

Update on COVID-19

Chief Pegg, Fire Chief & General Manager of Emergency Management

January 4, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

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

Good morning.

Today marks the 300th consecutive day of emergency operations centre activation, in response to COVID-19 in Toronto.

Our teams continue to work in close collaboration with the City's senior leadership team and each division, agency and corporation in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

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.

The City has taken formal enforcement action 1,838 times to date, in response to COVID-19.

Since our last update, our enforcement officers have continued to monitor compliance with the Reopening Ontario Act.

As a result of violations of the Reopening Ontario Act, 7 charges were laid and 9 notices were issued against owners/operators of retail stores, holistic centres, personal service settings, and pet grooming services.

Enforcement staff also conducted 118 proactive inspections of restaurants/bars, with no violations being observed and no tickets issued.

Additionally, 20 charges were laid as a result of large gatherings on private property.

This included a place of worship, short-term rental properties, gatherings on private property and in private residences.

Toronto Police also responded to 2 protests at public squares resulting in 2 charges being laid.

Unfortunately, we continue to experience issues with use of outdoor ice rinks after hours and the use of closed ski and snowboard hills for various activities, including tobogganing.

Our Municipal Licensing and Standards team, working in collaboration with Parks, Forestry and Recreation and Toronto Police continue to work together to support safe outdoor activities while protecting public safety.

There is a full list of safe tobogganing hills on toronto.ca.

We continue to be hard at work, supporting the continuing implementation of the COVID-19 mass immunization campaign.

Our Immunization Task Force has been fully engaged on a daily basis, throughout the holidays, and we continue to work every day to ensure that we are ready to launch Mass Immunization Clinics as soon as vaccine is made available to us by the Province of Ontario.

I am also very pleased that City Long-Term Care staff, in collaboration with Toronto Public Health and University Health Network partners, are making excellent progress in vaccinating the residents, staff and caregivers in our City run long-term care homes.

Our Immunization Task Force is working to support this important and life-saving work.

We remain connected, on a daily basis, with General Hillier and the Province of Ontario's Vaccine Distribution Task Force and will continue to work around the clock as we prepare for the provision of additional COVID-19 vaccines from the Province of Ontario.

I encourage you to continue to make [Toronto.ca/covid-19](https://toronto.ca/covid-19) your first choice for information on COVID-19 in the City of Toronto.

Thank you.