Summary of Legislative Changes Related to COVID-19

Context

The Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) has prepared the following list of key legislative changes announced by federal and provincial governments related to COVID-19. This list is non-exhaustive and focused on relevant legislative changes affecting the Ontario hospital sector. A comprehensive list of orders can be found here. Additional directives and a non-exhaustive list of policy documents can also be found below.

For further information on all COVID-19 resources, the OHA continues to update its website regularly with updates from government, including case counts and all relevant guidance documents for members, and will continue to do so as the situation evolves. Please note that this information provided is for general information purposes and does not constitute legal advice or opinion.

Provincial

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| October 2, 2020 | Order regarding Rules for Areas in Stage 3 | • The government has announced that it is implementing additional public health and testing measures across the province. These measures include, without limitation:
  o Beginning on Sunday, October 4, assessment centres will discontinue walk-in testing services, so the province's lab network can make significant progress in processing tests and to allow assessment centres the necessary time to reset, deep clean and ensure preparedness for the new appointment-based model; and
  o Transition to appointment-based testing at Ontario assessment centres effective Tuesday, October 6.
• The government is also amending O. Reg. 364/20 to implement the following changes, among others, effective 12:01 am on Saturday, October 3:
  o Mandating the use of face coverings in all public indoor settings across the province, such as businesses, facilities and workplaces, with limited exemptions, including corrections and developmental services;
  o Setting an indoor capacity limit to restrict occupancy at restaurants, bars and other food and drink establishments (including nightclubs) to the number of patrons who can maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from every | • O. Reg. 364/20
• Announcement |
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| September 25, 2020 | Order regarding Rules for Areas in Stage 3 | other patron, to a maximum of 100 patrons, permitting no more than six patrons per table, requiring operators to ensure patrons lining up or congregating outside of their establishment maintain physical distancing, and mandating that the name and contact information for each patron be collected;  
  o Restricting group exercise classes at gyms and other fitness settings to 10 individuals, as well as restricting the total number of people allowed at these facilities to a maximum of 50; and  
  o Setting a limit on the number of people allowed at meeting and event facilities, including banquet halls, to six people per table and 50 people per facility.  
  • For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • O. Reg. 364/20  
• Announcement |
| September 19, 2020 | Orders regarding Rules for Areas in Stage 3 | The government has announced that effective immediately, the new limits on unmonitored social gatherings and organized public events (announced on September 17, 2020), are now applicable across the entire province.  
  • The amended Stage 3 order now sets out the following limit on the number of people allowed to attend an unmonitored social gathering or organized public event:  
    o 10 people at an indoor event or gathering (previous limit of 50); or | • O. Reg. 519/20  
• O. Reg. 364/20  
• Announcement |
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| September 18, 2020  | Amendments related to the Laboratory and Specimen Collection Centre Licensing Act (Pharmacists) | • The government has filed O. Regs. 517/20 and 518/20 amending the Specimen Collection Centre and Laboratory regulations under the Laboratory and Specimen Collection Centre Licensing Act (LSCCLA).  
  • The amendments, among other things, add a new section 9 to O. Reg. 683 under the LSCCLA as listed below:  
    o “A person registered as a pharmacist under the Pharmacy Act, 1991 is exempt from sections 5 to 16 of the Act [LSCCLA] and from the provisions of this Regulation with respect to collecting specimens for a polymerase chain reaction test for COVID-19 in a pharmacy within the meaning of the Drug and Pharmacies Regulation Act.”  
  • For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • O. Reg. 518/20  
  • O. Reg. 517/20  
  • Laboratory and Specimen Collection Centre Licensing Act |
| September 17, 2020  | Extension of Existing Orders under the ROA                     | • The government has announced that it is extending all orders currently in force under the ROA to October 22, 2020.  
  • For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • O. Reg. 499/20  
  • O. Reg. 458/20 |
| September 17, 2020  | Orders regarding Rules for Areas in Stage 3                      | • The government has announced that as of 12:01 am on Friday, September 18, there will be changes to Stage 3 rules governing the following three public health unit areas:  
    o City of Ottawa Health unit;  
    o Peel Regional Health unit; and  
    o City of Toronto Health unit.  
  • Among the Stage 3 changes, the amended Stage 3 order will set a new limit on the number of people allowed to attend an unmonitored social gathering or organized public event to:  
    o 10 people at an indoor event or gathering (previous limit of 50); or  
    o 25 people at an outdoor event or gathering (previous limit of 100). | • O. Reg. 501/20  
  • O. Reg. 364/20  
  • Announcement |
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| September 3, 2020 | Infectious Disease Emergency Leave (Employment Standards Act, 2000) | • On September 3, 2020, the government announced two changes which affect Ontario hospital employees:  
  o **Temporary Layoff Exemption Extended to January 2, 2021**: A hospital employer that has temporarily laid off a non-unionized employee for COVID-19 related reasons can continue to have the employee remain off work until **January 2, 2021** (extended from September 4, 2020), without triggering termination and severance pay obligations under the *Employment Standards Act, 2000* (ESA). The employee is deemed to be on an Infectious Disease Emergency Leave.  
  o **Leave for Parents Who Remain at Home to Provide Childcare**: An employee who chooses not to send a child back to school due to a concern about COVID-19, and provides child-care as a result, is entitled to Infectious Disease Emergency Leave. This employee is eligible for an unpaid leave of absence and to the same benefits and protections afforded under other ESA leaves, including benefit continuation during the leave period.  
  • For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • Announcement  
• Additional Information (Infectious Disease Emergency Leave)  
• O. Reg. 492/20  
• O. Reg. 228/20  
• Employment Standards Act, 2000 |
| August 24, 2020 | O. Reg. 464/20 Infectious Disease Emergency Leave (Employment Standards Act, 2000) | • The government has filed O. Reg. 464/20 amending O. Reg. 228/20 (*Infectious Disease Emergency Leave*) under the ESA.  
• The amendments add, among other things, a new subsection 3.1(1) to O. Reg. 228/20:  
  o “3.1 (1) For the purposes of subclause 50.1 (1.1) (b) (vii) of the Act, the following reason is prescribed:  
    1. An order made under section 7.0.2 of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act” | • O. Reg. 464/20  
• O. Reg. 228/20  
• Employment Standards Act, 2000 |
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| August 20, 2020 | Extension of Existing Orders under the ROA | The government has announced that it is extending all orders currently in force under the ROA to September 22, 2020, with the exception of the following:  
  - O. Reg. 205/20 (Education Sector)  
  - O. Reg. 73/20 (Limitation Periods)  
  - Of note for Ontario hospitals, the ending of O. Reg. 73/20 (Limitation Periods) means that suspended limitation periods will resume running on Monday, September 14, 2020.  
  - For further details, please refer to the attached links. | - Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020  
- Announcement |
| August 10, 2020 | Orders regarding Rules for Areas in Stage 3 | The government has announced that as of 12:01 am on Wednesday, August 12, the Windsor-Essex County Health Unit region will be allowed to move into Stage 3 of the provincial reopening framework.  
  - As previously noted, an order established under the EMCPA [O. Reg 364/20] creates a range of restrictions on businesses that are permitted to open once in Stage 3.  
  - A full list of each area in Stages 1, 2 and 3 can be found in O. Reg. 363/20 (Stages of Reopening).  
  - For further details, please refer to the attached links. | - O. Reg. 363/20  
- O. Reg. 364/20  
- Announcement |
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| July 29, 2020 | Orders regarding Rules for Areas in Stage 3 | - The government has announced that as of 12:01 am on Friday, July 31, Toronto Public Health and Peel Public Health regions will be allowed to move into Stage 3 of the provincial reopening framework.  
- The Windsor-Essex County Health Unit region will remain in Stage 2 at this time.  
- As previously noted, O. Reg 364/20 creates a range of restrictions on businesses that are permitted to open once in Stage 3.  
- A full list of each area in Stages 1, 2 and 3 can be found in O. Reg. 363/20 (Stages of Reopening).  
- For further details, please refer to the attached links. | O. Reg. 363/20  
O. Reg. 364/20  
Announcement |
| July 24, 2020 | Declaration of Emergency (Ended) | - The COVID-19 declared emergency under the EMCPA has ended as of July 24, 2020.  
- Bill 195, the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020* (ROA) received Royal Assent on July 21, 2020 and the ROA was proclaimed into force on July 24, 2020.  
  - The ROA continues certain orders made under the EMCPA beyond the original declaration of emergency, while also establishing a process for extending, amending or revoking such orders. A current list of the continued orders (filed as ‘Regulations’) can be found in the attached links.  
- As previously communicated to OHA members in the Backgrounder, several emergency orders that were issued under the EMCPA and were instrumental in supporting hospitals in preparing for a potential surge during the first wave of COVID-19, are continued under the ROA.  
  - Of note, the ROA enables government to extend and amend the orders regarding labour redeployment, physician credentialing and the requirement for long-term care employees to work with a single employer, as well as to extend (but not amend) the order regarding temporary health or residential facilities and temporary pandemic pay.  
- For further details, please refer to the attached links. | Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020  
OHA Backgrounder |
| July 20, 2020 | Orders regarding Rules for Areas in Stage 3 | - The government has announced that as of 12:01 am on Friday, July 24, all public health unit areas will be allowed to move into Stage 3 of the provincial reopening framework, except for the following: | O. Reg. 363/20  
O. Reg. 364/20  
Announcement |
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| July 16, 2020 | Order Extending and Renewing Existing Orders | • Order under the EMCPA extending most emergency orders that have been put in place to-date under s.7.0.2 (4) of the EMCPA until July 29, 2020.  
• Further details will be provided upon the order’s release, but the extension includes the following orders which may be relevant for hospitals, among others:  
  o Work Redeployment for Certain Health Service Providers  
  o Work Deployment Measures in Long-Term Care Homes  
  o Streamlining Requirements for Long-Term Care Homes  
  o Signatures in Wills and Powers of Attorney  
  o Agreements Between Health Service Providers and Retirement Homes  
  o Temporary Health or Residential Facilities  
  o Limiting Work to a Single Long-Term Care Home  
  o Limiting Work to a Single Retirement Home  
  o Work Deployment Measures for Mental Health and Addictions Agencies  
  o Congregate Care Settings  
  o Access to Personal Health Information by Means of the Electronic Health Record  
  o Certain Persons Enabled to Issue Medical Certificates of Death  
  o Hospital Credentialing Processes  
  o Management of Long-Term Care Homes in Outbreak  
  o Management of Retirement Homes in Outbreak | • [Announcement](#) |

- City of Toronto Health Unit  
- Peel Regional Health Unit  
- Windsor-Essex County Health Unit  
- As previously noted, an order established under the EMCPA [O. Reg 364/20] creates a range of restrictions on businesses that are permitted to open once in Stage 3.  
- A full list of each area in Stages 1, 2 and 3 can be found in O. Reg. 363/20 (Stages of Reopening).  
- For further details, please refer to the attached links.
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| July 13, 2020 | Orders regarding Rules for Areas in Stage 3 | • The government has announced that as of **12:01 am on Friday, July 17**, all public health unit areas will be allowed to move into Stage 3 of the provincial reopening framework, **except** for the following:  
  o City of Hamilton Health Unit  
  o City of Toronto Health Unit  
  o Durham Regional Health Unit  
  o Halton Regional Health Unit  
  o Lambton Health Unit  
  o Niagara Regional Area Health Unit  
  o Peel Regional Health Unit  
  o York Regional Health Unit  
  o Windsor-Essex County Health Unit  
  • One of the new orders established under the EMCPA [O. Reg 364/20] creates a range of restrictions on businesses that are permitted to open once in Stage 3.  
  • Among the Stage 3 changes, certain gathering limits will be increased (e.g. indoor gathering of up to a maximum of 50 people; outdoor gathering of up to a maximum of 100 people), subject to the listed exceptions for specified high-risk places and activities.  
  • Areas remaining in Stage 2 will be required to maintain existing gathering limits of up to 10 people and comply with all existing EMCPA orders applicable to the area.  
  • A full list of each area in Stages 1, 2 and 3 can be found in O. Reg. 363/20 (Stages of Reopening).  
  • For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • O. Reg. 363/20  
• O. Reg. 364/20  
• Announcement |
| July 9, 2020 | Order Extending and Renewing Existing Orders | • Order under the EMCPA extending emergency orders that have been put in place to-date under s.7.0.2 (4) of the EMCPA until **July 22, 2020**.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • Order  
• Announcement |
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• Bill 195 permits, among other things, the following:  
  o Continue emergency orders in effect under the EMCPA under the new legislation for an initial period of 30 days;  
  o Allow the Lieutenant Governor in Council to further extend these orders for periods of up to 30 days at a time;  
  o Allow the Lieutenant Governor in Council to amend certain emergency orders continued under the legislation, subject to specified requirements; and  
  o Allow emergency orders to be rescinded in accordance with the legislation.  
• The OHA prepared a non-exhaustive review of Bill 195 for members (see the attached links). | Bill 195  
Announcement  
OHA Backgrounder |
| July 6, 2020  | Amending Orders regarding Stage 1 and Stage 2 Closures | • Orders under the EMCPA which amend O. Reg. 263/20 and O. Reg. 82/20 to confirm that as of Tuesday, July 7 at 12:01am, the Stage 2 Closure order applies within every area of Ontario.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached links. | Order / Order  
O. Reg. 263/20  
O. Reg. 82/20 |
| June 26, 2020 | Order Extending and Renewing Existing Orders | • Order under the EMCPA extending emergency orders that have been put in place to-date under s.7.0.2 (4) of the EMCPA until July 10, 2020.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached links. | Order  
Announcement |
| June 24, 2020 | Declaration of Emergency (Extension) | • The government has extended the Declaration of Emergency established pursuant to the EMCPA to July 15, 2020.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached link. | Announcement |
| June 23, 2020 | Amending Order regarding Stage 1 and Stage 2 Closures | • Order under the EMCPA which amends O. Reg. 263/20 to extend the Stage 2 Closure rules governing reopening to the following public health unit regions, effective Wednesday, June 24 at 12:01am:  
  o City of Toronto Health Unit  
  o Peel Regional Health Unit | Order  
O. Reg. 263/20  
O. Reg. 82/20  
Announcement |
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<td>June 16, 2020</td>
<td>Order Extending and Renewing Existing Orders</td>
<td>Order under the EMCPA extending emergency orders that have been put in place to-date under s.7.0.2 (4) of the EMCPA until June 30, 2020. For further details, please refer to the attached links.</td>
<td><a href="#">Order</a> / <a href="#">Announcement</a></td>
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| June 16, 2020  | Amending Orders regarding Stage 1 and Stage 2 Closures                | • Order under the ECMPA which amends O. Reg. 263/20 to extend the Stage 2 Closure rules governing reopening to the following public health unit regions, effective Friday, June 19 at 12:01am:  
  o City of Hamilton Health Unit  
  o Durham Regional Health Unit  
  o Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit  
  o Halton Regional Health Unit  
  o Lambton Health Unit  
  o Niagara Regional Area Health Unit  
  • All reopening measures are subject to the requirements set out in O. Reg. 263/20. The remaining public health unit regions (City of Toronto Health Unit, Peel Regional Health Unit, Windsor-Essex County Health Unit) continue to be governed by O. Reg. 82/20, pursuant to the Stage 1 amending order.  
  • For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • [Order](#) / [Order](#)  
• [O. Reg. 263/20](#)  
• [O. Reg. 82/20](#)  
• [Announcement](#) |
| June 12, 2020  | Amending Order regarding Organized Public Events and Certain Gatherings | • Order under the EMCPA which amends O. Reg. 52/20 to allow for, among other things, expanded social gatherings of up to 10 people and expanded gatherings for the purposes of a wedding, funeral, a religious service, rite or ceremony, subject to the conditions detailed in the order.  
  • For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • [Order](#)  
• [O. Reg. 52/20](#)  
• [Announcement / Social Circle Guidance](#) |
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| June 11, 2020 | Order regarding Stage 2 Closures | • Order under the EMCPA which outlines the (24) public health unit regions that are allowed to move into Stage 2 on Friday, June 12 at 12:01am and rules to assist with the implementation of Stage 2. The full list of specific public health unit regions is provided in the attached links.  
• The order further states, among other things, that each person responsible for a business or place, or part of a business or place, that Schedule 2 of O. Reg. 263/20 describes as being permitted to open if certain conditions set out in that Schedule are met, shall ensure that the business or place, or part of the business or place, either meets those conditions or is closed.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • Order  
• Announcement  
• Workplace Safety Guidelines |
| June 11, 2020 | Order regarding Stage 1 Closures | • Order under the EMCPA that applies within the following “health units” as defined in the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*:  
  o City of Hamilton Health Unit.  
  o City of Toronto Health Unit.  
  o Durham Regional Health Unit.  
  o Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit.  
  o Halton Regional Health Unit.  
  o Lambton Health Unit.  
  o Niagara Regional Area Health Unit.  
  o Peel Regional Health Unit.  
  o Windsor-Essex County Health Unit.  
  o York Regional Health Unit  
• The order sets out, among other things, the list of businesses permitted to open as part of the Stage 1 reopening process. The order further requires, among other things, that all businesses permitted to open during Stage 1 must follow the business-specific requirements set out in Schedule 3 of the order.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • Order  
• Workplace Safety Guidelines |
| June 5, 2020 | Amending Order regarding Limitation Periods | • Orders under the EMCPA which amend O. Reg. 73/20 to extend the suspension of limitation periods and time periods in proceedings until September 11, 2020. | • Order / Order  
• O. Reg. 73/20  
• Announcement |
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| June 5, 2020  | Order Extending and Renewing Existing Orders | • Order under the EMCPA extending emergency orders that have been put in place to-date under s.7.0.2 (4) of the EMCPA until June 19, 2020.  
• A reminder that there continues to be restrictions on social gatherings of more than five people as of June 5, and staff redeployment rules remain in place for long-term care homes and congregate settings like retirement homes and women's shelters.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • Order  
• Announcement |
| June 2, 2020  | Declaration of Emergency (Extension) | • The government has extended the Declaration of Emergency established pursuant to the EMCPA to June 30, 2020.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached link. | • Announcement |
| May 29, 2020  | Order regarding Special Rules for Temporary Pandemic Pay | • Order under the EMCPA establishing special rules for temporary pandemic pay, as defined in the order. The order states, among other things, that despite any other statute, regulation, order, policy, arrangement or agreement, including a collective agreement, the following rules apply with respect to temporary pandemic pay:  
  o An agreement between an employer and a trade union or a bargaining agent regarding the payment of temporary pandemic pay is not required for the employer to make payments of temporary pandemic pay to eligible employees.  
  o No employer, tribunal, arbitrator, arbitration board, officer or court may expand eligibility for temporary pandemic pay or require the payment of temporary pandemic pay to employees who are not eligible employees.  
• Pursuant to section 4 of the order, no complaint alleging a contravention of the Labour Relations Act, 1995 or the Crown Employees Collective Bargaining Act, 1993 shall be made in respect of the payment of temporary pandemic pay. | • Order  
• Announcement  
• OHA Updates (May 30 and May 29)  
• Additional Guidance |
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<td>May 29, 2020</td>
<td>Order regarding Management of Retirement Homes in Outbreak</td>
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**Description**

- For further details, including the scope of eligible employees, please refer to the attached links.
- Similar to the existing order for long-term care homes, this is an order under the EMCPA that allows the province to, among other things, issue mandatory management orders in respect of retirement homes dealing with a COVID-19 outbreak.
- The order authorizes the Registrar, as defined in subsection 2(1) of the Retirement Homes Act, 2010 (RHA), to make an order under subsection 91(1) of the RHA with respect to a retirement home “where there is a risk of harm to residents of that home related to the coronavirus (COVID-19), if at least one resident or staff member in the retirement home has tested positive for that virus in a laboratory test.”
- The order provides, among other things, that the Registrar’s order applies despite any requirement or grounds set out in the RHA or Ontario Regulation 166/11 (General) made under the RHA, and despite any other statute, regulation, order or policy.
- The Registrar’s order shall also set out the period of time during which the order is in effect, but the period shall not extend past the day the emergency order [O. Reg. 240/20] is revoked.
- For further details, please refer to the attached links.

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**Description**

- The government has filed O. Reg. 228/20 amending the Employment Standards Act, 2000 (ESA) to, among other things, provide temporary relief from the ESA’s termination and severance provisions for employers whose operations have been shut down or disrupted by COVID-19. Pursuant to subsection 1(2), the new rules which provide relief from the termination and severance provisions do not apply to employees represented by a trade union.
- Members are encouraged to review the regulation for specific details due to the technical nature of these changes and their applicability depending on specific leave or termination dates. The changes are complex and subject to a range of qualifications and exceptions.
- A non-exhaustive summary of the changes includes the following:

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<td>O. Reg. 228/20</td>
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| May 26, 2020   | Order Extending and Renewing Existing Orders | • Order under the EMCPA extending emergency orders that have been put in place to-date under s.7.0.2 (4) of the EMCPA until June 9, 2020.  
• A reminder that there continues to be restrictions on social gatherings of more than five people, and staff redeployment rules remain in place for long-term care homes and congregate settings like retirement homes and women's shelters.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • Order  
• Announcement |
| May 13, 2020   | O. Reg. 213/20 Annual Meeting Requirements (Public Hospitals Act) | • The government has filed O. Reg. 213/20 amending section 9 of the Hospital Management regulation under the Public Hospitals Act (PHA).  
• O. Reg. 213/20 adds a new subsection 9(2) to the Hospital Management regulation to state the following:  
“Despite subsection (1), the Minister may direct that the annual meeting be held at another time, and the board shall comply with the direction of the Minister.” | • O. Reg. 213/20  
• Hospital Management  
• Public Hospitals Act  
• Memorandum  
• Additional Guidance |
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| May 13, 2020  | O. Reg. 211/20 Maximum Co-Payments (Ontario Drug Benefit Act) | • The government has filed O. Reg. 211/20 amending the general regulation under the *Ontario Drug Benefit Act* to, among other things, establish a “maximum co-payment” amount where a listed drug product is supplied in two or more instalments in order to “protect the drug supply chain and prevent drug shortages due to circumstances relating to the COVID-19 emergency”.
• While the amendments have changed, the background rationale for these ODB changes can be found in a [Regulatory Notice](#) initially posted on May 1, 2020.
• Members are encouraged to review the regulation for specific details. The changes appear to be time limited to July 1, 2020, as indicated by subsection 4(2) of O. Reg. 211/20. | • O. Reg. 211/20  
• General Regulation  
• *Ontario Drug Benefit Act* |
| May 12, 2020  | Order regarding Management of Long-Term Care Homes in Outbreak | • Order under the EMCPA allowing the province to issue mandatory management orders in respect of long-term care homes dealing with a COVID-19 outbreak.
• The order authorizes the Director, as defined in subsection 2(1) of the *Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007* (LTCHA) to make an order under subsection 156(1) of the LTCHA with respect to a long-term care home “if at least one resident or staff member in the long-term care home has tested positive for the coronavirus (COVID-19) in a laboratory test.”
• The order provides, among other things, that the Director’s order applies despite any requirement or grounds under the LTCHA or other statute, regulation, order or policy, and shall set out the “period of time during which the [Director’s] order is in effect” which shall not extend past the day that the emergency order [O. Reg. 210/20] is revoked.
• For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • Order  
• Announcement  
• OHA Backgrounder |
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| May 12, 2020  | Declaration of Emergency (Extension) | • The government has extended the Declaration of Emergency under the EMCPA to June 2, 2020 during a special sitting of the Ontario Legislature.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached link. | • Announcement |
| May 12, 2020  | Bill 190 | • The government has introduced and passed Bill 190, the COVID-19 Response and Reforms to Modernize Ontario Act, 2020.  
• Bill 190 is a wide-ranging bill with the stated objective of helping people conduct business while practicing physical distancing. While primarily focused outside of the hospital sector, a non-exhaustive list of notable changes includes:  
  o Schedule 1 enacts the Alternative Filing Methods for Business Act, 2020, which permits documents required or permitted to be filed by in-person delivery or mail under certain business statutes to instead be filed by alternative methods. It also permits electronic signatures and electronic copies in respect of certain documents, to address public health and safety concerns in respect of an emergency declared under the EMCPA.  
  o Schedules 2 and 7 add a new Part XIX to the Business Corporations Act and a new Part VIII to the Corporations Act, respectively, which temporarily suspends provisions of those Acts and includes new replacement provisions in its Schedules. The replacement provisions address, among other things, information that must be laid before an annual meeting; extending the time period in which a corporation must hold annual meetings in specified circumstances; the holding of meetings of shareholders and directors by telephonic or electronic means and notification requirements for meetings. These provisions were previously included in an emergency order filed as O. Reg. 107/20 under the EMCPA.  
  o Schedule 4 amends the Commissioners for Taking Affidavits Act to, among other things, allow for regulations to set out the parameters for remotely commissioning affidavits. Schedule 13 similarly creates a new authority to, among other things, allow for | • Bill 190  
• Announcement |
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|               |       | regulations to set out the parameters for remotely notarizing a document under the *Notaries Act*.  
|               |       | o Schedule 14 amends the *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010* to allow for electronic signatures on certain documents, to permit for copies of certain documents to be used in place of originals and to accommodate alternative methods of filing under the *Alternative Filing Methods for Business Act, 2020*.  
|               |       | • For further details, please refer to the attached links. | |
| May 8, 2020   | Order regarding Education Sector Work Deployment | • Order under the EMCPA allowing available school board employees, including custodial and maintenance workers, to be redeployed in a non-clinical response to assist “congregate care settings” during the COVID-19 pandemic.  
|               |       | • The order defines “congregate care settings” to include, without limitation, hospitals, long-term care homes and retirement homes.  
|               |       | • All redeployment measures are subject to the conditions listed in the order. For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • Order  
|               |       | • Announcement | |
| May 5, 2020   | Order Extending and Renewing Existing Orders | • Order under the EMCPA extending all emergency orders that have been put in place to-date under s.7.0.2 (4) of the EMCPA until May 19, 2020.  
|               |       | • This extension includes, without limitation, the closure of certain outdoor amenities in parks and recreational areas, certain non-essential workplaces, public places and bars and restaurants, along with restrictions on social gatherings and orders related to health service providers. | • Order  
|               |       | • Announcement | |
| May 4, 2020   | Order regarding Treatment of Temporary COVID-19 Related Payments to Employees | • Order under the EMCPA temporarily suspending subsections 11(1) – 11(2) and 19(1) – 19(2) of the *Protecting a Sustainable Public Sector for Future Generations Act, 2019* (Bill 124) and establishing replacement provisions for the duration of the temporary suspension period.  
|               |       | • The replacement provisions exclude from Bill 124’s compensation increase limits “any temporary COVID-19 related payments received by employees in relation to work performed during the temporary suspension period” subject to the conditions listed for represented | • Order  
<p>|               |       | | • Bill 124 |</p>
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| May 1, 2020    | Order regarding the Hospital Credentialing Process | employees [subsections 11(1)-(2)] and for non-represented employees [subsections 19(1)-19(2)].  
• This order is retroactive to April 24, 2020 and applies generally throughout Ontario.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached links. |  
|                |       | Order under the EMCPA granting hospitals the authority and flexibility to appoint, re-appoint and grant privileges to medical and other professional staff, in order to address potential surge volumes due to COVID-19.  
• The order states, among other things, that the “board of a hospital, or any of the hospital’s authorized officers, may take, with respect to any aspect of the hospital’s credentialing process, any reasonably necessary measure to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of the coronavirus (COVID-19).”  
• Subsection 4(1) lists the actions that may be taken by hospitals or an authorized officer of the hospital if it is “reasonably necessary” to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of COVID-19. These actions include, without limitation, the ability to:  
  o Identify medical, dental, midwifery and extended class nursing staff needs and priorities and do any of the following, despite any credentialing process that may apply:  
    ▪ i) Appoint a physician, dentist, midwife or extended class nurse to any department of the medical, dental, midwifery or extended class nursing staff of the hospital, as the case may be, and determine the nature and scope of privileges assigned to them.  
    ▪ ii) Reappoint, continue or extend the appointment of, or extend the time for the application for reappointment of, any member of the medical, dental, midwifery or extended class nursing staff of the hospital.  
    ▪ iii) Determine the nature and scope of privileges assigned to a member of the medical, dental, midwifery or extended class nursing staff of the hospital. |  
  • Announcement  
  • Order |
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| May 1, 2020   | Order on Access to Personal Health Information by means of the Electronic Health Record | • Order under the EMCPA granting the Chief Medical Officer of Health or a medical officer of health the ability to use the “electronic health record” to collect personal health information, subject to the conditions detailed in the order.  
• Relevant for hospitals, pursuant to section 3, a “coroner, or a registered nurse who has been appointed under subsection 16.1 (1) of the Coroners Act to exercise the investigative powers and duties of a coroner, may use the electronic health record to collect personal health information” when the following conditions are met:  
  o i) The health information custodian who provided the personal health information to Ontario Health would be authorized or required to disclose the personal health information to the coroner or registered nurse if the coroner or registered nurse had directly requested or demanded it from the health information custodian. | • Announcement  
• Order |
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| May 1, 2020    | Order regarding Medical Certificates of Death | • Order under the EMCPA which applies to registered nurses who have been appointed under subsection 16.1 (1) of the *Coroners Act* to exercise the investigative powers and duties of a coroner and whose appointment was in effect on May 1, 2020.  
• Pursuant to the conditions detailed in sections 3 and 4 of the order, a registered nurse is authorized to complete a medical certificate of death and to copy or duplicate a medical certificate of death, in accordance with their appointment under subsection 16.1 of the *Coroners Act*. For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • Announcement  
• Order |
| May 1, 2020    | Amending Order regarding Limitation Periods  | • Order under the EMCPA which amends O. Reg. 73/20 to extend the general limitation period suspension in section 2 of O. Reg. 73/20 to now apply to hospital credentialing by-laws. The order adds a new section 2.1 which state the following:  

“For greater certainty and without limiting the generality of section 2, section 2 applies to by-laws made by the boards of hospitals under the *Public Hospitals Act* that relate to the hospital’s credentialing process, as defined in section 1 of Ontario Regulation ***/20 (Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act-Hospital Credentialing Processes) made under the Act.  

**Note: Citation to the regulation filed under file number Reg 2020.0310 will be inserted on filing of this regulation.” | • Amending Order  
• O. Reg. 73/20 |
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| April 29, 2020| Amending Order regarding Closure of Establishments and Emergency Child Care | • Order under the EMCPA amending existing O. Reg 51/20 to expand the list of essential workers eligible to receive emergency childcare during the COVID-19 outbreak.  
• The new order amends O. Reg. 51/20 to now include, among others:  
  o An individual who is  
    ▪ i) a regulated health care professional,  
    ▪ ii) is an unregulated health care provider working in health care delivery, either directly or indirectly, or  
    ▪ iii) supports the delivery of care provided by an individual listed in subparagraph i or ii.  
  o Staff and volunteers as defined in the Retirement Homes Act; and  
  o Licensees as defined in the Retirement Homes Act who are individuals and who work or provide services at a retirement home.  
• The expanded list will now be inclusive of “auxiliary workers in health care settings, including cooks and cleaning staff in hospitals and long-term care homes” based on the government’s announcement.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • Amending Order  
• Announcement  
• Child Care for Health and Frontline Staff |
| April 24, 2020| Amending Order regarding Work Deployment for Health Service Providers in Long-Term Care Homes | • Order under the EMCPA amending existing O. Reg. 74/20 to allow health service providers to redeploy staff and provide assistance to long-term care homes.  
• Key changes include, without limitation, amending Schedule A of O. Reg 74/20 to add the following paragraphs:  
  o Despite any other statute, regulation, order, policy, arrangement or agreement, including a collective agreement, health service providers are “authorized to assist long-term care homes including, without limitation, by providing assessments in relation to a long-term care home's infection prevention and control program, by providing clinical supervision within a long-term care home and by providing nursing and personal support | • Amending Order  
• Announcement |
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|                |       | services, including assistance with feeding, to residents of a long-term care home.”  
|                |       | o In the circumstances described in the paragraph above, the following rules apply for the duration of the order:  
|                |       |   i) Staff of a health service provider who provide assistance within a long-term care home remain staff of the health service provider.  
|                |       |   ii) The provision of assistance shall not impact whether the health service provider and the licensee of the long-term care home are treated as constituting one employer for the purposes of subsection 1(4) of the Labour Relations Act, 1995.  
|                |       |   iii) The health service provider shall not, by virtue of providing the assistance, be considered to have sold a part of its business to the licensee of the long-term care home for the purposes of section 69 of the Labour Relations Act, 1995.  
|                |       |  • For further details, please refer to the attached links. |
| April 24, 2020 | Amending Order regarding Meetings of Corporations | • Order under the EMCPA amending O. Reg. 107/20 which suspended operation of various Corporations Act and Business Corporations Act provisions to enable flexible meeting requirements.  
|                |       |  • The Amending Order’s changes are detailed and include, without limitation:  
|                |       |   o Temporarily suspending the operation of subsection 93(3) of the Corporations Act and creating rules for responding to poll requests;  
|                |       |   o Temporarily suspending the operation of subsection 97(1) of the Corporations Act and revising the rules on information to be laid before an annual meeting;  
|                |       |   o Temporarily suspending the operation of subsection 287(1) of the Corporations Act and creating rules for the election of directors;  
<p>|                |       |   o Additional changes to the Business Corporations Act and Co-operative Corporations Act, among others. |
|                |       | ![Amending Order](Amending Order) |</p>
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| April 24, 2020 | Order regarding Congregate Care Settings | • Order under the EMCPA limiting a staff member’s ability to work in multiple locations for a “congregate care setting service agency”, defined as including entities in the developmental services sector, violence against women/anti-human trafficking sector, and intervenor services sector.  
• Similar to existing long-term care home and retirement home orders, this order requires employees to identify to their congregate care setting employer that they are subject to the order by no later than 9:00am on April 27, 2020.  
• By 12:01am on April 30, 2020, a staff member of a congregate care setting service agency who performs work in a residence operated by the agency shall not also perform work as a staff member of a different congregate care setting service agency in the same sector in a residence operated by the different agency.  
  o Note that the requirements of the order do not apply with respect to a staff member who can “perform all of their work for congregate care setting service agencies by working or providing services remotely.”  
• Posting and outbreak notification requirements are also included in the order. For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • Order  
• Announcement |
| April 24, 2020 | Amending Order regarding Service Agencies | • Order under the EMCPA amending O. Reg. 121/20 to permit the inclusion of “intervenor service providers” as entities which may adopt work deployment and staffing measures to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of COVID-19.  
• An “intervenor service provider” is defined as a transfer payment recipient funded by the Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services that provides intervenor services for persons who are deafblind.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • Amending Order  
• Announcement |
### Order Extending and Renewing Existing Orders
- **Effective Date**: April 22, 2020
- **Title**: Order Extending and Renewing Existing Orders
- **Description**:
  - Order under the EMCPA extending all emergency orders that have been put in place to-date under s.7.0.2 (4) of the EMCPA until May 6, 2020.
  - This extension includes, without limitation, the closure of outdoor amenities in parks and recreational areas, non-essential workplaces, public places and bars and restaurants, along with restrictions on social gatherings and limiting staff from working in more than one retirement home or long-term care home.

### Order regarding Work Deployment Measures for Mental Health and Addictions Agencies
- **Effective Date**: April 22, 2020
- **Title**: Order regarding Work Deployment Measures for Mental Health and Addictions Agencies
- **Description**:
  - Order under the EMCPA to facilitate the ability of mental health and addictions agencies to implement redeployment plans to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - A “mental health and addictions agency” is defined in the order as a not-for-profit entity that (a) provides community mental health and addictions services, and (b) receives funding from the Ministry of Health or from a Local Health Integration Network (LHIN).
  - Similar to previous EMCPA orders, this order permits mental health and addictions agencies to take “reasonably necessary” work deployment and staffing measures to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of COVID-19.
  - All measures are subject to the conditions listed in the orders. For further details, please refer to the attached links.

### Amending Order regarding Signatures in Wills and Powers of Attorney
- **Effective Date**: April 22, 2020
- **Title**: Amending Order regarding Signatures in Wills and Powers of Attorney
- **Description**:
  - Order under the EMCPA amending existing O. Reg. 129/20 to provide that wills and powers of attorney may now be signed in counterparts, pursuant to the conditions detailed in the order.
  - For further details, please refer to the attached link.

### Order regarding Work Deployment Measures for Municipalities
- **Effective Date**: April 16, 2020
- **Title**: Order regarding Work Deployment Measures for Municipalities
- **Description**:
  - Order under the EMCPA to allow municipalities to implement redeployment plans to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - Similar to previous work deployment orders under the EMCPA, this order permit municipalities to take “reasonably necessary” work deployment and staffing measures to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of COVID-19.
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| April 16, 2020 | O. Reg. 159/20 (Ambulance Act) | • The government has introduced a regulation amending O. Reg. 257/00 (the “Regulation”) under the *Ambulance Act* to allow for the following changes, among others:  
  o Section 5 of the Regulation is amended to state that during a period when an emergency has been declared to exist throughout Ontario under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*, the operator of a land ambulance service may “employ or engage, or continue to employ or engage, a person who does not meet the requirements set out in clause 7 (4) (b), but who has successfully completed a program referred to in clause 7 (4) (a), to provide patient care as an emergency medical attendant on a full-time or part-time basis or as a full-time volunteer, and the operator may continue to employ or engage such a person for a period of 420 consecutive days after the completion of the program, even if the declaration of emergency has ceased to apply.”  
  o Section 6 of the Regulation is amended to remove the 12-month recertification requirement during a period “when an emergency has been declared to exist throughout Ontario under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*; and during the three-month period after the declaration of emergency has ceased to apply.”  
  o Section 7 of the Regulation is amended to expand the scope of who may be considered an “emergency medical attendant” to now include individuals currently registered as “a student in a paramedic program of a College of Applied Arts and Technology or an institution approved by the Director, during a period when an emergency has been declared to exist throughout Ontario under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* and during the six-month period after the declaration of emergency has ceased to apply.”  
  • For further details, please refer to the attached memo and links. | • O. Reg. 159/20  
  • *Ambulance Act*  
  • *Memorandum*  
  • *Announcement* |
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| April 16, 2020| Order regarding Deployment of Employees of Service Provider Organizations | • Order under the EMCPA governing redeployment requests for contracted service provider organizations. Pursuant to section 2 of the order, the following rules apply for the duration of the order:  
  o Despite any statute, regulation, policy, arrangement or agreement that provides otherwise, a local health integration network (LHIN) is authorized to request that a contracted service provider organization provide health care and related social services, other than community services within the meaning of the *Home Care and Community Services Act, 1994*, in a setting identified by the LHIN, and the LHIN is also authorized to fund those services.  
  o A contracted service provider organization is authorized to accept a request made by a LHIN and to deploy its employees to provide the requested services, despite any statute or regulation that provides otherwise.  
  o An employee of a contracted service provider organization is not required to agree to provide the requested services.  
• A “contracted service provider organization” is defined in the order as, with respect to the LHIN, a “person who provides homemaking services, personal support services or professional services within the meaning of the *Home Care and Community Services Act, 1994* purchased by the local health integration network”.  
• Despite anything in the order, LHINs and contracted service provider organizations are still required to comply with any other order issued under the EMCPA or with any order or directive issued under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* as it relates to them.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • Order  
• Announcement |
| April 16, 2020| Order Limiting Work to a Single Retirement Home            | • Similar to the previous EMCPA order for long-term care homes, this order prevents employees working in a retirement home, as defined in the *Retirement Homes Act, 2010* (RHA), from working at multiple locations or at other health services providers.  
• The order requires employees to identify to their retirement home employer whether they have a job at any other health service provider (including a hospital) by 9:00am on April 20, 2020. | • Order  
• Announcement |
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|               |       | • As is the case with the previous EMCPA order, by 12:01am on April 22, 2020, an employee of a licensee under the RHA cannot work for another site of the same retirement home employer, another licensee under the RHA, or any other health services provider (including a hospital).  
• Posting requirements are also included in the order. For further details, please refer to the attached links. | |
| April 16, 2020 | Order for District Social Services Administration Boards | • Order under the EMCPA to facilitate the ability of “district social services administration boards” governed by the *District Social Services Administration Boards Act* to implement redeployment plans to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.  
• Similar to previous EMCPA orders, this order permits district social services administration boards to take “reasonably necessary” work deployment and staffing measures to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of COVID-19.  
• All measures are subject to the conditions listed in the orders. For further details, please refer to the attached link. | • [Order](#)  
• [Announcement](#) |
| April 14, 2020 | Order Limiting Work to a Single Long-Term Care Home | • Order under the EMCPA which restricts employees who have jobs with a long-term care provider from working at multiple locations or other health services providers, including retirement homes.  
• The order requires employees to identify to their long-term care employer whether they have a job at any other health service provider (including a hospital) or retirement home by 5:00 p.m. on April 17, 2020.  
• It further requires that by 12:01 a.m. on April 22, 2020, any employee who works for a long-term care employer cannot work for another site of the same long-term care employer, or any other health services provider (including a hospital) or retirement home.  
• The order sets out protections for employees who by its effect are restricted to working for a single employer, including the provision of a leave of absence and protections from other obligations to their other place of employment. | • [Order](#)  
• [Announcement](#)  
• [COVID-19 Action Plan: Long-Term Care Homes](#) |
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| April 14, 2020 | Bill 189                     | • A long-term care provider is required to post a copy of the order in “a conspicuous and easily accessible location” in the long-term care home and in a manner that complies with the regulations made under the Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007.  
• The order was released alongside the government’s COVID-19 Action Plan: Long-Term Care Homes. A copy of this publication, along with further details on the order, can be accessed at the attached links. | Bill 189  
Announcement  
Summary of Changes |
| April 14, 2020 | Declaration of Emergency (Extension) | • The government has introduced and passed Bill 189, the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Support and Protection Act, 2020.  
• Bill 189 is focused primarily on education and municipal stakeholders, with targeted amendments to the Education Act, Planning Act, Development Charges Act, Police Services Act and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities Act in response to COVID-19.  
• Relevant to hospitals with involvement in current municipal planning projects, Schedule 4 of Bill 189 amends the Planning Act to allow the government to suspend certain planning decision timelines during a declared state of emergency.  
  o These changes will temporarily pause the need for municipalities and planning boards to make planning decisions within specified timelines without the risk of appeal.  
  o If municipalities choose to process planning applications, they may still do so by holding virtual/electronic public meetings and making decisions on planning matters during the COVID-19 outbreak.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached links. | Order  
Announcement |
| April 14, 2020 | Order for Service Agencies    | • On the advice of the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) and with the approval of the Ontario legislature, the government has extended the Declaration of Emergency under the EMCPA for a further 28 days, until May 12, 2020.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached links. | Order |

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| April 9, 2020 | Order for Temporary Health or Residential Facilities                  | • Order under the EMCPA exempting the construction of a “temporary health or residential facility, the conversion of all or part of an existing building or structure to a temporary health or residential facility and the use of a temporary health or residential facility” from the following statutory requirements:  
  o Obtaining a permit under section 8 or 10 of the Building Code Act, 1992.  
  o Complying with Ontario Regulation 332/12 (Building Code) made under the Building Code Act, 1992.  
  o Complying with any by-laws passed under section 34 or 38 of the Planning Act.  
  o Complying with section 41 of the Planning Act or section 114 of the City of Toronto Act, 2006.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Order                  |
| April 11, 2020| Order Extending and Renewing Existing Orders                          | • Order under the EMCPA extending all emergency orders that have been put in place to-date under s.7.0.2 (4) of the EMCPA until April 23, 2020.  
• This extension includes, without limitation, the closure of outdoor amenities in parks and recreational areas, non-essential workplaces, public places and bars and restaurants, along with restrictions on social gatherings and the prohibition of price gouging.                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Order / Order          |
| April 14, 2020| Amending Order regarding Work Deployment Measures for Long-Term Care Homes | • Order under the EMCPA amending existing order (O. Reg. 77/20) for work deployment measures in long-term care homes.  
• Sub-paragraph 3(i)(A) is revoked and the following substituted:  
  o “Redeploying employees so that any particular employee is not providing services at more than one long-term care home operated or maintained by the health service provider.”                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Amending Order         |

(Violence Against Women Residential Services and Crisis Line)  

Similar to previous EMCPA orders, this order permits prescribed service agencies operating under the Violence Against Women Support Services program and the Anti-Human Trafficking Community Supports program to take “reasonably necessary” work deployment and staffing measures to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of COVID-19.  

All measures are subject to the conditions listed in the orders. For further details, please refer to the attached link.
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| April 9, 2020 | Order regarding Agreements between Health Service Providers and Retirement Homes | • Additional conditions for occupancy following construction, among other rules, are set out in the order.  
• This order is retroactive to March 17, 2020. For further details, please refer to the attached link. |  |
| April 7, 2020 | Order regarding Signatures in Wills and Powers of Attorney | • Order under the EMCPA which applies in circumstances where a health service provider, including a hospital, and the licensee of a retirement home have, in response to the emergency, “entered into an agreement or any other arrangement to have the retirement home provide alternative space, accommodation or care services for patients of the health service provider, or former patients of the health service provider who were discharged during the emergency, on a temporary, short-term basis.”  
• If these circumstances are established, this order creates the following rules, among others:  
  o The agreement or arrangement shall not impact whether the health service provider or the retirement home are considered to be a hospital for the purposes of the Hospital Labour Disputes Arbitration Act.  
  o The agreement or arrangement shall not impact whether the health service provider and the licensee of the retirement home are treated as constituting one employer for the purposes of subsection 1 (4) of the Labour Relations Act, 1995.  
  o The health service provider shall not, by virtue of the agreement or arrangement, be considered to have sold a part of its business to the licensee of the retirement home for the purposes of section 69 of the Labour Relations Act, 1995.  
• For further details, please refer to the attached link. | |
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| April 3, 2020 | Order regarding Access to COVID-19 Status Information by Specified Persons | • Order under the EMCPA allowing specified persons, including various persons listed under the Police Services Act and the Fire Protection and Prevention Act, to request COVID-19 status information from specified custodians.  
• “COVID-19 status information” means, in relation to an individual, the individual’s name, address and date of birth and whether the individual has had a positive test for the COVID-19 coronavirus.  
• “Specified custodians” include, without limitation, laboratories licensed under the Laboratory and Specimen Collection Centre Licensing Act.  
• Upon request, the specified custodians shall “take all reasonable steps to ensure that any COVID-19 status information that is within the custodian’s custody or control is disclosed in a timely manner to the person making the request” subject to the conditions listed in the order. For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • Order  
• Announcement |
<p>| April 3, 2020 | Order for Service Agencies | • Order under the EMCPA to facilitate the ability of service agencies governed by the Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act to implement redeployment plans to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. | • Order |</p>
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| April 3, 2020 | Order regarding Essential Workplaces       | • Similar to previous EMCPA orders, this order permits service agencies to take “reasonably necessary” work deployment and staffing measures to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of COVID-19.   
• All measures are subject to the conditions listed in the orders. For further details, please refer to the attached link. |                         |
| April 2, 2020 | Orders for Retirement Homes and Boards of Health | • Order under the EMCPA updating the existing essential workplace order and requiring all businesses not listed on the essential workplace list to close effective 11:59 pm on Saturday, April 4, 2020.   
• The closure will be in effect for 14 days, with the possibility of an extension as the situation evolves.   
• Hospitals are included as essential workplaces pursuant to paragraph 39 of the listed entities. | • Announcement       
• List of Essential Workplaces |
| March 30, 2020| Order regarding Meetings of Corporations   | • Orders under the EMCPA to facilitate the ability of retirement homes and boards of health to implement redeployment plans to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.   
• Similar to previous health service provider and long-term care home orders, these orders permit retirement homes and boards of health to take “reasonably necessary” work deployment and staffing measures to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of COVID-19.   
• All measures are subject to the conditions listed in the orders. For further details, please refer to the attached links. | • Order (Retirement Homes)       
• Order (Boards of Health)       
• Announcement |
|               |                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                         |
|               |                                            | • Order under the EMCPA suspending operation of various Corporations Act and Business Corporations Act provisions to enable flexible meeting requirements. Changes include, without limitation:   
  o Permitting meeting by telephonic or electronic means and deeming attendance by same [OCA, subsection 125.1(1)]   
  o Extending the time for annual general meetings if the last meeting fell within the period of the declared emergency [OCA, subsections 293(1)-(3)]   
• This order is retroactive to March 17, 2020. For further details, please refer to the attached link. | • Order |

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| March 30, 2020 | Order Extending and Renewing Existing Orders | • Order under the EMCPA which extends various existing orders past their previously applicable revocation date.  
• A new revocation date (**April 13, 2020**) now applies to the following:  
  o O. Regs. 51/20 and 52/20 (Declaration and Emergency Closures)  
    ▪ Previous applicable revocation date (March 31, 2020)  
  o O. Reg. 74/20 (Order for Health Service Providers)  
    ▪ Previous applicable revocation date (April 4, 2020)  
  o O. Reg. 77/20 (Order for Long-Term Care Homes)  
    ▪ Previous applicable revocation date (April 6, 2020)  
  o O. Reg. 82/20 (Closure of Places of Non-Essential Businesses)  
    ▪ Previous applicable revocation date (April 7, 2020)  
  o O. Reg. 95/20 (Order for Long-Term Care Homes)  
    ▪ Previous applicable revocation date (April 10, 2020)  
• For further details, please refer to the attached link. | • [Order](#)  
• [Announcement](#) |
| March 28, 2020 | Order regarding Prohibited Public Events and Social Gatherings | • Order under the EMCPA prohibiting organized public events and social gatherings of more than five people, effective immediately.  
• The order does not apply to private households with five or more people, or to operating childcare centres supporting frontline health care workers and first responders provided the number of persons at each centre does not exceed 50 people.  
• Funerals are permitted to proceed with up to 10 people at one time. | • [Order](#)  
• [Announcement](#) |
| March 28, 2020 | Order for Long-Term Care Homes | • Order under the EMCPA to ensure that staffing and resources are available to help care for and protect long-term care residents during the COVID-19 crisis.  
• These temporary measures, further to the March 23, 2020 order, provide further flexibility for long-term care homes and allow homes to redirect their staffing and financial resources to essential tasks (see section 3 of the order for further details).  
• Notwithstanding the order’s contents, nothing in the order derogates from a licensee’s responsibility under the *Long-Term Care Homes Act* to ensure a “safe and secure environment” for residents. | • [Order](#)  
• [Announcement](#) |
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| March 27, 2020 | O. Reg. 91/20 & O. Reg. 92/20 (Supply Chain Management Act) | • The government has introduced regulations under the *Supply Chain Management Act* (SCMA) to enable the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services and the Ministry of Health to centrally manage public sector supply chains.  
• O. Reg. 91/20 designates hospitals as a “health sector entity” under the SCMA, while O. Reg. 92/20 requires hospitals and other health sector entities to provide the Ministry of Health with the following information, upon request:  
  o current inventories and future inventory requirements;  
  o current and future procurement activities;  
  o supply chain opportunities, contingencies and constraints;  
  o any other information related to supply chain management or vendor performance that the Deputy Minister or designee specifies.  
• Pursuant to section 3(3) of O. Reg. 92/20, hospitals may continue to utilize existing arrangements for procuring a good or service if it considers it necessary or advisable to do so in response to coronavirus (COVID-19) and any issues related to the response to and recovery from coronavirus (COVID-19), provided hospitals comply with Ministry of Health reporting requirements, among other things. | • [O. Reg. 91/20](#)  
• [O. Reg. 92/20](#)  
• [Announcement](#) |
| March 27, 2020 | Order regarding Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) | • Order under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act* (HPPA) which requires health care provider organizations, including hospitals, to provide information relating to their PPE inventories to Ontario Health on a daily basis.  
• Appendix to the Order (the corresponding excel spreadsheet) sets out the categories of PPE (masks, eye protection, gloves, gowns, booties, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes and swabs) that hospitals must provide in three categories: regular inventory, pandemic inventory, and expired inventory.  
• Order indicates that hospitals should submit the required information using the Daily Bed Census tool. | • [Order](#)  
• [Appendix (Spreadsheet)](#)  
• [Memo](#) |
| March 25, 2020 | Bill 188 | • The government introduced and passed Bill 188, *the Economic and Fiscal Update Act, 2020*. | • [Bill 188](#)  
• [Announcement](#) |
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| March 24, 2020 | Order regarding Essential Workplaces | • Order under the EMCPA announcing that effective 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, all non-essential businesses will be ordered to close for 14 days, and possibly longer.  
• This order is made further to the emergency declaration on March 17, 2020 under the EMCPA.  
• Hospitals are included as essential workplaces pursuant to paragraph 54 of the listed entities. | • Order  
• Announcement  
• List of Essential Workplaces |
| March 23, 2020 | Order for Long-Term Care Homes | • Order under the EMCPA to facilitate the ability of long-term care homes to implement redeployment plans to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.  
• Further details are provided in the order. This order applies to redeployment activities within or across facilities and locations of a long-term care provider. All orders under the EMCPA will be valid for 14 days unless revoked or renewed in accordance with the statute. | • Order  
• Announcement |
| March 21, 2020 | Order for Health Service Providers | • Order under the EMCPA to facilitate the ability of health service providers, including hospitals, to implement redeployment plans to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.  
• Specifically, the order states that regardless of any collective agreement, statute, regulation, order, policy, arrangement or agreement, the order authorizes health service providers to take “any reasonably necessary measure to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of the coronavirus for patients.”  
• The order does not suspend all provisions of the collective agreement or employment agreement. Instead, it focuses on granting health service providers the authority to take the steps reasonably necessary. | • Order  
• Announcement |
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| March 20, 2020 | Order suspending Limitation Periods | • Order under the EMCPA establishing the following:  
  o any provision of any statute, regulation, rule, by-law or order of the Government of Ontario establishing any limitation period shall be suspended for the duration of the emergency, and the suspension shall be retroactive to Monday, March 16, 2020.  
  o any provision of any statute, regulation, rule, by-law or order of the Government of Ontario establishing any period of time within which any step must be taken in any proceeding in Ontario, including any intended proceeding, shall, subject to the discretion of the court, tribunal or other decision-maker responsible for the proceeding, be suspended for the duration of the emergency, and the suspension shall be retroactive to Monday, March 16, 2020. | • Order |
| March 20, 2020 | Amending Regulation (Long-Term Care Homes Act) | • Prior to issuing the order in respect of LTC homes on March 23, the government made a number of enabling amendments to the General Regulation under the *Long-Term Care Homes Act* (LTCHA). | • Amending Regulation |
| March 19, 2020 | Bills 186 and 187 | • The government introduced and passed Bill 186, the *Employment Standards Amendment Act (Infectious Disease Emergencies), 2020*, and Bill 187, the *Municipal Emergency Act, 2020*.  
  • Given its relevance for Ontario hospitals, the OHA prepared a non-exhaustive review of Bill 186 (see backgrounder).  
  • Bill 186 amends the *Employment Standards Act, 2000* (ESA) to address when emergency leave is available to employees in the case of infectious disease emergencies. Specifically, the changes to section 50.1 of the ESA create an unpaid leave of absence for employees unable to work due to the defined circumstances in the legislation. | • Bill 186 / Bill 187  
• Announcement  
• OHA Backgrounder |
### Declaration of Emergency (EMPCA)

- The government ordered the immediate closure of select establishments and prohibition on public gatherings over 50 persons, among other things, as detailed in the announcement.
- The emergency declaration shall remain in place until March 31, 2020, at which point it will be reassessed.

### Provincial Directives and Policy Guidance

Additional directives from the Chief Medical Officer of Health (Ontario) and select policy guidance can be found below. A comprehensive list of guidance from Ontario Health, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Long-Term Care can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

#### Provincial Directives

- September 9, 2020: [CMOH Directive #3 for Long-Term Care Homes](#)
- May 26, 2020: [CMOH Directive #2 for Health Care Providers / Operational Requirements: Health Sector Restart](#)
- April 10, 2020: [CMOH Directive #5 for Hospitals on Personal Protective Equipment / FAQs / Technical Brief / Guidance](#)
- March 30, 2020: [CMOH Directive #4 for Ambulance Services and Paramedics](#)
- March 30, 2020: [CMOH Directive #1 for Health Care Providers and Health Care Entities](#)

#### Policy Guidance

- October 1, 2020: [COVID-19 Guidance: Paramedic Services](#)
- October 1, 2020: [COVID-19 Guidance: School Outbreak Management](#)
- October 1, 2020: [Quick Reference Public Health Guidance on Testing and Clearance](#)
- October 1, 2020: [Temporary Wage Enhancements](#)
- September 30, 2020: [Provincial Guidance - Fall Preparedness Plan for Health, Long-Term Care and Education / Announcement](#)
- September 25, 2020: [COVID-19 Screening Tool for Workplaces (Businesses and Organizations)](#)
- September 24, 2020: [COVID-19 Provincial Testing Guidance](#) (updated)
- September 24, 2020: [COVID-19 Guidance: Mental Health and Addictions Service Providers in Community Settings](#) (updated)
- September 21, 2020: [COVID-19 Reference Document for Symptoms](#) (updated)
- September 17, 2020: [COVID-19 Guidance: Home and Community Care Providers](#) (updated)
- September 8, 2020: [Management of Cases and Contacts of COVID-19 in Ontario](#)
• September 8, 2020: Reopening Retirement Homes (effective September 15, 2020)
• September 4, 2020: COVID-19 Guidance: Primary Care Providers in a Community Setting (updated)
• September 2, 2020: Ministry of Long-Term Care: Resuming Visits in Long-Term Care Homes (updated)
• August 31, 2020: Memorandum on Extension of general approval under subsection 4(2) of the Public Hospitals Act
• August 28, 2020: Updates to Directive #3 regarding short-stay and temporary absences
• August 26, 2020: Operational Guidance: COVID-19 Management in Schools / Announcement / School Outbreak Management (CMOH)
• August 21, 2020: COVID-19 Advice: Religious Services, Rites or Ceremonies (updated)
• August 13, 2020: COVID-19 Guidance: Summer Day Camps (updated)
• July 31, 2020: Memorandum on Physician Funding for Hospitals During COVID-19 Outbreak
• July 29, 2020: Independent Commission into COVID-19 and Long-Term Care – Terms of Reference / Announcement
• July 22, 2020: Memorandum on Reimbursement of Hospital COVID-19 Expenses
• July 15, 2020: Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care: Update to Visits at Long-Term Care Homes
• June 24, 2020: Temporary Pandemic Pay Guidance Document / Payroll Administration – Illustrative Examples / FAQs
• June 23, 2020: Case and Contact Management Resources [various appendices]
• June 18, 2020: Ministry of Health – Protecting Ontarians through Enhanced Case and Contact Management / Announcement
• June 17, 2020: Provincial PPE Supplier Directory / PPE Intake Form
• June 15, 2020: COVID-19 Guidance: Acute Care (updated)
• June 15, 2020: Memorandum on Visitors to Acute Care Settings
• June 15, 2020: COVID-19 Operational Requirements: Health Sector Restart
• June 15, 2020: Memorandum regarding A Measured Approach to Planning for Surgeries and Procedures During COVID-19 (updated)
• June 15, 2020: Memorandum regarding Discontinuance of the EDR Process in Hospitals (effective June 17, 2020)
• June 15, 2020: OHA Guidance – Care Partner Presence Policies during COVID-19 / Additional Resources
• June 12, 2020: Utilization of Multi-Bed Ward Rooms and Inpatient Placement in Hospitals During COVID-19
• June 12, 2020: Provincial Guidance – Reopening Retirement Homes / COVID-19 Surveillance Testing FAQs / Test Requisition
• June 11, 2020: Memorandum on Re-introductions of Visits & Transfer of Hospital Patients and Community Clients to Long-Term Care Homes / Ministry of Long-Term Care – Resuming Visits in Long-Term Care / New Admissions and Readmissions to Long-Term Care Homes / Announcement
• June 11, 2020: COVID-19 Guidance: Workplace Outbreaks
• June 9, 2020: Memorandum regarding Pandemic Pay
• June 8, 2020: Minister’s Order & Direction to Provide Information Respecting Critical Supplies & Equipment / Outline of Changes
June 8, 2020: Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) for Scheduled Surgeries and Procedures – Recommendations from Ontario Health
June 8, 2020: Regional Health Care Delivery (Outpatient, Primary, and Home and Community Care) – Recommendations from Ontario Health
May 28, 2020: Memorandum on Reprocessing of N95 Respirators / FAQs
May 28, 2020: Memorandum on Extension of general approval under subsection 4(2) of the Public Hospitals Act
May 27, 2020: Memorandum on Temporary Pandemic Pay
May 26, 2020: COVID-19 Guidance: Incremental Hospital Expenses (updated) / Presentation Deck / FAQs
May 25, 2020: Ontario Health – A Measured Approach to Planning for Surgeries and Procedures During the COVID-19 Pandemic (FAQs)
May 25, 2020: Updated FAQs on Temporary Physician Funding During COVID-19 / Guidelines / Sample Template
May 24, 2020: Memorandum regarding Additional Direction on Testing Strategy
May 22, 2020: Memorandum on Ontario Public Hospitals Assisting and Managing Long-Term Care Homes (Indemnification)
May 19, 2020: Memorandum on Hospital COVID-19 Expense Tracking and Reporting / Additional Guidance / Data Collection Form
May 19, 2020: COVID-19 Guidance: Labour, Delivery and Newborn Care
May 15, 2020: Memorandum on Annual Meeting Requirements (Public Hospitals Act) / Audited Financial Statements Deadline
May 14, 2020: COVID-19 Guidance – Detailed List of Stage 1 Openings / Workplace Safety Resources by Sector / Announcement
May 11, 2020: COVID-19 Guidance – Acute Care (updated)
May 10, 2020: Ontario Health – Recommendations on the Use and Conservation of PPE / Optimizing the Supply of PPE
May 7, 2020: Ontario Health – A Measured Approach to Planning for Surgeries and Procedures During the COVID-19 Pandemic
May 5, 2020: Memorandum on Emergency Order authorizing Public Health Units access to the Electronic Health Record
May 5, 2020: Memorandum on Emergency Orders relating to Credentialing for Professional Staff / BPS Consolidation Reporting Deadline
May 4, 2020: COVID-19 Guidance – Hospice Care (updated)
May 3, 2020: Memorandum on Access to Secondary Residences
May 2, 2020: OHA Guiding Principles for Redeployment to Long-Term Care / Backgrounder
May 1, 2020: Guidelines on Temporary Physician Funding / FAQs
April 30, 2020: Memorandum on Amended Emergency Order O. Reg. 74/20 (Assisting Long-Term Care) / FAQs
April 29, 2020: Memorandum on Transfer of Hospital Patients and Community Clients to Long-Term Care Homes
April 26, 2020: Memorandum on Regional COVID-19 Staffing Response in Support of Long-Term Care Homes
April 25, 2020: Directive (Long-Term Care Homes Act) – COVID-19: Supporting Long-Term Care Homes (effective April 24, 2020)
• April 25, 2020: Memorandum on Emergency Order to Support Hospitals in Assisting Long-Term Care Response / FAQs
• April 23, 2020: Memorandum on Transfer of Hospital Patients to Retirement Homes
• April 21, 2020: Memorandum on Testing in Long-Term Care Homes
• April 19: 2020: OHA Recommendations to Facilitate Hospital Staffing Support to Long-Term Care
• April 17, 2020: Memorandum on Temporary Physician Funding
• April 17, 2020: Memorandum on Hospital Supports for Long-Term Care
• April 15, 2020: Memorandum on Action Plan for Long-Term Care Homes / Outbreak Guidance / Guidance on Mask Use (updated)
• April 15, 2020: Memorandum on Temporary Pause for Patient Transfers from Hospital to Long-Term Care and Retirement Homes
• April 6, 2020: Memorandum on the Use of Alternate Health Facilities and Temporary Structures / Checklist
• April 4, 2020: Ontario Health Guidance for Multi-Employer Health Care Workers / Work Refusals / Hospital Employee Sick Pay
• April 2, 2020: Memorandum on the Use of Hotels and Retirement Homes / Guidance
• March 30, 2020: Ministry of Health – Memorandum on Tracking and Payment for Uninsured Patients
• March 30, 2020: Ministry of Health – Hospital Classification under subsection 32.1(1) of the Public Hospitals Act
• March 27, 2020: Ministry of Health – Memorandum to Hospitals on LTC Admissions and Discharge / FAQs
• March 26, 2020: Ministry of Health – General Approval under subsection 4(2) of the Public Hospitals Act
# Federal

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• Bill C-4 is a revised version of Bill C-2, introduced on September 24, and directed at providing income support programs which may be relevant for employers:  
  ○ *Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB)* of $500 per week for up to two weeks, for workers who are sick or must self-isolate for reasons related to COVID-19. This Benefit supports the federal government’s commitment to ensure all Canadian workers have access to paid sick leave;  
  ○ *Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB)* of $500 per week for up to 26 weeks per household, for eligible Canadians unable to work because they must care for a child under the age of 12 or family member because schools, day-cares or care facilities are closed due to COVID-19 or because the child or family member is sick and/or required to quarantine; and  
  ○ *Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB)* of $500 per week for up to 26 weeks, to workers who are self-employed or are not eligible for EI and who still require income support. This Benefit would support Canadians who have not returned to work due to COVID-19 or whose income has dropped by at least 50%. These workers must be available and looking for work, and must accept work where it is reasonable to do so.  
• More details on eligibility criteria can be found [online](#) or in the attached links.                                                                 | • [Announcement](#)  
• [Bill C-4 (An Act relating to certain measures in response to COVID-19)](#)                                                                 |
  ○ *Part 1* enacts the *Canada Recovery Benefits Act* to, among other things, authorize the payment of the Canada recovery benefit, the Canada recovery sickness benefit and the Canada recovery caregiving benefit to support Canada’s economic recovery in response to COVID-19. | • [Announcement](#)  
• [Bill C-2 (An Act Relating to Economic Recovery in Response to COVID-19)](#)                                                                 |
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  o Part 1 amends the *Income Tax Act* to revise the eligibility criteria for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) in order to support those employers hardest hit by the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). It also extends the CEWS to November 21, 2020, with the ability to extend the CEWS by regulation to no later than December 31, 2020 and provides a revised calculation of the CEWS for the fifth and subsequent qualifying periods. | • [Bill C-20 (An Act Respecting Further COVID-19 Measures)](https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-education/training/employment-benefits/canada-emergency-wage-subsidy.html) |

- The following proposed income support plan details from Bill C-2 may be relevant for employers:
  - **Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB)** of $500 per week for up to two weeks, for workers who are sick or must self-isolate for reasons related to COVID-19. This Benefit supports the federal government’s commitment to ensure all Canadian workers have access to paid sick leave;
  - **Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB)** of $500 per week for up to 26 weeks per household, for eligible Canadians unable to work because they must care for a child under the age of 12 or family member because schools, day-cares or care facilities are closed due to COVID-19 or because the child or family member is sick and/or required to quarantine; and
  - **Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB)** of $500 per week for up to 26 weeks, to workers who are self-employed or are not eligible for EI and who still require income support. This Benefit would support Canadians who have not returned to work due to COVID-19 or whose income has dropped by at least 50%. These workers must be available and looking for work, and must accept work where it is reasonable to do so.

- More details on eligibility criteria can be found online or in the attached links.
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| April 7, 2020  | Health Canada Regulatory Notice for N95 Respirator Reprocessing | • Health Canada has issued a regulatory notice stating that decontamination of single-use N95 respirators for reuse is being considered along with other conservation strategies to ensure the continued availability of these devices.  
• Health Canada is currently monitoring and assessing the acceptability of various decontamination and sterilization methods/strategies for the reprocessing of single use N95 respirators in the context of the COVID-19 outbreak.  
• With regard to reprocessing and decontamination on-site by hospitals, Health Canada will continue to respect the current oversight provided at the provincial / territorial level and guidance provided by the Public Health Agency of Canada.  
• Health Canada will continue to update the notice as more information becomes available. | • Notice  
• Background Information |
| March 25, 2020 | Self-Isolation Requirements under the Quarantine Act | • Federal Health Minister Patty Hajdu has announced that as of midnight ET on March 25, 2020, all returning Canadian travelers must go into self-isolation. This measure will be enforced through measures in the Quarantine Act (with penalties including criminal sanctions or fines).  
• The government has created certain exemptions for specific classes of persons and workers as set out in its Orders in Council, which can be found here. At the time of writing, OIC 2020-0589 is applicable (see section 6). | • Order  
• Announcement  
• List of Orders in Council |
| March 25, 2020 | Bill C-13 | • Federal government introduces and passes the COVID-19 Emergency Response Act. Relevant details include, among other things, the following: | • Announcement  
• Bill C-13 [COVID-19 Emergency Response Act] |
Effective Date | Title | Description | Additional Information & Links
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**(COVID-19 Emergency Response Act)** | o Part 1 implements, as part of the response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (i.e. COVID-19), certain income tax measures by (a) introducing a one-time additional payment under the GST/HST tax credit; (b) providing temporary additional amounts under the Canada Child Benefit; (c) reducing required minimal withdrawals from registered retirement income funds by 25% for 2020; and (d) providing eligible small employers a temporary wage subsidy for a period of three months.
 | o Part 2 enacts the Canada Emergency Response Benefit Act to authorize the making of income support payments to workers who suffer a loss of income for reasons related to the coronavirus disease 2019.
 | o Part 3 enacts the Public Health Events of National Concern Payments Act, which authorizes payments to be made out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund in relation to public health events of national concern. It also provides for the repeal of the Act on September 30, 2020.
 | o Part 7 amends the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act to authorize additional payments to the provinces and territories for the fiscal year beginning on April 1, 2019.
 | o Part 9 amends the Food and Drugs Act to, among other things, authorize the Governor in Council to make regulations, (a) requiring persons to provide information to the Minister of Health; and (b) preventing shortages of therapeutic products in Canada or alleviating those shortages or their effects, in order to protect human health.
 | o Part 10 amends the Canada Labour Code to, among other things, create a regime which provides for a leave related to COVID-19 of up to 16 weeks. It also amends that Act to provide for the repeal of that regime and to provide for a quarantine leave under the medical leave regime.
 | o Part 12 amends the Patent Act to, among other things, provide that the Commissioner must, on the application of the Minister of Health, authorize the Government of Canada and any person specified in the application to make, construct, use and sell a patented invention to the extent
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• Details to be provided in upcoming legislation (see COVID-19 Emergency Response Act). | • N/A |

necessary to respond to a public health emergency that is a matter of national concern.

- **Division 1 of Part 18** amends the Employment Insurance Act to give the Minister of Employment and Social Development the power to make interim orders for the purpose of mitigating the economic effects of COVID-19.
- **Division 2 of Part 18** provides that every reference in any provision of the Employment Insurance Act and of regulations made under it to a certificate issued by a medical doctor or other medical professional or medical practitioner or by a nurse practitioner is deemed to be of no effect and that any benefit that would have been payable to a claimant had such a certificate been issued is payable to the claimant if the Canada Employment Insurance Commission is satisfied that the claimant is entitled to the benefit.