



## EMERGENCY ORDER NO.1

WHEREAS pursuant to subsection 4(1) of the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, R.S.O, 1990, c.E.9, as amended (the “EMPCA”), the Warden of the Corporation of the County of Wellington has declared that an emergency exists in the County of Wellington due a public health emergency – COVID-19;

AND WHEREAS pursuant to subsection 4(1) of the EMPCA, the Warden may make such orders as he considers necessary and are not contrary to law to implement the emergency plan of the County and to protect the health, safety and welfare of the inhabitants of the County;

AND WHEREAS under sections 11(1) of the Municipal Act, 2001, the County has broad authority to provide any service or thing that the County considers necessary or desirable for the public , including passing by-laws in respect of the health, safety and well-being of persons;

AND WHEREAS the Medical Officer of Health for the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit has advised as follows:

1. COVID-19, a disease caused by a novel coronavirus, is designated as a disease of public health significance and a communicable disease pursuant to Ontario Regulation 135/18 (Designation of Diseases), as amended, made under the Health Protection and Promotion Act, R.S.O 1990, c. H. 7, as amended ( the “HPPA”).
2. COVID-19 can cause acute and severe respiratory illness and death in humans.
3. The spread of COVID-19 is of immediate and compelling public health importance in the jurisdiction of the Wellington-Dufferin Guelph Health Unit:
  - a. On March 11, 2020, the spread of COVID-19 was declared a pandemic by the World Health Organization;
  - b. On March 15, 2020, the first case of COVID-19 was reported in the jurisdiction of the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit;
  - c. On March 17, 2020, the spread of COVID-19 was declared an emergency in Ontario pursuant to the EMPCA, on the basis that COVID-19 constitutes a danger of major proportions;
  - d. States of Emergency were subsequently declared by the City of Guelph and the Counties of Dufferin and Wellington (on March 23, 2020) in response to COVID-19;

- e. As of June 9, 2020, there is evidence of continued community transmission of COVID-19 in the jurisdiction of the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit, as evidenced by newly identified cases not connected to facility outbreaks or travel.
4. COVID-19 is transmitted from person-to-person predominantly through respiratory droplets that are released from the nose and mouth, through contact with contaminated surfaces, and through poor hand hygiene.
5. COVID-19 may be transmitted from persons who have minimal or no signs or symptoms of illness.
6. Accumulating epidemiological evidence indicates that the widespread use of Face Coverings by all persons decreases spread of respiratory droplets, and expert opinion supports the widespread use of Face Coverings to decrease transmission of COVID-19.
7. Use of Face Coverings is recommended by the Chief Medical Officer of Health of Ontario and the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada in situations where physical distancing (spatial separation of individuals by at least two metres) is difficult to maintain.
8. On June 10, 2020, the Medical Officer of Health for the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit issued an Order pursuant to section 22 of the HPPA, which Order is attached as **Schedule “A”** to this Order.
9. Effective June 12, 2020, Commercial Establishments in the jurisdiction of the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit that previously had been prohibited to operate by Ontario Regulation 51/20 (Order under subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Closure of Establishments), made under the EMCPA, will be permitted to resume operations as part of Ontario’s staged re-opening of the economy.
10. Re-opening of Commercial Establishments will increase the frequency of contact and limit opportunities for physical distancing between persons in the jurisdiction of the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit which, absent adequate preventative measures, will increase the growth rate of COVID-19 cases in the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit.
11. An increase in the number of COVID-19 cases will increase disease transmission, potential for outbreaks in congregate settings, and the morbidity and mortality of COVID-19 within the population of the jurisdiction of the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit.

AND WHEREAS the Medical Officer of Health for the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit has stated that she is of the opinion on reasonable and probable grounds that:

- a. A communicable disease exists or may exist or there is an immediate risk of an outbreak of a communicable disease in the geographic area served by the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit;
- b. The communicable disease presents a risk to the health of persons in the geographic area served by the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Health Unit; and
- c. The requirements specified in this Order are necessary in order to decrease or eliminate the risk to health presented by the communicable disease.

**Therefore, I, Kelly Linton, Warden of the Corporation of the County of Wellington, enact, by issuing this Order, the following regulations with respect to the County of Wellington:**

### **Definitions**

1. For the purposes of this By-law the following terms shall have the corresponding meanings:

- i. **“County”** means the geographical area of the County of Wellington or the municipal corporation as the context requires;
- ii. **“Commercial Establishment” and “Establishment”** mean a commercial premise used for the purposes of offering goods or services to members of the public and includes a mall or other structure containing a number of commercial premises.
- iii. **“Face Covering(s)”** means a medical mask or a non-medical mask or other face coverings such as a bandana, a scarf or cloth that covers the mouth, nose and chin ensuring a barrier that limits the transmission of infectious respiratory droplets.
- iv. **“Person(s)”** means any customer, patron, employee or visitor, who enters the Establishment.

### **Severability**

2. If a court of competent jurisdiction declares any provision or part of a provision of this Order to be invalid, illegal, unenforceable or of no force and effect, it is my intention in enacting this Order that the remainder of this Order will continue in force and be applied and enforced in accordance with its terms to the fullest extent possible according to law.

**Actions to be taken by persons who own or operate a Commercial Establishment in the County of Wellington**

3. Every person who owns or operates a Commercial Establishment in the County of Wellington shall take the following actions effective 12:01 am on June 12, 2020:

1. **Prohibit Persons from entering the premises of the Commercial Establishment or remaining in the premises if the said Person is not wearing a Face Covering.**

The Face Covering must be worn inside the Establishment at all times, unless it is reasonably required to temporarily remove the Face Covering for services provided by the Establishment.

A Person shall be exempt from wearing a Face Covering on the premises if:

- a. The Person is a child under the age of two years;
- b. Wearing a Face Covering would inhibit the Person's ability to breathe in any way; or
- c. For any other medical reason the Person cannot safely wear a Face Covering.


2. **Ensure the availability of alcohol-based hand rub at all entrances and exits for the use of all Persons entering or exiting the Establishment.**

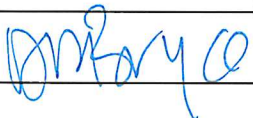
4. This Order shall come into force and take effect at 12:01 am on June 12, 2020.

5. Unless earlier rescinded, this Order shall remain in force and effect until the lifting of the County's March 23, 2020 emergency declaration.

**Passed this 10th day of June, 2020.**

**Original signed by:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_, Warden

  
\_\_\_\_\_, County Clerk


Dated this 10 day of June, 2020,

Time declaration made 9:58 a.m.

Kelly Linton

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Warden or Alternate



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Signature of Warden or Alternate

**SCHEDULE "A"**

**ORDER  
OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE WELLINGTON-DUFFERIN-  
GUELPH HEALTH UNIT**

**Made under section 22 of the Health Protection and Promotion Act**