

Update on COVID-19

Chief Pegg, Fire Chief & General Manager of Emergency Management

December 14, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

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

Good afternoon.

The enforcement of public health-related Regulations has been a top priority for the City of Toronto since the outset of COVID-19.

Our coordinated enforcement teams have been working diligently to enforce the Regulations relating to COVID-19.

This includes proactive inspections, responding to complaints, educating the public and when necessary, issuing tickets and laying charges against those businesses and individuals found to be in violation of the law.

The City has taken formal enforcement action 1,723 times to date, in response to COVID-19.

This weekend, our enforcement officers continued to monitor compliance with the Reopening Ontario Act.

159 bars, restaurants and other non-essential businesses were inspected this weekend, resulting in a 96% compliance rate.

A total of 6 non-essential businesses were found to be in violation, by the investigating officers, with 6 charges being laid under the Reopening Ontario Act.

I am pleased to report that our enforcement teams did not encounter any bars or restaurants that were operating in contravention of the Reopening Ontario Act, nor were any violations observed during shopping mall patrols.

6 charges were laid by Toronto Police, under the Reopening Ontario Act, as a result of the investigation of complaints relating to gatherings on private property, over the course of the weekend.

We did not experience any significant issues in our Toronto parks over the course of the weekend.

I want to thank the vast majority of residents and businesses who continue to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in our City.

Your actions are helping to save lives, prevent the transmission of COVID-19, and helping to prevent our healthcare system from becoming overwhelmed.

Our City of Toronto Immunization Task Force continues to be hard at work, as we prepare for the launch of the COVID-19 immunization campaign.

The Government of Canada is responsible for approving, procuring and distributing COVID-19 vaccines to the Province of Ontario.

I am very pleased to see that today, the first COVID-19 vaccines were administered in Ontario.

The Province of Ontario is responsible for receiving all COVID-19 vaccines from the Government of Canada, including the most recent shipment and for distributing the vaccines across the Province.

The Province is also responsible for establishing the vaccine distribution priorities, and for the actual delivery of the vaccines during what they describe as phase one of the immunization campaign.

Our teams are working in support of the Province of Ontario, as they plan for and launch the first local vaccine administrations via the University Health Network.

Once the City of Toronto is provided with COVID-19 vaccines, by the Province of Ontario, we will begin the administration of these vaccines in accordance with the prioritization framework that will be provided by the Province of Ontario and under the authority of Toronto Public Health.

We continue to be directly connected with the Provincial Immunization Task Force and are working together to ensure an efficient and effective administration of vaccine for Toronto residents.

I am also pleased to advise that we are in regular contact with a number of our large urban city peers, as we all work together to plan, respond and learn from each other.

We have now set up recurring meetings that include key COVID-19 operations leaders from Ottawa, New York City, Chicago and other metropolitan areas from around the world.

This is an important network of leaders who are committed to doing our collective best to respond to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

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

Thank you.