, relating to COVID-19, continues to evolve.

Our team is working non-stop, and we are responding in live-time as things develop.

We are prepared and will continue to respond.

As we head into the Thanksgiving long weekend, our teams will continue to be hard at work.

Our COVID-19 enforcement teams will, of course, be active all weekend.

This will include proactive inspections across the City, as well as responding to complaints relating to gatherings, and other COVID-19 safety regulations.

I met with Carlton Grant, our Executive Director of Municipal Licensing and Standards and Toronto Police Chief James Ramer this morning, and our teams are coordinated and ready to do all we can - to protect public health and safety - both this weekend and beyond.

Maintaining compliance with 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 3-1-1.

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

On behalf of your entire COVID-19 Incident Management team, I wish everyone a safe and happy thanksgiving weekend.

But, I know that this can be a tough weekend for many.

It is okay not to be okay, and reaching out for help when we need it, is a sign of strength and courage – not weakness.

I encourage everyone to take some time to check in on those around us this weekend.

We are all in this together.

There are important mental health supports and information on our [toronto.ca/COVID-19](https://toronto.ca/COVID-19) website and I encourage you to take a few minutes to review this important information.

Thank you.