

Update on COVID-19

Chief Pegg, Fire Chief & General Manager of Emergency Management

November 2, 2020 at 2 p.m.

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

Good afternoon.

Halloween is always a busy, and often-demanding night, for our emergency services and healthcare professionals.

And while emergency response call volumes are always higher than normal on Halloween night, I am very pleased to report that we did not experience abnormal increases over the course of Halloween 2020.

In response to COVID-19, each of us were asked to adjust our normal plans, as we continue to work together to stop the spread of the virus in our city.

And I am both thankful and appreciative of the fact that the vast majority of us did just that.

Over the course of the weekend, our enforcement teams responded to 33 complaints relating to private gatherings.

Following response and investigation by our Municipal law enforcement officers, and Toronto Police officers, only 2 of these complaints resulted in enforcement action being required, resulting in 2 tickets being issued.

The remaining 31 complaints did not require further enforcement action.

Thank you, Toronto, for being so considerate and diligent.

I am pleased to report that our officers only had to respond to, and deal with, one large Halloween gathering, which involved approximately 60-70 people.

This event was responded to and dealt with quickly.

It is my understanding that charges were laid against one of the organizers of this event, and that this matter remains under investigation.

I want to both acknowledge and thank everyone in Toronto, for their consideration this weekend, and for continuing to follow the public health measures as we work together to stop the spread of COVID-19.

In closing, I again want to acknowledge and thank every resident, business owner and everyone in our city who is being impacted as we do our very best to stop the spread of COVID-19.

As always, I remind everyone that toronto.ca/COVID19 is the best source for reliable and timely information on COVID-19 in Toronto.

Thank you.