

2020 Government Announcements During the COVID-19 Pandemic

December 2020

December 28 – December 31

December 30, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada - Federal

- Air passengers entering Canada will need to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test before arriving in the country, the federal government announced today. ([CBC](#))
 - The measure does not replace the federal government's mandatory 14-day quarantine period, Public Safety Minister Bill Blair warned.
 - The Canada Border Services Agency will also increase its presence at airports across Canada, the minister said.

U.S. - Federal

- Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin says US\$600 stimulus payments to begin arriving as early as December 29. ([Reuters](#))
 - Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has introduced legislation linking US\$2,000 COVID-19 relief cheques to President Donald Trump's requests involving social media company legal protections and election fraud. ([Reuters](#))
- The U.S. may expand mandatory COVID-19 testing to more international passengers. ([Reuters](#))
- Emergency U.S. authorization for AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine expected in April 2021. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Alberta will fall far short of the United Conservative Party government's promise to vaccinate 29,000 people against COVID-19 by the end of 2020, Premier Jason Kenney says. ([CBC](#))
- Alberta receives 16,900 doses of Moderna vaccine; this initial shipment will be used to immunize residents at long-term care and designated supportive living facilities beginning with those at highest risk. ([News Release](#))
- 99,141 cases, an increase of 872 since yesterday, including 26 deaths.

British Columbia

- 50,815 cases, an increase of 2,206 since December 24, including 74 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario has released an Ethical Framework for COVID-19 vaccine distribution, which will guide vaccine prioritization in future phases of the province's implementation plan. ([News Release](#))
 - The province continues to vaccinate vulnerable populations and those who care for them through phase one of its three-phase implementation plan as additional vaccines become available.
 - Ontario has launched [a new webpage](#) detailing the province's three-phase immunization program, information on COVID-19 vaccines, safety measures and approval standards, as well as daily updates on the number of Ontarians vaccinated.

- Ontario has published a [backgrounder](#), which outlines the legislative and regulatory changes coming into force on January 1, 2021.
- 178,831 cases, an increase of 2,900 since yesterday, including 19 deaths.

Quebec

- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-108](#) - Related to grooming for animals and florists.
- 199,822 cases, an increase of 2,511 since yesterday, including 41 deaths (10 in the last 24 hours, 28 between December 23 and December 28, and three at an unknown date).

December 29, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada - Federal

- The Government of Canada continues to advise against non-essential travel and reminds all travellers returning to Canada that contravening the mandatory quarantine can lead to severe penalties. ([News Release](#))
- The Public Health Agency of Canada provided guidance on the variants of COVID-19 virus found in Ontario. ([Statement](#))
- *Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States)* was published in the December 26 *Canada Gazette* Part 1 (made under the *Quarantine Act*). ([Order](#))

U.S. - Federal

- The U.S. House approved a proposal to boost COVID-19 aid cheques to US\$2,000. ([Reuters](#))
 - U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell blocked immediate consideration of the measure to increase COVID-19 relief payments, suggesting instead that the Senate examine the issue along with two others: the integrity of elections and limits on big technology companies. ([Reuters](#) and [CBC](#))
- The CDC issued an Order requiring proof of a negative COVID-19 test for all air passengers arriving from the U.K. to the U.S. ([Order](#))
- The CDC published facts about COVID-19 vaccines and guidelines on what to expect when getting vaccinated for COVID-19. ([Update](#))

Alberta

- Alberta reported its first case of a new COVID-19 variant in a person who returned from U.K. ([Toronto Star](#))
- The Alberta government published a policy that aims to establish a surveillance system for COVID-19 vaccination to monitor and report adverse events following immunization. ([Publication](#))
- 98,269 cases, an increase of 5,789 since December 23, including 131 deaths.

British Columbia

- B.C. health officials are set to provide their first COVID-19 update after taking a five-day break over the holidays. ([CBC](#))
- B.C. reported its first case of a new COVID-19 variant in a person who returned from U.K. ([Statement](#))

- A second farm in B.C. has reported that its mink have tested positive for COVID-19. ([Information Bulletin](#))
- 48,609 cases, an increase of 99 on December 24, including 12 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario has changed its COVID-19 vaccination plan to give a first dose to as many people as possible and no longer hold second doses in reserve. ([Globe and Mail](#))
- New spaces are being created to provide quality care for long-term care residents. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario aims to start administering Moderna COVID-19 vaccine in long-term care homes this week. ([CTV](#))
- Ontario's COVID-19 task force head asks Health Canada to investigate the possibility of administering the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine as a single dose, rather than two. ([CBC](#))
- Ontario confirmed its first cases of a new COVID-19 variant first identified in the U.K. ([News Release](#))
- [O.Reg. 789/20](#) - Rules for Areas in Stage 1 (made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*).
- 175,908 cases, an increase of 13,245 since December 23, including 226 deaths.

Quebec

- The Quebec government has asked the federal government to implement three measures as quickly as possible: ([News Release](#))
 - Obligation to be tested before returning to Quebec territory
 - Screening at airports using rapid tests for travellers returning to Quebec
 - Intensified monitoring of compliance with the requirement to isolate for 14 days upon return from travel
- Quebec wants travellers returning from holidays abroad to test negative for COVID-19 before boarding planes. ([CBC](#))
- The following Orders were published in the December 24 [Gazette officielle du Québec](#):
 - Order in Council No. 1418-2020 - The public health emergency was renewed until January 1, 2021.
 - Order in Council No. 1419-2020 - Related to the suspended activities carried out in a retail commercial establishment.
- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-107](#) - Related to provisions of collective agreements.
- Quebec confirmed its first case of a new COVID-19 variant first identified in the U.K. ([News Release](#))
- 197,311 cases, an increase of 13,788 since December 23, including 217 deaths.

December 21 – December 25

December 23, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Canada has extended its ban on passenger flights from the U.K. until January 6. ([CBC](#))
- Health Canada has authorized the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. ([Statement](#))

- The federal government is funding the Canadian Red Cross supporting up to 20 additional long-term care and retirement homes in Ontario. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. faces a risk of government shutdown as Trump balks at a COVID-19 relief deal. ([Reuters](#))
 - Trump did not explicitly say he would veto the measure, apparently holding out hope Congress would modify a complex package that took months to negotiate.
 - Because Congress is due to adjourn at the end of the year, the bill will be automatically vetoed after 10 days if Trump takes no action, in what is known as a “pocket veto.”
- The Trump Administration purchases an additional 100 million doses of the COVID-19 investigational vaccine from Pfizer. ([News Release](#))
- Extension of Designation of Scarce Materials or Threatened Materials Subject to COVID-19 Hoarding Prevention Measures; Correction of Extension Date. ([Notice](#))

Alberta

- Alberta has received a second shipment of the Pfizer vaccine that will be offered to health-care workers and long-term care workers across the province. ([News Release](#))
- 92,480 cases, an increase of 1,021 since yesterday, including 11 deaths.

British Columbia

- The government has put a cap on fees for food delivery services to provide immediate relief to local businesses. ([News Release](#))
 - An *Emergency Program Act* [order](#) (included in yesterday’s digest) places a temporary cap on fees charged to restaurants from food delivery companies to 15 per cent. An additional cap of five per cent is also included for other related fees associated with use of the service, such as online ordering and processing fees. This will ensure that companies cannot shift their delivery costs to other fees.
 - [Order in Council No. 698](#) – Effective December 27, 2020, Schedule 2 of the *COVID-19 Related Measures Act* is amended by adding the Food Delivery Services (COVID-19) Order.
- The state of emergency has been extended until January 5, 2021. ([News Release](#) and [Order in Council No. 700](#))
- 47,510 cases, an increase of 444 since yesterday, including 12 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario welcomes Health Canada approval of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. ([News Release](#))
 - The federal government has allocated approximately 53,000 doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine for Ontario in December 2020, and they will be delivered before the end of the month.
- Ontario government is providing nearly C\$41-million to help 486 non-profit organizations across the province to rebuild and recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. These grants are part of the first round of funding through the Ontario Trillium Foundation's new C\$83-million Resilient Communities Fund. ([News Release](#))
- [O.Reg. 786/20](#) – General (made under the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014*) – Related to fees during closures under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*.
- 162,663 cases, an increase of 2,408 since yesterday, including 41 deaths.

Quebec

- Quebec premier says Ottawa should crack down on Canadians vacationing abroad. ([CTV](#))
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of Quebec is announcing flexibility in the criteria normally applied for calculating the value of taxable benefits attributed to an employee in relation to the use they make of an automobile for the 2020 and 2021 tax years. ([News Release](#))
- 183,523 cases, an increase of 2,247 since yesterday, including 74 deaths: 11 in the last 24 hours, 56 between December 16 and December 21, five before December 16, and two at an unknown date.

December 22, 2020

Canada – Federal

- Canada's chief public health officer has announced that the new COVID-19 variant has not yet been detected here. ([CBC](#))
- [Statement](#) from the Taxpayers' Ombudsperson regarding the service provided by the Canada Revenue Agency on the emergency benefit programs.
- 2020 Highlights: CanNor support helps the Northern Business Community be resilient during COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. ([News Release](#))
- Health Canada has greenlighted another COVID-19 vaccine candidate for human trials. The vaccine is one of two being developed by the Vaccine and Infectious Disease Organization (VIDO) at the University of Saskatchewan. ([CTV](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. Senate and House of Representatives both passed a US\$900-billion COVID-19 relief bill yesterday evening. President Trump is expected to sign the package into law. ([Reuters](#) and the [Washington Post](#))
 - The wide-ranging bill that also spends US\$1.4-trillion on an array of federal programs through next September is likely to be the final major piece of legislation for the 116th Congress that expires on January 3.
 - The legislation also renews a small-business lending program by about US\$284-billion and steers money to schools, airlines, transit systems and vaccine distribution.
- National Credit Union Administration's Temporary Regulatory Relief in Response to COVID-19 Extension. ([Rule](#))
- The CDC has published [General Information](#) about the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine.

Alberta

- 91,459 cases, an increase of 1,240 since yesterday, including nine deaths.

British Columbia

- The following orders were published:
 - [Ministerial Order No. M480](#) – Food Delivery Services (COVID-19) Order is made (under the *Emergency Program Act*).
 - [Order in Council No. 655](#) – Sections 2 and 3 of Appendix 2 of B.C. Reg 199/2020 are repealed (related to limitation periods), and effective March 25, 2021, item 27 of Schedule 2 of the *COVID-19 Related Measures Act* is repealed.
 - [Order in Council No. 659](#) – Effective July 10, 2021, items 2 and 3 of Schedule 1 of the *COVID-19 Related Measures Act* are repealed.
- Increased funding from the B.C. and federal governments supports students and keeps schools safe. ([Information Bulletin](#))
- B.C. commits C\$105-million to support the tourism sector. ([News Release](#))

- 47,067 cases, an increase of 1,667 since Friday, including 41 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario is cancelling passenger road tests across Ontario. ([News Release](#))
- The province is expanding the Support for Learners program to include secondary school students and lowering electricity prices to a discounted off-peak rate 24/7 for all time-of-use and tiered customers. ([News Release](#))
- The Government of Canada responds to a tumultuous year with unprecedented investments to support more than 7,300 jobs in Northern Ontario. ([News Release](#))
- 160,255 cases, an increase of 2,202 since yesterday, including 21 deaths.

Quebec

- Quebec's premier and opposition leaders show a united front in support for holiday restrictions. ([CBC](#))
- Caregivers aged over 70 that are in residential and long-term care facilities will be added to the priority list of the Vaccination Program. ([News Release](#))
- Over C\$380-million have been invested by the Government of Canada in 2020 for a stronger Quebec after the crisis. ([News Release](#))
- 181,276 cases, an increase of 2,183 since yesterday, including 28 deaths: 10 in the last 24 hours, 14 have between December 15 and December 20, one before December 15, and three have occurred at an unknown date.

December 21, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Canada suspends flights from the United Kingdom for 72 hours. ([News Release](#))
 - Additionally, passengers who arrived in Canada today from the United Kingdom are now subject to secondary screening and enhanced measures, including increased scrutiny of quarantine plans. Passengers who arrived recently from the United Kingdom will also receive additional direction from the Government of Canada.
- The Canada Revenue Agency launches the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy Registry. ([News Release](#))
- The government announces the 2021 automobile deduction limits and expense benefit rates for businesses and temporary adjustments to the automobile standby charge due to COVID-19. ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#))
- Minister Garneau directs the Canadian Transportation Agency to develop a new regulation to address future large-scale flight cancellations. ([News Release](#))
- Health Canada is considering favipiravir for approval in treating COVID-19. ([ipolitics](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. House of Representatives voted on Sunday to extend federal funding through December 21 to avoid a government shutdown, giving lawmakers more time to pass a US\$900-billion COVID-19 aid package tied to a larger government spending bill. ([Reuters](#))
- The CDC's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices issues an interim recommendation for the use of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. ([Report](#))

Alberta

- Testing is strongly encouraged for all persons in Alberta who have been in the United Kingdom in the last 14 days, whether they have symptoms or not. Travellers will be contacted directly by Alberta Health Services to book a test. ([News Release](#))
- 90,219 cases, an increase of 4,051 since Friday, including 61 deaths.

British Columbia

- The government has enhanced the Small and Medium-Sized Business Recovery Grant program to make it easier for businesses to qualify and has increased support for those in the hard-hit tourism sector. ([News Release](#))
- The suspension of limitation periods will end March 2021. ([News Release](#))
- 45,400 cases, an increase of 624 since Friday, including 11 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario has announced a provincewide shutdown. The lockdown will begin at 12:01 a.m. (EST) on December 26 and will last until Jan. 23 for all regions in southern Ontario. The health units not in southern Ontario will remain in lockdown until January 9. ([News Release](#) and [Guidance](#))
 - Measures include, but are not limited to:
 - Restricting indoor organized public events and social gatherings, except with members of the same household. Individuals who live alone may consider having exclusive close contact with one other household.
 - Prohibiting in-person shopping – curbside pickup and delivery can continue. Discount and big-box retailers selling groceries will be limited to 25 per cent capacity for in-store shopping.
 - Supermarkets, grocery stores and similar stores that primarily sell food, as well as pharmacies, will continue to operate at 50 per cent capacity for in-store shopping.
 - Restricting indoor access to shopping malls – designated indoor pickup area (by appointment only).
 - Prohibiting indoor and outdoor dining – permitted to operate by takeout, drive-through and delivery only.
 - Employers in all industries should make every effort to allow employees to work from home.
- Ontario introduces a new Small Business Support Grant. ([Backgrounder](#))
 - Provides a minimum of C\$10,000 and up to C\$20,000 to eligible small business owners.
 - For small businesses not in operation in April 2019 or April 2020, eligibility criteria will be announced in January 2021.
 - Further details, including how to apply for the Ontario Small Business Support Grant, will be announced in January 2021.
 - Businesses that are impacted by the Provincewide Shutdown will also be eligible for the [property tax and energy cost rebates](#).
- New school protocols:
 - All publicly funded and private elementary and secondary schools are to move to teacher-led remote learning when students return from the winter break on January 4, 2021, until at least January 11, 2021.
 - Schools located in the Public Health Unit regions (listed in the news release) can resume in-person instruction on January 11, 2021, for both elementary and secondary students.
 - For schools in all other Public Health Unit regions, elementary school students are planned to be able to return to in-person learning on January 11, 2021, and secondary school students will continue learning remotely until January 25, 2021, at which point they may resume in-person learning.
- The following regulations were added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - Made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act*.

- [O.Reg.774/20](#) – Stages of Reopening
- [O.Reg.779/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 1
- [O.Reg.780/20](#) – Stages of Reopening
- Made under the *Provincial Offences Act*:
 - [O.Reg.778/20](#) – Proceedings Commenced by Certificate of Offence – Related to failure to comply with manager’s protocol respecting COVID-19 (*Ontario Food Terminal Act*).
- Ontario is supporting high-priority communities with funding that will provide community outreach, increased testing and wraparound supports. ([News Release](#))
- 158,053 cases, an increase of 6,796 since Friday, including 69 deaths.

Quebec

- While the number of hospitalizations is constantly increasing in Quebec, the Minister of Health and Social Services, Christian Dubé, reminds the population that they should go to the emergency room or a clinic only if really necessary, in order to avoid further increasing the pressure on the health and social services network. ([News Release](#))
- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-106](#) – Related to measures for any room where performing arts are presented on stage, including places of practice and presentation.
- 179,093 cases, an increase of 6,292 since Friday, including 30 deaths: two in the last 24 hours, 27 between December 14 and December 19, and one before December 14.

December 14 – December 18

December 18, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Chrystia Freeland announced that the government has concluded the necessary regulatory changes to raise the maximum wage subsidy rate to 75 per cent for the period beginning Sunday, December 20, 2020, until March 13, 2021. ([News Release](#))
- The National Research Council of Canada announced it is providing advisory services and over \$C9-million in research and development funding to support four therapeutic firms in the development of COVID-19 treatments: Bold Therapeutics, JN Nova Pharma, Laurent Pharmaceuticals and Qu Biologics. ([News Release](#))
- Prime Minister Trudeau said that 500,000 doses of the Pfizer vaccine will arrive in Canada early in the new year. ([CBC](#))
- An additional C\$100-million in support is being provided to food security organizations. ([News Release](#))
- [P.C. 2020-1128](#), Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States) (under the *Quarantine Act*).

U.S. – Federal

- Still no COVID-19 relief bill as U.S. Congress faces shutdown deadline. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- [Information document](#) on Alberta's vaccine storage and handling for COVID-19 vaccine.

- 86,168 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,571 since yesterday, including 30 deaths.

British Columbia

- Order of the Provincial Health Officer: [Workplace Safety – December 16, 2020](#)
- Online applications are now open for British Columbians to apply for the BC Recovery Benefit. ([News Release](#))
- 44,776 confirmed cases, an increase of 673 since yesterday, including 21 deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford confirmed that the current lockdowns in Toronto and Peel will remain in place past Monday. The government is considering a lockdown across southern Ontario from Boxing Day until January 11 and will announce its next steps on Monday. ([CBC](#))
- Ontario is supporting employers and employees impacted by COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
 - For employers with non-unionized employees, regulatory changes brought forward under the *Employment Standards Act* are being extended to July 3, 2021. The changes include putting non-unionized employees on job-protected leave during the COVID-19 outbreak any time their hours of work are temporarily reduced by their employer due to the pandemic to prevent temporary layoffs from becoming permanent.
 - To support the hospitality industry and other hard-hit industries, the government is creating a special industry regulation allowing employers to negotiate alternative arrangements with unions for putting termination and severance pay into trust for laid-off employees.
- Ontario is expanding COVID-19 vaccine locations. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario has capped food delivery fees to protect small businesses. ([News Release](#))
- The *Supporting Local Restaurants Act, 2020* comes into effect tomorrow.
- Ontario is providing the Shaw Centre with up to C\$3.8-million to help the provincial agency navigate the impacts of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and ensure the National Capital Region remains one of the top tourism destinations in Ontario. ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario is supporting production of inclusive made-in-Ontario face masks. ([News Release](#))
- Schedule 7, sections 1 and 2 of [S.O. 2020, c. 18](#), *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020*, amending the *Farm Registration and Farm Organizations Funding Act, 1993*, were proclaimed in force January 1, 2021.
- 151,257 confirmed cases, an increase of 2,290 since yesterday, including 40 deaths.

Quebec

- [COVID-19-related instructions for the holiday season](#) have been posted.
- The Bureau de normalisation du Québec launched the certification program for masks intended for workplaces. Mask manufacturers and distributors can now apply for compliance recognition of masks used to prevent transmission of COVID-19 from people who are presymptomatic or asymptomatic, but still contagious. ([News Release](#))
- Monitoring the evolution of the COVID-19 epidemic: Risks of hospitalization and projections of hospital needs – Update of December 18, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- Quebec Health Minister says situation “critical” in 10 hospitals as COVID-19 patients top 1,000. ([CBC](#))
- 172,801 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,773 since yesterday, including 36 deaths: five in past 24 hours.

December 17, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The government is being cautious with estimates, but the timeline for vaccinating Canadians could accelerate. ([CTV](#))
 - Vaccinations on the general public would begin in April. Between then and June, 15 and 19 million Canadians will be immunized, which equates to between 40 and 50 per cent of the population.
- A Dartmouth-based company has pioneered a new remote monitoring service for virus management to help businesses screen for COVID-19. This easy-to-use, affordable platform has federal support. ([Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency](#))

U.S. – Federal

- U.S. lawmakers will likely finalize a COVID-19 aid deal and government spending bill on Saturday. ([Reuters](#))
- A second COVID-19 vaccine is set to receive panel endorsement in the U.S. ([CTV](#))
- A [CDC update](#) on essential services and critical infrastructure includes response planning for critical sectors.
- A second U.S. vaccine is ready to ship after a daily record of 3,580 COVID-19 deaths. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Rapid testing will be expanded across the province to reach Albertans in homeless shelters, long-term care facilities and remote rural communities. ([News Release](#))
- 84,597 cases, an increase of 1,270 since yesterday, including 16 deaths.

British Columbia

- [Updated Gatherings and Events Order](#) – Amends the order made on May 28, 2020, with respect to vending markets, by limiting its application to vending markets that sell only food or drink for human consumption.
- A [fiscal update](#) shows the continued impact of the pandemic on B.C.'s economy. ([News Release](#))
- 44,103 cases, an increase of 640 since yesterday, including 24 deaths.

Ontario

- The following regulations were added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 765/20](#) – Infectious Disease Emergency Leave (made under the *Employment Standards Act, 2000*).
 - [O.Reg. 763/20](#) – Non-Enforcement Period – Prescribed Tenancies was added to e-laws today (made under the *Commercial Tenancies Act*).
- Amid record-high case counts and hospitalizations, Ontario's hospitals called for new 28-day lockdowns for red-tier regions of the province's COVID-19 restriction framework Thursday, but Premier Ford would not commit to any new shutdowns. ([CBC](#))
- Planned City of Toronto holiday camps and instructional programs have been cancelled due to COVID-19. ([News Release](#))

- The Ontario government is providing C\$77-million to help people who were laid off due to the impact of COVID-19 find in-demand jobs in their local communities. ([News Release](#))
- Correctional Service of Canada is taking heightened COVID-19 measures in its Ontario region institutions and community correctional centres. ([News Release](#))
- 148,967 cases, an increase of 2,432 since yesterday, including 23 deaths.

Quebec

- Following Premier François Legault's new restrictions aimed at curbing the spread of the coronavirus during the holiday season, the Quebec government is announcing improvements to certain support measures intended for businesses. ([News Release](#))
- The vaccination operation continues: 21 new sites are up and running as of Monday. ([News Release](#))
- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-105](#) – Related to amended measures for activities carried out outside.
- [Order in Council No. 1351-2020](#) – The public health emergency has been renewed until December 25, 2020.
- 171,028 cases, an increase of 1,855 since yesterday, including 22 deaths: three in the last 24 hours, 14 between December 10 and December 15, three before December 10, and two at an unknown date.

December 16, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Canada gearing up to distribute Moderna's COVID-19 vaccine, pending approval. ([CTV](#))
 - Health Canada is still evaluating the Moderna vaccine submission for safety and efficacy, after beginning that process on October 12.

U.S. – Federal

- Moderna COVID-19 vaccine data to be analyzed in public hearing in the U.S. ([CBC](#))
- The Department of Health and Human Services increases and begins distributing over C\$24-billion in Phase 3 COVID-19 provider relief funding. ([News Release](#))
- The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) that enforces workplace discrimination laws says employers should tread carefully in mandating COVID-19 vaccines. ([Reuters](#))
 - The EEOC issue the [guidance](#) on its website after the U.S. Food and Drug Administration cleared the way for a COVID-19 vaccine developed by Pfizer Inc. and German partner BioNTech.

Alberta

- Alberta's government is stepping up with new outreach programs and supports specifically for communities with very high rates of COVID-19 infection and transmission. ([Update](#))
 - Starting December 15, a number of new programs and supports will be available to residents in these communities. They include:
 - Self-isolation hotels and financial aid
 - COVID care teams
 - Public awareness campaign
- COVID-19 immunization: [guidance](#) during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- This document provides guidance for the delivery of COVID-19 immunization services during the COVID-19 pandemic and assists immunization providers with measures to reduce transmission of COVID-19.
- Health-care workers in Edmonton and Calgary are the first Albertans to be immunized against COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- 83,327 cases, an increase of 1,341 since yesterday, including 10 deaths.

British Columbia

- The province is expanding provincial COVID-19 ticket enforcement and workplace safety measures. ([News Release](#))
 - Additionally, the province has asked WorkSafeBC to enhance its inspection presence in workplaces by reducing reliance on virtual checks and move to more in-person inspections, particularly in sectors where COVID-19 transmission is occurring.
- First British Columbian vaccinated, and COVID-19 immunizations begins. ([News Release](#))
- The BC Marketplace, an online resource that helps boost small-business growth, is promoting local businesses. ([News Release](#))
- 43,463 cases, an increase of 522 since yesterday, including 21 deaths.

Ontario

- Toronto city officials are considering enhanced restrictions. ([CBC](#))
 - Enhanced work-from-home measures may be coming. Mayor Tory highlighted the approach being taken in Quebec, where, as of Thursday, working from home will be mandatory for most office employees, at least until January 11. Additionally, for the two weeks after Christmas, all non-essential stores will be closed.
- Ontario has launched a new "support local" marketing campaign. The initiative is designed to help businesses impacted by COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- The Ontario government is allocating an additional C\$695-million to provide financial relief for municipalities and help ensure they do not carry operating deficits into 2021. This investment builds upon the first phase of the federal-provincial Safe Restart Agreement announced this summer and will help municipal partners deliver critical services during COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- 146,535 cases, an increase of 2,139 since yesterday, including 43 deaths.

Quebec

- Non-essential businesses will be closed across the province from December 25 through January 11, Premier François Legault announced yesterday evening. ([News Release](#))
 - The following is a [list of priority commercial enterprises](#) that can remain open from December 25 to January 10:
 - Only businesses such as grocery stores, pharmacies, hardware stores and car-repair shops will be allowed to remain open; big-box stores such as Walmart and Costco will be forbidden from selling goods that are deemed non-essential, Premier Legault said.
 - Teleworking will also be mandatory from December 17 up to and including January 10 for all office workers, except workers whose physical presence employers deem necessary to pursue the organization's activities. This directive applies to the public and private sectors.
 - The following [measures](#) apply to the educational milieu and schools in all regions:
 - The lockdown will also see the province's elementary schools have their holiday break extended to January 11.

- High schools will have an extended holiday break between December 17 to January 11. Premier Legault warned school-age children that their extended break could include some remote learning and homework.
- Daycares will remain open, but Legault called on all parents who are able to keep their children at home to do so.
- Single people and those who live alone will also have permission to join a family bubble.
- Outdoor activities will be restricted to a maximum of eight people, plus a coach or instructor.
- Minister Marguerite Blais presents the measures applicable to the various living environments for seniors from December 17 to January 11. ([News Release](#))
- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-104](#) – Related to the training of service providers in infection prevention and control and measures on the continuation of an educational institution.
- Emergency financial assistance of C\$2-million to ensure continuity of services for children and families in very vulnerable situations. ([News Release](#))
- 169,173 cases, an increase of 1,897 since yesterday, including 43 deaths: 13 in the last 24 hours, 25 between December 9 and December 14, three before December 9, and two at an unknown date.

December 15, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Canada Revenue Agency published the following this afternoon:
 - Introducing a simplified process for claiming the home office expenses for Canadians working from home due to the COVID-19 pandemic. ([News Release](#))
 - Simplifying the process for claiming a deduction for home office expenses for employees working from home due to COVID-19. ([Backgrounder](#))
 - Consultation on the simplification of Form T2200, Declaration of Conditions of Employment, as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic. ([Backgrounder](#))
 - Employer-provided benefits and allowances: CRA and COVID-19. ([Backgrounder](#))
- Canada to receive early access to Moderna COVID-19 vaccine. ([News Release](#))
 - Anita Anand, Minister of Public Services and Procurement, announced that following successful negotiations and contingent on Health Canada's authorization of the vaccine, Canada will be able to access 168,000 doses of the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine in December 2020.
- The Government of Canada invests in promising treatment that could fight COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- The Government of Canada provides additional relief to the broadcasting sector. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- An over-the-counter home test for COVID-19 gets a green light in the U.S. ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Talks escalate on a new COVID-19 aid package – top U.S. congressional leaders to meet. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
 - There's a hoped-for deadline of midnight Friday to deliver the completed package to President Trump, which is when a partial government shutdown would arrive with the expiration of last week's temporary funding bill.
- Moderna nears U.S. authorization for COVID-19 shot with FDA staff endorsement. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- 81,986 cases, an increase of 1,887 since yesterday, including 14 deaths.

British Columbia

- The first delivery of approximately 4,000 doses of the first approved COVID-19 vaccine has arrived in the province. ([News Release](#))
 - These initial vaccine doses will be administered to health-care workers in the Lower Mainland who work in long-term care homes and those who are essential to the COVID-19 response.
- 42,943 cases, an increase of 2,146 since Friday, including 49 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario has more active coronavirus cases than at any time during the pandemic, even with significant testing backlog. ([CBC](#))
- Ontario helps municipalities and Indigenous partners respond to COVID-19 and delivers more social services relief funding to protect the vulnerable. ([News Release](#))
- 144,396 cases, an increase of 2,275 since yesterday, including 20 deaths.

Quebec

- Premier François Legault is expected to provide details on the province's shutdown of non-essential businesses at 5 p.m. (EST). ([CBC](#))
 - Though it's not yet clear what businesses will qualify as non-essential, grocery stores, pharmacies, banks and a handful of other establishments are expected to remain open.
- Several regions of Quebec will temporarily move to the red level for the holiday season – from December 17 to January 11. ([News Release](#))
 - All health regions in Quebec will move to the maximum alert level (red), with the exception of the following regions, which will be temporarily at the alert level orange:
 - Abitibi-Témiscamingue
 - Northern Quebec
 - North Coast
 - Grosse-Île and Îles-de-la-Madeleine
 - Nunavik
 - Terres-Cries-de-la Baie James
 - A temporary ban on travelling to a region at the alert level orange will be in effect between December 17 and January 11.
- 167,276 cases, an increase of 1,741 since yesterday, including 39 deaths: seven in the last 24 hours, 30 between December 8 and December 13, and two at an unknown date.

December 14, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Karina Gould, Minister of International Development, announced a contribution of C\$230-million to procure COVID-19 treatments for developing countries in response to urgent priorities identified by the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, launched by the World Health Organization and partners. Canada will also invest C\$255-million in additional support for the ACT-Accelerator for the effective deployment of medical solutions against COVID-19 in developing and vulnerable countries. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- On Friday, the Food and Drug Administration issued an Emergency Use Authorization to Pfizer for its COVID-19 vaccine. ([News Release](#))
- An intensive care unit nurse became the first person in the United States to receive the newly authorized Pfizer/BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine on Monday. ([Reuters](#))
- The U.S. will purchase an additional 100 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine from Moderna. ([News Release](#))
- U.S. Congress is in a sprint to fund the government and approve COVID-19 emergency aid. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Alberta will soon receive 25,350 doses of the Pfizer vaccine and will start immunizing priority health-care workers provincewide. ([News Release](#))
- Small and medium enterprise relaunch grant: program guidelines (December 2020) were posted. ([Guidelines](#))
- COVID-19 information: Alberta Health Daily Checklist (for children under 18; and adults 18 and older) (December 2020) was posted. ([Checklist](#))
- 80,099 confirmed cases, an increase of 5,045 since Friday, including 53 deaths.

British Columbia

- [O.I.C. 620/2020](#) – Amending the *COVID-19 (Limits on Actions and Proceedings) Regulation* (under the *COVID-19 Related Measures Act*).
- 40,797 confirmed cases, an increase of 737 on Friday, including 11 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario delivers first COVID-19 vaccine in the country. ([News Release](#))
- Testing guidelines for outbound international travellers have been updated. Effective December 11, 2020, individuals requesting a COVID-19 test for international travel clearance are no longer eligible for a publicly funded COVID-19 test in Ontario. ([News Release](#))
- The Ontario Superior Court has suspended jury trials until February. The suspension applies everywhere except regions designated “green” under Ontario’s COVID-19 pandemic response plan. ([CTV](#))
- The *Supporting Local Restaurants Act, 2020*, [S.O. 2020, c. 31](#) – Will be proclaimed in force on December 19, 2020.
- [O. Reg. 748/20](#) – General Regulation under the *Supporting Local Restaurants Act, 2020*. In force December 19, 2020.
- *Helping Tenants and Small Businesses Act, 2020*, [S.O. 2020, c. 23](#) – The following schedules/sections were proclaimed in force:
 - Schedule 1, ss. 1-2: in force January 1, 2023 (amending the *Assessment Act*)
 - Schedule 3, ss. 1-8: in force January 1, 2021 (amending the *Election Act*)
 - Schedule 4, ss. 1-16: in force January 1, 2023 (amending the *Municipal Act, 2001* and the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*)
 - Schedule 5, s. 1: in force January 1, 2021 (amending the *Municipal Property Assessment Corporation Act, 1997*)
- The following regulations were added to E-Laws:
 - [O. Reg. 738/20](#) – Amending O. Reg. 82/20, Rules for Areas in Stage 1 (under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*).
 - [O. Reg. 743/20](#) – Amending O. Reg. 135/18, Designation of Diseases (under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*) came into force December 11, 2020.

- [O. Reg. 744/20](#) – Amending Reg. 569 of R.R.O. 1990, Reports (under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*) came into force on December 11, 2020.
- 142,121 confirmed cases, an increase of 5,490 since Friday, including 56 deaths.

Quebec

- The first Quebecers received the COVID-19 vaccine today. ([News Release](#))
- New COVID-19 restrictions to be announced Tuesday, says Premier François Legault. ([CBC](#))
 - In an interview with Radio-Canada, Legault said businesses should prepare for a new round of closures.
- [Bill 75](#), *An Act to improve justice accessibility and efficiency, in particular to address consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic*, received third reading and royal assent on December 11, 2020.
- [Bill 66](#), *An Act respecting the acceleration of certain infrastructure projects*, received third reading on December 10, 2020, and royal assent on December 11, 2020.
- [Order 2020-103](#) of the Minister of Health and Social Services regarding the change to maximum alert level for the MRCs of Laurentides and Pays-d'en-Haut.
- 165,535 confirmed cases, an increase of 5,512 since Friday, including 98 deaths (including deaths occurring prior to December 11).

December 7 – December 11

December 11, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada announces a pan-Canadian vaccine injury support program. ([News Release](#))
- The Government of Canada welcomes a report from the Industry Strategy Council. ([News Release](#))
- The Canadian Transportation Agency launched a [consultation](#) on requests by airlines for temporary adjustments to the requirements of the Air Passenger Protection Regulations. ([News Release](#))
- Canada/U.S. border restrictions have been extended to January 21, 2021. ([CBC](#))
- The following notices and orders were published in the [December 12, 2020, Canada Gazette, Part I](#):
 - Notice of Intent – Consultation on the Cannabis Regulations: Cannabis research and other regulatory issues (including COVID-19 measures)
 - Order Approving the Interim Order Respecting Drug Shortages (Safeguarding the Drug Supply)
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Mandatory Isolation), No. 8
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country Other than the United States)
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States)

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. FDA is set to authorize the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- 75,054 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,566 since yesterday, including 13 deaths.

British Columbia

- 40,060 confirmed cases, an increase of 723 since yesterday, including 28 deaths.

Ontario

- As of December 14 at 12:01 a.m. (EST), seven public health regions will move to new levels in the COVID-19 restrictions framework. ([News Release](#) and [O.Reg. 737/20](#))
 - York Region and Windsor-Essex – Grey-Lockdown zone
 - Middlesex-London, Simcoe Muskoka, and Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph – Red-Control zone
 - Eastern Ontario Health Unit – Orange-Restrict zone
 - Leeds, Grenville and Lanark – Yellow-Protect Zone
- Ontario has developed a three-phase implementation plan to receive, store and administer COVID-19 vaccines to Ontarians as soon as they are received. ([News Release](#))
- 136,631 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,848 since yesterday, including 45 deaths.

Quebec

- The regional county municipalities of Laurentides and Pays-d'en-Haut have gone to maximum alert level. ([News Release](#))
- The government has put out a [report](#) on the progress of COVID-19 vaccination, which contains the proposed priority groups for vaccination – vulnerable people on long-term care, health-care workers, residents in seniors homes, isolated and remote communities, individuals aged 60 to 80.
- Monitoring the evolution of the COVID-19 epidemic: Risks of hospitalization and projections of hospital needs. ([News Release](#))
- The Minister Responsible for Seniors and Caregivers, Marguerite Blais, announced C\$11-million to support family caregivers in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. ([News Release](#))
- 160,023 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,713 since yesterday, including 53 deaths (six in the last 24 hours).

December 10, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- This afternoon, [Bill C-19](#), *An Act to amend the Canada Elections Act (COVID-19 response)*, was tabled: "This enactment adds a new Part to the *Canada Elections Act* that provides for temporary rules to ensure the safe administration of an election in the context of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic." ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#))
- COVID Alert app updated with two new features ([News Release](#)):
 - The first app update allows users to clear the screen that indicates exposure to COVID-19. After receiving a negative COVID-19 test result, the screen can be cleared enabling the app to alert the user of a new exposure.
 - The second feature allows users to turn COVID Alert on and off without disabling Bluetooth.
- Protecting and supporting Canadians during the COVID-19 pandemic: [CBSA 2020 operational and enforcement highlights](#).

U.S. – Federal

- The FDA has authorized the first direct-to-consumer COVID-19 test system. ([News Release](#))
- The FDA held an Advisory Committee meeting to discuss authorization of a COVID-19 vaccine candidate as part of the agency's review of safety and effectiveness data. ([Statement](#))

Alberta

- The first 3,900 doses of the Pfizer vaccine will arrive in Alberta during the week of December 14. ([News Release](#))
 - Alberta Health Services will begin booking appointments with intensive-care-unit health-care workers, respiratory therapists and long-term care workers eligible to be immunized. Eligibility will begin with workers at the highest risk facilities.
- S.A. 2020, c. 40 – [Bill 35](#), *Tax Statutes (Creating Jobs and Driving Innovation) Amendment Act, 2020* received royal assent yesterday. The act is in force on assent except where noted otherwise (certain sections have effect on various dates).
 - Amendments include those to the *Alberta Corporate Tax Act* to allow for the extension of time limits and periods due to COVID-19.
- 73,488 cases, an increase of 1,460 since yesterday, including 13 deaths.

British Columbia

- The first round of approximately 4,000 COVID-19 immunizations will begin on the Lower Mainland next week now that vaccine deployment simulations are complete. ([News Release](#))
 - Vaccines will continue arriving each week in B.C. in increasing quantities, with targeted deployment for people in priority groups. Expected timelines will depend on vaccine approval and availability.
 - A registration and record system is in development, including a process to register for vaccine access and receive a formal record of immunization.
- 39,337 cases, an increase of 619 since yesterday, including 16 deaths.

Ontario

- The current lockdown measures in Toronto and Peel Region are not having the same impact in curbing the spread of COVID-19 as they did in March, according to [new modelling released](#) by the Ontario government earlier today. ([CTV](#))
 - Ontario will announce stricter COVID-19 restrictions for some regions tomorrow. ([CTV](#))
- Ontario will administer its first COVID-19 vaccines next Tuesday at two hospitals in Toronto and Ottawa, the province confirmed earlier today. ([CBC](#))
 - Additional details on the rollout of these initial vaccines will be released tomorrow, following today's meeting of the COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force. ([Statement](#))
- The Ontario government is making the sale of alcohol with food takeout and delivery orders permanent. The new measures will help restaurants and bars rebuild and recover. ([News Release](#))
 - The following were added to E-Laws this afternoon (made under the *Liquor Licence Act*):
 - [O. Reg. 726/20](#) – General
 - [O. Reg. 727/20](#) – Licences to Sell Liquor
 - [O. Reg. 728/20](#) – Manufacturers' Licences
 - [O. Reg. 729/20](#) – Assignment of Powers and Duties (made under the *Alcohol, Cannabis and Gaming Regulation and Public Protection Act*)
 - [O. Reg. 730/20](#) – Licences to Sell Liquor

- The Ontario government is extending all orders currently in force under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020* until January 20, 2021. ([News Release](#) and [O.Reg. 731/20](#))
- The governments of Canada and Ontario are investing over C\$3.5-million to help more than 700 businesses in the Ontario agri-food sector establish or expand their online presence. This initiative will provide consumers with more local food choices when shopping from home during the COVID-19 outbreak. ([News Release](#))
- 134,783 cases, an increase of 1,983 since yesterday, including 35 deaths.

Quebec

- Resource update: [emergency school daycare services](#). In accordance with government recommendations for limiting the risks of spreading the virus, these services should be used only by parents who are entitled to them and whose return to work leaves them no other choice.
 - These services are offered:
 - Throughout Québec
 - From 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
 - On December 17, 18, 21 and 22, based on the relevant school calendar
 - To children from four to 13 years of age who are currently attending a preschool or elementary school (public or private, in English or French)
- The following were added to the December 10 [Gazette officielle du Québec](#):
 - O.C. 1308-2020 – The public health emergency has been renewed until 18 December 2020.
 - O.C. 1346-2020 – Related to educational services, the school service centres, school boards and private educational institutions.
 - Ministerial Order 2020-4380 – Measures for ensuring the proper administration of justice amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation (made under *An Act respecting the Ministère de la Justice*).
- Québec Ombudsperson Marie Rinfret released her [Progress Report](#) on the government's handling of the COVID-19 crisis in public and private CHSLDs during the first wave of the pandemic. The report is part of its impartial and independent investigation that will wrap up in the fall of 2021. ([News Release](#))
- The Committee on Public Finance tabled its clause-by-clause [consideration report](#) of Bill 66, *An Act respecting the acceleration of certain infrastructure projects*, yesterday evening.
- The Committee on Institutions tabled its clause-by-clause [consideration report](#) of Bill 75, *An Act to improve justice accessibility and efficiency, in particular to address consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic*.
- 158,310 cases, an increase of 1,842 since yesterday, including 33 deaths: eight in the last 24 hours, 18 between December 3 and December 8, five before December 3, and two have occurred at an unknown date.

December 9, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Health Canada has approved Pfizer's COVID-19 vaccine. ([News Release](#))
 - The initial doses of the Pfizer vaccine are expected to arrive in Canada next week, and plans are already in place to have the shots ready to be administered at 14 delivery sites in major cities across Canada, within one or two days of shipments arriving. ([CTV](#))
 - Prioritized groups will be the first to receive the vaccine, given the limited quantities to begin with.

- COVID-19 Advisory Groups and Task Forces Fact Sheet. ([Backgrounder](#))
 - The Government of Canada has established a number of advisory groups and task forces composed of stakeholders from the public sector, private sector and/or academia and research community to provide recommendations or actions to address the COVID-19 pandemic in Canada.
- [P.C. 2020-1000](#) – Order approving the Interim Order Respecting Drug Shortages (Safeguarding the Drug Supply) (made under the *Food and Drugs Act*).
- Government of Canada investment supports more than 3,400 businesses across Ontario to leverage technology and adapt. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- The Alberta government is expanding and increasing the Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant. With a new lower threshold and increased grant amount, up to 15,000 more businesses may be eligible for funding. ([News Release](#))
 - More program details, including updated eligibility criteria and how to apply for the second payment, will be outlined on the [program webpage](#) when finalized. Applications will be open until March 31, 2021, unless otherwise communicated.
- New mandatory provincewide measures were introduced yesterday evening. These restrictions will be in place for a minimum of four weeks. ([News Release](#))
 - Immediate effect:
 - All indoor and outdoor social gatherings – public and private – are prohibited.
 - Close contacts are limited to household members only. (Individuals who live alone will be allowed up to two close contacts for in-person visiting, with those two people remaining the same for the duration of the restriction period.)
 - Mandatory indoor public masking requirement.
 - Effective at 12:01 a.m. (MST) on December 13:
 - Retail services must reduce customer capacity to 15 per cent of fire code occupancy, with a minimum of five customers permitted.
 - Curbside pickup, delivery and online services are encouraged.
 - Restaurants, pubs, bars, lounges and cafes will be closed to in-person service.
 - Shopping malls will be limited to 15 per cent of fire code occupancy.
 - Casinos, bingo halls, gaming entertainment centres, entertainment businesses and entities, recreational facilities (fitness centres etc.) and private clubs will be closed.
 - Hotels may remain open but must follow restrictions – no spas, pools or in-person dining. Room services only.
 - Personal and wellness services, including hair salons, nail salons, massage, tattoos and piercing, will be closed.
 - All places of worship will be limited to 15 per cent of fire code occupancy for in-person attendance.
 - Mandatory work-from-home measures will be also be implemented, effective December 13, unless the employer determines that work requires a physical presence for operational effectiveness.
 - The new restrictions do not affect schools, the premier said ([CTV](#)).
- [Bill 35](#), *Tax Statutes (Creating Jobs and Driving Innovation) Amendment Act*, received third reading yesterday evening and now awaits royal assent.
- 72,028 cases, an increase of 1,727 since yesterday, including nine deaths.

British Columbia

- Applications for C\$1,000 B.C. Recovery Benefit will begin soon. ([News Release and Backgrounder](#))
 - Starting December 18, 2020, up to 90 per cent of adults in B.C. will be able to apply for the B.C. Recovery Benefit online. Those needing assistance over the phone can complete their application with an agent starting December 21, 2020.
- B.C. is investing in communities to help B.C.'s tourism sector recover when they can safely welcome visitors again. ([News Release](#))
- [Order in Council No. 611](#) – The state of emergency has been extended until December 22, 2020.
- 38,718 cases, an increase of 566 since yesterday, including 16 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario is protecting workers and employers during COVID-19 by proposing legislation ([Bill 238](#)), introduced yesterday evening, that will ensure WSIB premiums and compensation remain stable. ([News Release](#))
 - The Legislature has adjourned for 2020.
- The province is expanding homegrown capacity with made-in-Ontario respirators and masks. ([News Release](#))
- 132,800 cases, an increase of 1,890 since yesterday, including 28 deaths.

Quebec

- Police and inspectors from the province's workplace safety board will be instructed to issue tickets as high as C\$6,000 to individuals and businesses that break the COVID-19 health and safety rules. ([CBC](#))
- O.C. 1293-2020 – Special program from asylum seekers during COVID-19 (made under the *Québec Immigration Act*) was published in the December 9 [Gazette officielle du Québec](#) (associated [News Release](#)).
- 156,468 cases, an increase of 1,728 since yesterday, including 37 deaths – seven in the last 24 hours, 24 between December 2 and December 7, five before December 2, and one has occurred on an unknown date.

December 8, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Federal Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Dominic LeBlanc said he doesn't expect a U.S. attempt to restrict overseas shipments of the Pfizer vaccine will have any meaningful impact on Canada's initial supply of doses. ([CBC](#))
- The Minister of Foreign Affairs will be leading the Ministerial Coordination Group on COVID-19. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- A plan of action has been put in place to establish a national strategy for the manufacture, allocation and distribution of personal protective equipment (PPE) to respond to COVID-19. The plan has been implemented under the Voluntary Agreement for the manufacture and distribution of critical health-care resources necessary to respond to a pandemic. ([Notice](#))

- [Executive Order](#) on Ensuring Access to United States Government COVID-19 Vaccines.
- Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine data wins backing of U.S. FDA staff and authorization nears. ([Reuters](#))
- President Trump says he will use the *Defense Production Act* if needed for vaccine distribution. ([Reuters](#))
- Biden introduces health crisis team and sets goals for U.S. to overcome pandemic. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Alberta will impose tough new restrictions in bid to curb soaring COVID-19 infection rates. Premier Jason Kenney is expected to announce the new measures at a news conference at 4 p.m. (MST)/6 p.m. (EST). ([CBC](#))
 - The Alberta government will order the closure of all casinos and gyms, ban dine-in service at restaurants and bars, and impose a mandatory provincewide mask requirement under new restrictions aimed at curbing the province's soaring COVID-19 infection rates, a leaked internal government document obtained by CBC News shows.
 - The province will also ban all outdoor and indoor social gatherings, and impose mandatory work-from-home measures, the document says.
 - The document says the mandatory restrictions will be in place for at least four weeks.
- 70,301 cases, an increase of 1,735 since yesterday, including 16 deaths.

British Columbia

- The provincial health officer's orders restricting all gatherings and events have today been extended through to January 8, 2021, at midnight. This includes gatherings in people's homes and public venues.
 - The same requirements and exemptions from the published orders continue to apply, with one new change: drive-through and drive-in to drop off people and leave events, as well as drive-in and stay-in-your car events to a maximum of 50 cars are now allowed. To read the orders, [click here](#).
- The B.C. government introduced legislation to secure funding for approximately 3.7 million British Columbians to receive the tax-free [B.C. Recovery Benefit](#). Passage of the bill will ensure British Columbians can apply for the benefit starting December 18 ([News Release](#)):
 - C\$1,000 for families with incomes under C\$125,000. Families earning up to C\$175,000 will qualify for a reduced benefit amount. Single-parent families also qualify for these benefit amounts.
 - C\$500 for single people earning less than C\$62,500. Single people earning up to C\$87,500 will qualify for a reduced benefit amount.
- A throne speech highlights actions to protect health and livelihoods. ([News Release](#))
 - New tax measures will reward businesses for hiring and help them grow and become more productive by making it easier for them to invest in equipment and machinery.
- 38,152 cases, an increase of 2,020 since Friday, including 35 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario is planning to issue some kind of proof-of-vaccination card to those who receive their shots. "That will be very important for people to have, for travel purposes and perhaps work purposes or going to theatres or cinemas or any other places where people will be in close physical contact when we get through the worst of the pandemic," said Health Minister Christine Elliott earlier today. ([CBC](#))
- S.O. 2020, c. 36 – [Bill 229](#), *Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures)*, 2020, was amended by the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs and the reported amendments are now [available here](#) (the changes are indicated by underlines)

for new text and a strikethrough for deleted text.) The bill received third reading and royal assent this afternoon.

- The list of legislation amended by this act is [here](#). Coming into force information is set out at the end of each schedule.
- 130,910 cases, an increase of 1,676 since yesterday, including 10 deaths.

Quebec

- Public health and economics experts are calling for a lockdown in Quebec over the holidays. (CTV)
- A new online resource was added to the Quebec government website: [Progress of the COVID-19 vaccination](#). On this page, you will find information on:
 - Vaccine development
 - Vaccine ingredients and how the vaccine works
 - Safety
 - Vaccine supply for Canada and Quebec
 - Vaccination in Quebec
 - Priority groups for vaccination
 - Efficacy
 - Symptoms after vaccination
 - Other safety measures
- 154,740 cases, an increase of 1,564 since yesterday, including 36 deaths – 12 in the last 24 hours, 22 between December 1 and December 6, and two before December 1.

December 7, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Protecting Canadians during the pandemic and driving economic recovery by focusing on competition to empower consumers and promote productivity, innovation and economic growth. (Speech)
- Canada to receive early delivery of Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine. (News Release)
 - Anita Anand, Minister of Public Services and Procurement, announced that following successful negotiations, Canada will receive up to 249,000 doses of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine in December 2020, contingent on Health Canada authorization of the vaccine.
- The Government of Canada has awarded a contract to distribute COVID-19 vaccine from coast to coast to coast. (News Release)
 - The contract with FedEx Express Canada and Innomar Strategies Inc. will support the distribution of vaccines across Canada.
- Unclear wording of CERB eligibility means some recipients have been asked to pay everything back. (CTV)

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 68,566 cases, an increase of 5,543 since Saturday, including 40 deaths.

British Columbia

- Provincewide COVID-19 restrictions are supposed to be lifted in B.C. at midnight tonight, but there are indications that health officials will extend limits on events, sports and social gatherings. ([CBC](#))
- Premier Horgan has said that the COVID-19 relief promise is a top priority of short B.C. legislature session (that begins today). ([CTV](#))
 - The proposed legislation earmarks one-time, tax-free payments of \$1,000 for eligible families and C\$500 for qualifying individuals.
- 36,132 cases, an increase of 711 on Friday, including 11 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario has identified key groups for distribution of initial COVID-19 vaccines: vulnerable seniors and health workers. ([News Release](#))
- 129,234 cases, an increase of 5,708 since Friday, including 61 deaths.

Quebec

- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-101](#) – Related to modifications to orders for regional municipalities.
- 153,176 cases, an increase of 5,299 since Friday, including 26 deaths.

November 30 - December 4

December 4, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The government expands Canada Emergency Business Account loans. ([News Release](#))
 - Starting today, eligible businesses can access a second Canada Emergency Business Account loan of up to C\$20,000, in addition to the C\$40,000 that was initially available. Half of the loan, up to C\$10,000, will be forgivable if the loan is repaid by December 31, 2022.
- Procurement Minister Anita Anand announced that the government has updated its deal with Moderna to secure the delivery of an additional 20 million doses of its vaccine candidate and has signed a contract with FedEx Express Canada to handle the shipment of most vaccines within the country. Prime Minister Trudeau advised that Health Canada's review of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine is ongoing. ([CTV](#))
- The government is investing C\$1.8-million to fund research teams that will study and make recommendations regarding long-term care and retirement homes. ([News Release](#))
- Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion, Carla Qualtrough, welcomed the COVID-19 Disability Advisory Group's [final report](#) and announced that it would be renewed. ([News Release](#))
- Governments of Canada and the Northwest Territories announced a C\$30.7-million investment to support pandemic preparedness and response in the Northwest Territories. ([News Release](#))
- The National Advisory Committee on Immunization released its final [guidance](#) on the prioritization of initial doses of COVID-19 vaccine(s). ([CBC](#))
- Staff and residents at long-term care homes, adults 70 years of age and older (beginning with those 80 and older), health-care workers, and adults in Indigenous communities where infection

can have disproportionate consequences are recommended to receive the initial doses of the vaccine.

- Interim Order Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19, No. 14 (under the *Aeronautics Act*) was published in the [December 5, 2020, Canada Gazette, Part I](#).

U.S. – Federal

- U.S. COVID-19 relief talks gain momentum as lawmakers set Monday deadline. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Hotels and other lodging providers can keep tourism levy amounts collected until March 31, 2021, an extension of three months. ([News Release](#))
- 63,023 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,854 since yesterday, 14 deaths.

British Columbia

- Agreements for Safe Restart funding have been signed with TransLink, BC Transit and BC Ferries. ([News Release](#))
- 35,422 confirmed cases, an increase of 694 since yesterday, including 12 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario appoints members of the Ministers' COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force. ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#))
 - The task force, chaired by General Rick Hillier, will oversee the delivery, storage and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. The other members of the task force are:
 - Dr. Dirk Huyer, Ontario's Chief Coroner and Coordinator of Provincial Outbreak Response
 - Dr. Homer Tien, trauma surgeon and President and CEO of Ornge
 - Dr. Maxwell Smith, bioethicist and assistant professor at Western University
 - Dr. Isaac Bogoch, infectious diseases consultant and internist at Toronto General Hospital
 - Ontario Regional Chief RoseAnne Archibald of Taykwa Tagamou Nation
 - Dr. Regis Vaillancourt, Director of Pharmacy at Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario
 - Linda Hasenfratz, CEO of Linamar Corporation
 - Angela Mondou, President and CEO of TECHNATION
 - Mark Saunders, former Toronto Police Chief
- Three regions are moving to new levels of the COVID-19 response framework ([News Release](#)):
 - Orange-Restrict: Middlesex-London Health Unit and Thunder Bay District Health Unit
 - Yellow-Protect: Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District Health Unit
- The following regulations were posted to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O. Reg. 706/20](#) – Amending O. Reg. 363/20, *Stages of Reopening*
 - [O. Reg. 707/20](#) – Amending O. Reg. 82/20, *Rules for Areas in Stage 1*
 - [O. Reg. 708/20](#) – Amending O. Reg. 82/20, *Rules for Areas in Stage 1*
- Ontario is providing the Niagara Parks Commission with up to C\$12.81-million to help ensure the region remains one of the top tourism destinations in the world during the COVID-19 outbreak. ([News Release](#))
- 123,526 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,780 since yesterday, including 25 deaths.

Quebec

- COVID-19 pandemic – Sectors of eastern Bas-Saint-Laurent go to maximum alert level. ([News Release](#))
- COVID-19 pandemic – Ministerial order to authorize students and health professionals to contribute to immunization. ([News Release](#))
- Monitoring the evolution of the COVID-19 epidemic: Risks of hospitalization and projections of hospital needs – Update of December 4, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- [Order No. 2020-099](#) of the Minister of Health and Social Services dated December 3, 2020.
- [Order No. 2020-100](#) of the Minister of Health and Social Services dated December 3, 2020.
- 147,877 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,345 since yesterday, including 28 deaths (five in the last 24 hours).

December 3, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The federal and provincial governments will stage a test next week of their plan to distribute COVID-19 vaccines. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
 - First COVID-19 vaccine could be delivered to distribution points as early as end of December, Fortin says. ([CBC](#))
- The government introduces legislation to provide critical support to Canadians and businesses during the pandemic (associated [News Release](#) for [Bill C-14](#) that was tabled yesterday evening).
- Minister Fortier highlights new supports in Fall Economic Statement during virtual townhall with the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The CDC issued Considerations for Casinos and Gaming Operations. ([Update](#))

Alberta

- Premier Kenney said he would evaluate the restrictions on December 15, and the province would need to have an R-value below 1.0 in order to lift the restrictions (as of November 23 the R-value was 1.12). Ideally, he said, the province would have an R-value of 0.8. ([CBC](#))
- Alberta's government is prepared to receive and distribute COVID-19 vaccines, and up to 435,000 Albertans will be offered a vaccine in the first quarter of 2021. ([News Release](#))
 - A new task force has been appointed to prepare for the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines.
 - Immunization will proceed in phases, beginning in early 2021, once vaccines are received. Phase 1 will include Albertans most at-risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19, as well as health-care workers and long-term and supportive living staff.
- Alberta is planning COVID-19 field hospitals for 750 patients, an internal document shows. ([CBC](#))
- 61,169 cases, an increase of 1,685 since yesterday, including 10 deaths.

British Columbia

- The PHO has updated the [Gatherings and Events Order](#) with respect to prevention regional measures, perimeter seating vehicles and perimeter seating buses.
- Temporary order extended to enable useful technologies during COVID-19. ([News Release](#), [Order in Council No. 605](#) and [Ministerial Order](#), which was included in Monday's digest)
- 34,728 cases, an increase of 834 since yesterday, including 12 deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford says the province will unveil its vaccine task force on Friday. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- Investing in Ontario's tourism industry during COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- 121,746 cases, an increase of 1,824 since yesterday, including 14 deaths.

Quebec

- [Updated COVID-19 instructions](#) for the holiday season:
 - On account of recent developments in the epidemiological situation, private gatherings in regions and territories that are on maximum alert (red zone) will be prohibited throughout the holiday season.
 - Only persons living at the same address will thus be able to spend time together during that period.
- [Committee amendments](#) were adopted for [Bill 75](#), *An Act to improve justice accessibility and efficiency, in particular to address consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic*.
- The following order was added to the December 3 [Gazette officielle du Québec](#):
 - Order in Council No. 1272-2020 – The public health emergency has been renewed until December 9, 2020.
- 146,532 cases, an increase of 1,470 since yesterday, including 30 deaths, 12 in the last 24 hours, 12 between November 26 and December 1, and six before November 26.

December 2, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- [Bill C-14](#), *Economic Statement Implementation Act, 2020*, was tabled this afternoon.
- The federal opposition parties today teamed up in the House of Commons to pass a motion calling on the government to increase the amount of money it gives to the provinces and territories each year to pay for health care. ([ipolitics](#))
 - Trudeau and the premiers have arranged to meet virtually on December 10 to discuss health-care funding and other matters pertaining to the pandemic, including vaccine distribution.
- Health Canada's [Statement](#) on the U.K.'s authorization of its first COVID-19 vaccine, manufactured by Pfizer/BioNTech.

U.S. Federal

- A U.S. advisory panel makes near-unanimous recommendations on priority groups to first receive a COVID-19 vaccine. ([CBC](#))
- The CDC shortens its quarantine guidance following coronavirus exposure. ([CDC Guidance](#) and [Reuters](#))
 - The CDC said a shorter quarantine period of seven days with a negative COVID-19 test and 10 days without a test would work for individuals showing no symptoms after virus exposure, providing alternatives to the current 14-day standard.
 - The CDC said it still recommends a 14-day quarantine period for those exposed to COVID-19 as the best way to reduce its spread.
- U.S. Senate leader McConnell urges new COVID-19 aid in a broad funding bill. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- According to Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Deena Hinshaw, the end of the week is the earliest officials could begin to see the impact, if any, of the province's newest restrictions. ([CTV](#))
- 59,484 cases, an increase of 1,307 since yesterday, including 10 deaths.

British Columbia

- COVID-19 recovery programs to support farmers. ([News Release](#))
 - The new Small Farm Business Acceleration Pilot Program is offering funding up to C\$800,000 for business plan coaching for small and new farmers, as well as cost-shared funding for commercial farm infrastructure and equipment, to increase productivity and sales.
- Bruce Ralston, Minister of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation, has released a [statement](#) in response to BC Hydro's announcement that rates will decrease by an additional 0.6 per cent in 2020-21 and customers will receive a one-time bill credit in early 2021 as a result.
- 33,894 cases, an increase of 656 since yesterday, including 16 deaths.

Ontario

- A curfew is not on the table to curb Toronto's record COVID-19 spread, says Mayor Tory. ([CP24](#))
- [S.O. 2020 c. 31](#) Bill 236, *Supporting Local Restaurants Act, 2020*, received royal assent today and will come into force on proclamation (not yet in force).
- Ontario is expanding innovative home and community care services to allow for more patients to remain in their home, while preserving hospital capacity during COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- 119,922 cases, an increase of 1,723 since yesterday, including 35 deaths.

Quebec

- A new restriction has been set on the number of customers that can enter commercial establishments ([Guidance](#) and [News Release](#)).
 - Measures will be tightened starting from December 4, 2020, to limit the risk of transmission of COVID-19 and ensure smooth operations in a spirit of respect for health recommendations.
 - Commercial establishments subject to the [Act respecting hours and days of admission to commercial establishments](#) are covered by this new measure:
 - Retail and food stores
 - Drugstores
 - Outlets of the Société des alcools du Québec
- 145,062 cases, an increase of 1,514 since yesterday, including 43 deaths, nine in the last 24 hours, 29 between November 25 and November 30, and five have occurred before November 25.

December 1, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau touts "historic" C\$100-billion stimulus plan but won't commit to boosting health transfers. ([CBC](#))
 - Trudeau is set to meet with premiers on December 10 to discuss health-care transfers and the vaccine rollout.
- The following orders were issued under the *Quarantine Act*:

- [P.C. 2020-0968](#) – Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States). Related to the extension of restrictions on entry into Canada until December 21, 2020.
- [P.C. 2020-0967](#) – Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Mandatory Isolation), No. 8
- [P.C. 2020-0966](#) – Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country Other than the United States). Related to the extension of restrictions on entry into Canada until January 21, 2021.
- Janssen seeks Health Canada approval for its COVID-19 vaccine. ([CBC](#))

U.S. – Federal

- [Testimony](#) by Jerome Powell, Chair of the Federal Reserve, on the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act*.
- The Department of Transportation is preparing the way for swift COVID-19 vaccine transport. ([News Release](#))
- Biden urges Congress to pass coronavirus package and promises more action. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- 58,177 cases, an increase of 1,733 since Friday, including 31 deaths.

British Columbia

- New infrastructure funding to support COVID-19 response and recovery. ([News Release](#))
 - The province is accepting applications from local governments, Indigenous communities and not-for-profit organizations for nearly C\$136-million in infrastructure grants to help communities develop resilience in response to COVID-19.
- [Ministerial Order No. M431](#) – Effective December 1, 2020, Ministerial Order No. M0180, issued under section 33.1(3) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, has been extended to remain in effect until May 31, 2021, as set out in the linked appendix.
- 33,238 cases, an increase of 750 since Friday, including 46 deaths.

Ontario

- [Bill 236, Supporting Local Restaurants Act, 2020](#) – The order of referral to Committee was discharged, and the bill received third reading today. It now awaits royal assent.
- Minister Fortier highlights new supports in Fall Economic Statement during virtual townhall with Ontario Chamber of Commerce. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario is collaborating with industry experts to plan the COVID-19 vaccine rollout. ([News Release](#))
 - Ontario will be ready by December 31, 2020, to receive vaccines, with the first doses of vaccines expected to be made available in 2021.
 - The province will receive initial logistical support from vaccine manufacturers like Pfizer. The task force, in conjunction with scientists and ethics professionals, will be advising the government's prioritization of vaccine delivery sites and populations.
- Ontario is providing additional financial support for young learners. Starting today, families can apply for the funding online. ([News Release](#))
- 118,199 cases, an increase of 1,707 since yesterday, including seven deaths.

Quebec

- Premier Legault warns that Christmas gatherings are at risk as COVID-19 hospitalizations in Quebec continue to rise. ([Montreal Gazette](#))
 - On December 11, Quebec will announce on its decision on holiday gatherings.
- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-097](#) – Related to measures for any private establishment that operates a centre for accommodation and long-term care and any operator of a private residence for seniors.
- 143,548 cases, an increase of 1,177 since yesterday, including 28 deaths: three in the last 24 hours, 22 between November 24 and November 29, one occurred before November 24, and two have occurred at an unknown date.

November 30, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau will address Canadians on the COVID-19 situation and discuss the Fall Economic Statement tomorrow at 11:30 a.m. (EST).
 - Titled [Supporting Canadians and Fighting COVID-19](#), the fiscal update offers a revised look at the state of the federal finances and the impact the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. ([News Release](#))
 - Highlights of the fall economic update. ([CBC](#))
- The Government of Canada announced the extension of travel restrictions. ([News Release](#))
 - Canada will extend the Mandatory Isolation Order and temporary travel restrictions for all travellers seeking entry into Canada from a country other than the U.S., until January 21, 2021.
 - Travel restrictions for U.S. citizens and foreign nationals arriving from the U.S. remain in place until December 21, 2020, and may be extended at that time.
- Canada announces new measures to prevent drug shortages. ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#))
 - Starting November 27, certain drugs intended for the Canadian market are prohibited from being distributed for consumption outside of Canada if that sale would cause or worsen a drug shortage.
- COVID-19 Recovery Research Program launched. ([News Release](#))
- The Government of Canada invests in Digital Main Street to support BruceGreySimcoe businesses and students. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- The government is granting certain Alberta peace officers and community peace officers temporary authority to enforce public health orders. ([News Release](#))
 - Expanding these authorities will increase the number of officers able to levy fines by about 700. Not following mandatory restrictions could result in fines of C\$1,000 per ticketed offence.
- 56,444 cases, an increase of 1,608 on Friday, including 23 deaths.

British Columbia

- 30,844 cases, an increase of 911 on Friday, including 11 deaths.

Ontario

- Legislative activity:
 - [Bill 236](#), *Supporting Local Restaurants Act, 2020*, received second reading today and was referred to the Standing Committee on General Government.
 - The [Draft Regulation](#) under the *Supporting Local Restaurants Act, 2020* was published in Ontario's Regulatory Registry.
 - S.O. 2020 c. 29 – [Bill 215](#), *Main Street Recovery Act, 2020*, received royal assent today. Coming into force information is set out at the end of each schedule.
 - The act amends the following:
 - *City of Toronto Act, 2006*
 - *Highway Traffic Act*
 - *Municipal Act, 2001*
 - *Ontario Food Terminal Act*
- The following regulations were added to E-Laws on Friday evening, made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*:
 - [O.Reg. 684/20](#) – Stages of Reopening
 - [O.Reg. 685/20](#) – Rules for Area in Stage 1. Related to rental of meeting or event space for the purpose of delivering or supporting the delivery of court services.
 - [O.Reg. 686/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 2
 - [O.Reg. 687/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 3
- The following regulations were added to E-Laws today related to rent increases:
 - [O.Reg. 691/20](#) – Determination of Geared-to-Income Rent Under Section 50 of the Act (made under the *Housing Services Act, 2011*).
 - [O.Reg. 692/20](#) – General (made under the *Housing Services Act, 2011*).
 - [O.Reg. 694/20](#) – General (made under the *Residential Tenancies Act, 2006*).
- 116,492 cases, an increase of 5,276 since Friday, including 61 deaths.

Quebec

- 142,371 cases, an increase of 4,208 since Friday, including 47 deaths.

December 2020

November 23 – November 27

November 27, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau today announced that the federal government has chosen a senior military commander to lead its COVID-19 vaccine distribution effort as the country prepares for a massive inoculation campaign. ([CBC](#))
 - Trudeau announced his target of immunizing more than half of all Canadians by September, 2021. ([CTV](#))
- The Fall Economic Statement will be released on Monday and will include several scenarios for future spending and growth, and an update on this year's deficit, which one Reuters source said would be greater than the July estimate. ([Reuters](#))

- Additional COVID-19 emergency funding to support the sport community through the provinces and territories. ([News Release](#))
- Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States) was published in the November 28 [Canada Gazette](#), Part I.
- The Bank of Canada says a vaccine could cause the economy to rebound faster than expected. ([Reuters](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Alberta to launch rapid testing for COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
 - The two point-of-care rapid testing systems will be rolled out in clinical pilots at several sites throughout the province over the coming weeks.
 - The tests will be used on patients who are within the first seven days of expressing symptoms.
- 51,878 cases, an increase of 1,077 since yesterday, including 10 deaths.

British Columbia

- Premier John Horgan has announced a new cabinet that will focus on keeping people healthy and safe through the COVID-19 pandemic. The new cabinet members are tasked with continuing the government's cross-ministry response to the pandemic. ([News Release](#))
- 29,973 cases, an increase of 887 since yesterday, including 13 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario moving regions to new levels in COVID-19 response framework. The framework introduces preventative measures earlier to limit transmission of COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
 - The following public health regions will move from their current level in the framework to the following levels effective Monday, November 30, 2020, at 12:01 a.m. (EST):
 - Red-Control
 - Windsor-Essex County Health Unit
 - Orange-Restrict
 - Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit
 - Yellow-Protect
 - Hastings Prince Edward Public Health
 - Lambton Public Health
 - Northwestern Health Unit
- Peel council passes motion asking province to "level the playing field" for small retailers amid lockdown. ([CBC](#))
 - The motion asked the province to revise the rules for areas under lockdown to address the "inequity created between small businesses required to close and businesses permitted to open and continue sales, to avoid unfair competitive advantage between businesses and to provide consistency with continued effective health risk management in consultation with Public Health."
- [Bill 215](#), *Main Street Recovery Act, 2020*, received third reading yesterday evening and now awaits royal assent.
- The governments of Canada and Ontario are committing up to C\$11.5-million through the Canadian Agricultural Partnership (the Partnership) for two new programs, one of which will

assist meat processors on projects to rapidly increase processing capacity, and one that will help farmers adjust to current market challenges. ([News Release](#))

- Ontario calls on Ottawa for certainty as COVID-19 vaccine preparation continues. ([News Release](#))
- ServiceOntario offering appointment booking to help alleviate wait times. ([News Release](#))
- The City of Toronto's [weekend update](#) on modified services will adhere to provincial lockdown measures and reduce the spread of COVID-19.
- 111,216 cases, an increase of 1,855 since yesterday, including 20 deaths.

Quebec

- 138,163 cases, an increase of 1,269 since yesterday, including 38 deaths. Nine in the last 24 hours, 24 between November 20 and November 25, two before November 20, and three have occurred at an unknown date.

November 26, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- [P. C 2020-0918](#) – Order authorizing the Minister of Health to transfer, lease or loan any of the property that is necessary to support public health emergency management (made under the *Financial Administration Act*).
- The Government of Canada announced funding for a new COVID-19 safe voluntary isolation centre in Peel, Ontario. ([News Release](#))
- The Government of Canada is providing immediate assistance to Territorial government, communities and Inuit partners in Nunavut to address the COVID-19 pandemic. ([News Release](#))
- Canada's COVID-19 exposure notification app now available in the Northwest Territories. ([News Release](#))
- Three-million Canadians could be vaccinated in early 2021, but feds warn of "logistical challenges." ([CBC](#))
 - Dr. Howard Njoo, Canada's deputy chief public health officer, said the federal government will leverage the Canadian Armed Forces and an existing influenza vaccine distribution network to help with deployment.

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 50,801 cases, an increase of 1,265 since yesterday, including eight deaths.

British Columbia

- 29,086 cases, an increase of 738 since yesterday, including 13 deaths.

Ontario

- The province is proposing a cap on delivery fees to support local restaurants. ([News Release](#))
 - [Bill 236](#), *Supporting Local Restaurants Act, 2020*, would cap fees charged by food delivery companies in areas where indoor dining is prohibited to help more small and independent restaurants stay in business.
- Ontario is cancelling road rests for regions in Grey-Lockdown level. ([News Release](#))
- The Ontario government is providing C\$13.6-million to enable school boards to hire more teachers and staff in regions recently moved to the Red-Control level and providing stabilization funding for school boards, if needed. ([News Release](#))
 - Targeted testing will be taking place for school communities. Ottawa, Toronto, Peel and York regions will be participating in this initiative. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario released updated COVID-19 projections this afternoon. ([CBC](#) and [COVID-19 Projections](#))
 - The modelling suggests that if COVID-19 cases grow at a rate of three per cent, Ontario will record more than 4,000 cases per day by December 30.
- Now published (as amended by the Standing Committee): [Bill 215](#), *Main Street Recovery Act, 2020*.
- 109,361 cases, an increase of 1,478 since yesterday, including 21 deaths.

Quebec

- The following orders/regulations were published in the November 26 [Gazette officielle du Québec](#):
 - Order in Council No. 1242-2020 – The public health emergency has been renewed until December 2, 2020.
 - Ministerial Order 2020-094 – Related to measures for the following regions: Nord-du-Québec, Chibougamau and Chapais, and Eeyou Istchee.
- 136,894 cases, an increase of 1,464 since yesterday, including 32 deaths. Eight in the last 24 hours, 19 between November 19 and November 24, and five before November 19.

November 25, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Trudeau says COVID-19 vaccines will come to Canada after other countries due to lack of manufacturing capacity. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- The following regulations were published in the [November 25, 2020, Canada Gazette, Part II](#):
 - S.O.R./2020-242 – *Regulations Amending the Canada Labour Standards Regulations (COVID-19), No 2*
 - S.O.R./2020-243 – *Regulations Amending the Income Tax Regulations, No. 3 (COVID-19 – Wage Subsidy for Furloughed Employees)*

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Alberta has declared a state of public health emergency and announced new restrictions and enforcement measures. Not following mandatory restrictions could result in fines of C\$1,000 per

ticketed offence and up to C\$100,000 through the courts. ([News Release](#) and [Enhanced Public Health Measures](#))

- **Businesses:** Beginning November 27, businesses and services in [enhanced status \(purple\)](#) areas, including Calgary and Edmonton, will fall under three categories: “closed for in-person business,” “open with restrictions” or “open by appointment only.” Lists of businesses in each category are found [here](#). These measures are in place for three weeks, but will be extended if necessary.
- **Masks:** Masks are now mandatory in indoor workplaces in Calgary, Edmonton and surrounding areas, including for visitors, delivery personnel, employees and contractors.
- **Social Gatherings:** Effective immediately, indoor social gatherings are prohibited, including in workplaces. Work group meetings are not social gatherings, but attendance should be limited and public health measures followed. Outdoor social gatherings limited to maximum 10 people. Funerals and wedding limited to 10 people and receptions are prohibited.
- **Work:** Working from home should be considered where possible.
- **Schools:** Students in grades 7-12 moving to at-home learning on November 30. Students in early childhood services and grades K-6 will remain in school until December 18. All students will return to at-home learning after winter break and return to schools on January 11.
- [O.C. 354/2020](#) – Declaring a state of public health emergency in Alberta.
- 49,536 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,115 since yesterday, including 16 deaths.

British Columbia

- State of emergency has been extended to December 8, 2020, and masks are now required in many indoor public settings, including common areas of office buildings. ([News release](#))
- [O.I.C. 592/2020](#), extending the state of emergency to December 8, 2020 (under the *Emergency Program Act*).
- [O.I.C. 593/2020](#), amending the *COVID-19 Related Measures Act* and the *Violation Ticket Administration and Fines Regulation*.
- [M.O. M425/2020](#), *Use of Face Coverings in Indoor Public Spaces (COVID-19) Order* (under the *Emergency Program Act*)
- 28,348 confirmed cases, an increase of 941 since yesterday, 10 deaths.

Ontario

- The government is providing guidance on how to safely celebrate the holidays. Ontarians are asked to celebrate in person with people in their immediate household. People who live alone may join one other household. ([News Release](#))
- The auditor general said delays, conflicts and confusion hampered Ontario's COVID-19 response. ([CBC](#))
- Bill 215, *Main Street Recovery Act, 2020*, was reported from the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs with amendments (amended version of bill is not available yet).
- [O.I.C. 1546/2020](#) – Establishing the COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force.
- [O.I.C. 1548/2020](#) – Establishing the position of Special Advisor, COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution plan.
- [O.I.C. 1551/2020](#) – Appointing General Rick Hillier as Special Advisor, COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Plan.
- 107,883 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,373 since yesterday, including 35 deaths.

Quebec

- O.C. 1186-2020 – Measures related to supplemental pension plans to reduce the consequences of the public health emergency declared on March 13, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic (under the *Supplemental Pension Plans Act*) was published in the [November 25, 2020, Gazette officielle du Québec](#).
- 135,430 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,100 since yesterday, including 28 deaths (12 deaths in past 24 hours).

November 24, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada signed a new agreement for a COVID-19 antibody therapy. ([News Release](#))
 - Health Canada received Eli Lilly's application for authorization on October 12, 2020, under the [Interim Order](#) for COVID-19 drugs, and authorized the product on November 20, 2020.
- [PC 2020-0886](#) – Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States) (made under the *Quarantine Act*).
 - Effective date of the previous order extended to December 21, 2020.

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- The Alberta government will announce new COVID-19 measures this afternoon at 4:30 p.m. (MDT). ([CBC](#))
- [Bill 35](#), *Tax Statutes (Creating Jobs and Driving Innovation) Amendment Act, 2020*, received second reading yesterday. The bill makes amendments related to extension of time limits and periods (COVID-19).
- Due to ongoing technical difficulties, a recent case update is not available.

British Columbia

- All gymnastic centres, dance studios, martial arts venues and yoga studios in British Columbia must immediately close, according to the [new guidelines](#) posted on the B.C. government website yesterday.
 - Dr. Bonnie Henry clarifies COVID-19 restrictions for sports teams. ([CBC](#))
- 27,407 cases – from November 20 to 21, there were 713 new cases; from November 21 to 22, there were 626 new cases, and in the last 24 hours, a further 594 new cases, including 17 deaths.

Ontario

- Ford differentiates between Ontarians holding private gatherings and establishments defying COVID-19 rules. ([CBC](#))
- [Bill 229](#), *Protect, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020*, received second reading yesterday evening and was referred to the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs.

- The Ontario government has deployed new COVID-19 rapid tests to provide faster results in regions of high transmission and rural and remote areas. ([News Release](#))
- 106,510 cases, an increase of 1,009 since yesterday, including 14 deaths.
 - The province issued a statement outlining an error, explaining that the record-breaking 1,589 new cases reported on Monday was overestimated and the 1,009 new cases reported today are underestimated.

Quebec

- COVID-19-related instructions for the holiday season. ([Resource](#))
 - Private gatherings are authorized during the holiday seasons if Quebec's epidemiological situation holds steady. This scenario could be revised if, in the coming weeks, the number of cases rises significantly.
- 134,330 cases, an increase of 1,124 since yesterday, including 45 deaths. Nine have occurred in the last 24 hours, 34 have occurred between November 16, 2020, and November 21, 2020, and two have occurred before November 17, 2020.

November 23, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Canada Revenue Agency opens applications for the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy today. ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#))
- The Government of Canada is providing immediate assistance to Indigenous communities and organizations in Alberta and Saskatchewan to address the COVID-19 pandemic. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- The COVID-19 parents' guide for the 2020-21 school year was updated. The guide provides information on the health measures families, students and schools must follow for the upcoming school year. ([Publication](#))
- 48,421 cases, an increase of 5,624 since Friday, including 25 deaths.

British Columbia

- [Order in Council No. 588](#) – Related to amendments to the *Employment and Assistance Regulation* and the *Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Regulation*.
- 25,474 cases, an increase of 516 on Friday, including 10 deaths.

Ontario

- S.O. 2020, c. 26 – [Bill 218](#), *Supporting Ontario's Recovery and Municipal Elections Act, 2020*, received royal assent Friday evening.
- The following regulations were added to E-Laws yesterday afternoon, made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act*:
 - [O.Reg. 654/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 1

- [O.Reg. 655/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 3
- [O.Reg. 656/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 2
- [O. Reg. 657/20](#) – Stages for Reopening
- The City of Toronto services have been modified to adhere to provincial lockdown measures and reduce the spread of COVID-19. ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#))
- Ontario appointed a new Ministers' COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution Task Force. General Rick Hillier will lead the largest vaccine rollout in a generation. ([News Release](#))
- 105,501 cases, an increase of 4,711 since Friday, including 54 deaths.

Quebec

- 133,206 cases, an increase of 3,507 since Friday, including 13 deaths (three have occurred in the last 24 hours, and 10 have occurred between November 16 and November 21).

November 16 – November 20

November 20, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- [Bill C-9](#), *An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act (Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy and Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy)*, received royal assent yesterday evening:
 - The government also reaffirms its intention to introduce legislation to formalize rent payable as an eligible expense, for purposes of the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy, as of September 27, 2020. Qualifying organizations will be able to take advantage of the rent subsidy on this basis as soon as the application portal is launched. ([News Release](#))
- Prime Minister Trudeau says the "future of our country" is at stake, as modelling shows COVID-19 cases "spiking massively." ([CTV](#))
 - The modelling shows that instead of flattening the curve, national daily case counts are "increasing significantly," and rapid growth is occurring in several provinces.
 - Trudeau is encouraging employers to make arrangements to have employees work from home once again.
- Prime Minister Trudeau confirms that Canada-U.S. border restrictions are to stay in place through to December 21, 2020. ([CTV](#))
- Interim Order Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19, No. 13 (made under the *Aeronautics Act*) was published in the November 21 [Canada Gazette](#), Part I.

U.S. – Federal

- How the CDC is making COVID-19 vaccine recommendations. ([CDC Update](#))

Alberta

- Alberta is the sole province without a mask mandate. ([CTV](#))
- 42,797 cases, an increase of 1,105 since yesterday, including eight deaths.

British Columbia

- Provincial Health Officer Dr. Bonnie Henry announced wide-ranging new rules yesterday, including mandatory masks in indoor public and retail spaces and restricting social gatherings to household members only for everyone across B.C. ([Order and list of restrictions by sector](#)).
 - The order is in effect from November 19, 2020, at midnight to December 7, 2020, at midnight.
 - All non-essential travel should be avoided. This includes travel into and out of B.C. and between regions of the province.
 - Henry also reversed course on a longstanding resistance to public mask mandates, asking Public Safety Minister Mike Farnworth to implement a requirement for workers and members of the public to wear face coverings in all retail environments, restaurants and indoor public spaces, including common areas of workplaces, except when eating or drinking. ([CBC](#))
- 24,960 cases, an increase of 538 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Effective Monday, November 23, 2020, at 12:01 a.m., Toronto and Peel will move into lockdown. ([News Release](#))
 - Retail stores are permitted curbside pick-up or delivery only, with certain exceptions for supermarkets, grocery stores, pharmacies, hardware stores, discount and big-box retailers selling groceries, beer, wine and liquor stores, safety supply stores, and convenience stores that will be allowed to operate at 50 per cent capacity.
 - Schools, before- and after-school programs, and childcare services will remain open.
 - Post-secondary schools will remain open for virtual learning with some limited exceptions for training that can only be provided in-person.
 - No indoor organized public events or social gatherings except with members of the same household. Individuals who live alone may consider having exclusive, close contact with one other person.
 - Outdoor organized public events or social gatherings limited to a maximum of 10 people.
 - Restaurants, bars, and food and drink establishments will only be able to provide takeout, drive-through and delivery. Indoor and outdoor dining services are prohibited.
 - Personal-care services closed.
 - Casinos, bingo halls and other gaming establishments closed.
 - Indoor sports and recreational facilities, including pools, closed with limited exceptions.
- Additional supports will be available for businesses affected by COVID-19 public health measures. A detailed list of eligible businesses, as well as instructions for applying, can be found at [Ontario.ca/covidsupport](#).
 - Ontario is now providing C\$600-million in relief. Businesses can apply online for rebates in the form of grants for fixed costs such as property tax and energy costs, as well as rebates for PPE costs.
- The following public health unit regions will move from their current level in the framework to the following levels effective Monday.
 - Red-Control
 - Durham Region Health Department
 - Region of Waterloo Public Health and Emergency Services
 - Orange-Restrict
 - Huron Perth Public Health
 - Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit
 - Southwestern Public Health
 - Windsor-Essex County Health Unit
 - Yellow-Protect
 - Chatham-Kent Public Health
 - Eastern Ontario Health Unit

- Grey Bruce Health Unit
- Kingston, Frontenac and Lennox & Addington Public Health
- Peterborough Public Health
- Thunder Bay District Health Unit
- The Ontario government has extended all orders currently in force under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020* until December 21, 2020. ([News Release](#) and [O.Reg. 650/20](#))
- 100,790 cases, an increase of 1,418 since yesterday, including eight deaths.

Quebec

- Indoor gatherings will be allowed for Christmas, but the government asks Quebecers to self-isolate a week before and after. ([Government News Release](#) and [CBC](#))
 - The province will lift the ban on indoor gatherings for four days, between Dec. 24 and Dec. 27, allowing family and friends to get together to celebrate Christmas in groups of up to 10 people, regardless of how many households they come from. In exchange, the government is hoping Quebecers will voluntarily self-isolate for a week before and after that four-day period in order to limit a surge in COVID-19 cases.
 - The Minister of Education, Jean-François Roberge, also announced that primary schools will be closed from December 17 to January 3, inclusive, for a return to class on January 4, 2021.
 - Secondary schools will be closed from December 17 to January 10, inclusive. The pupils will also follow a distance education, according to the established school calendar.
 - Also announced, restaurants, performance halls and gyms in the red zones will remain closed until January 11, 2021.
 - The Premier also called on companies to maximize remote working for their staff and reduce their activities, where possible.
- 129,699 cases, an increase of 1,259 since yesterday, including 32 deaths. Nine occurred in the last 24 hours, 22 occurred between November 13 and November 18, and one occurred at an unknown date.

November 19, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- [Bill C-9](#), *An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy and Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy)*, received third reading in the Senate and now awaits royal assent.

U.S. –Federal

- The CDC has recommended against traveling or gathering for the holidays, and is urging Americans to consider celebrating in their own households instead. ([Update](#))

Alberta

- 41,692 cases, an increase of 730 since yesterday, including 11 deaths.

British Columbia

- 24,422 cases, an increase of 762 since yesterday, including 10 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario is launching workplace education and enforcement campaigns to ensure businesses across the province are taking the necessary steps to keep employees, consumers and the public safe. ([News Release](#))
 - If a person or business is not found compliant with orders under the *Reopening Ontario Act*, they could be ticketed with a fine of C\$750.
 - Certain businesses and establishments in the Yellow-Protect, Orange-Restrict, Red-Control and Lockdown levels are required to develop a [COVID-19 safety plan](#) and make it available in writing for review.
 - Businesses requiring a workplace safety plan include:
 - Restaurants, bars and food or drink establishments
 - Sports and recreational facilities
 - Meeting and event spaces
 - Malls
 - Personal-care services
 - Casinos, bingo halls and other gaming establishments
 - Cinemas
 - Performing arts facilities
- Applications are now open for COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure Stream for Municipalities in Ontario. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario Low-Carbon Hydrogen Strategy ([Discussion Paper](#)):
 - As part of the Ontario Jobs and Recovery Committee's work, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks consulted with the clean technology and hydrogen sectors to understand COVID-related disruptions and how government could support the sector to continue to grow and prosper beyond the immediate recovery.
- Ontario is supporting small businesses with financial advice and training. The investment will provide new online resources to help entrepreneurs during COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- 99,372 cases, an increase of 1,210 since yesterday, including 28 deaths.

Quebec

- The Quebec premier will announce the province's decision about holiday gathering and a winter-break extension for schools at a news conference at 5 p.m. today. ([CBC](#))
- The following orders/regulations were published in the November 19, 2020, [Gazette officielle du Québec](#):
 - *Regulation to amend the Minister's Regulation* (made under the *Public Health Act*).
 - O.C. 1216-2020 – *Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting food* (made under the *Food Products Act*) related to production capacity and livestock surpluses due to COVID-19 public health measures.
 - O.C. 1210-2020 – The state of emergency has been renewed until November 25, 2020.
- 128,440 cases, an increase of 1,220 since yesterday, including 34 deaths (seven from the past 24 hours, 19 from between November 12 and 17, five from before November 12 and three from an unknown date).

November 18, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Canada-U.S. border restrictions expected to remain in place until at least December 21. ([CTV](#))
- [Bill C-9](#), *An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy and Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy)*, received second reading yesterday evening.

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Extension of Christmas break not expected in Alberta schools. ([CTV](#))
- 40,962 cases, an increase of 773 since Tuesday, including five deaths.

British Columbia

- Premier Horgan calls for restriction on non-essential travel between provinces. ([CBC](#))
- The B.C. Legislature will return December 7 with the province's new NDP majority government laying out its plans in a throne speech.
- 23,661 cases, an increase of 717 since yesterday, including 11 deaths.

Ontario

- Possible COVID-19 lockdown coming to Toronto, Peel and York ([CBC](#)):
 - Premier Ford said new measures could be announced Friday.
 - Education Minister Stephen Lecce also announced today that students in Ontario will not have an extended winter break this year.
- Health Minister Christine Elliott revealed this morning that Ontario expects up to 2.6 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines to be delivered between January and March. ([CBC](#))
- 98,162 cases, an increase of 1,417 since yesterday, including 32 deaths.

Quebec

- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-93](#) – Related to the modifications of measures for professional or high level sports.
- 127,233 cases, an increase of 1,179 since yesterday, including 20 deaths.

November 17, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- [Senate committee report](#) on subject-matter of Bill C-9, *An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy and Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy)*, was tabled this afternoon.
- A new Canadian border study shows rapid testing can identify 70 per cent of COVID-19-positive passengers within 48 hours after they arrive. ([CTV](#))

U.S. – Federal

- Pfizer will start its pilot delivery program for its COVID-19 vaccine in four U.S. states. ([Reuters](#))
- The U.S. is expanding its mask mandates and social restrictions. ([CTV](#))

Alberta

- Hospital visitor restrictions tighten as COVID-19 cases in Alberta continue to rise. The restrictions are similar to those announced back in March, where only one immediate family member or designated support person could see the patient at a time. ([Edmonton Journal](#))
- 40,189 cases, an increase of 860 since Friday, including 29 deaths.

British Columbia

- 22,944 cases, an increase of 1,959 since Friday, including nine deaths.

Ontario

- Education Minister Stephen Lecce says he's talking to health officials and "looking at solutions that may include some period out of class" at the beginning of January, but has not yet made a decision. ([CBC](#))
 - Lecce says he will announce a plan in the next week or two.
- [Bill 218](#), *Supporting Ontario's Recovery and Municipal Elections Act, 2020*, received third reading yesterday evening and now awaits royal assent.
- Ontario is now accepting applications from municipalities for infrastructure projects under the COVID-19 Resilience Infrastructure stream. Up to C\$250-million of funding will help municipalities quickly advance critical local infrastructure projects. ([News Release](#))
- 96,745 cases, an increase of 1,249 since yesterday, including 12 deaths.

Quebec

- Quebec Premier François Legault said he plans to give guidelines in the coming days for how loved ones can gather, in limited numbers, over the winter holidays. ([CBC](#))
 - Legault said he doesn't anticipate any lifting of restrictions after the second 28-day partial lockdown that ends November 23.
- 126,054 cases, an increase of 982 since yesterday, including five deaths.

November 16, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Canadian military prepares to help with COVID-19 vaccine distribution. ([CTV](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 37,312 cases, an increase of 907 on Friday, including five deaths.

British Columbia

- [Ministerial Order No. 416](#) – Food and Liquor Premises, Gatherings and Events (COVID-19) Order No. 2 (made under the *Emergency Program Act*).
- Province updates measures to enforce Lower Mainland COVID-19 public safety. ([News Release](#))

- The new ticketing measures under the *Emergency Program Act* apply to party buses and limousines. The measures allow police and other enforcement officers to issue additional fines.
- 20,985 cases, an increase of 130 on Friday, including two deaths.

Ontario

- Mayor John Tory announces that there are more COVID-19 restrictions in store for Toronto within days. ([CTV](#))
 - One suggestion he called a hypothetical was to make all retailers come up with and enforce a maximum occupancy number.
- [Bill 218](#), *Supporting Ontario's Recovery and Municipal Elections Act, 2020*, was reported back by the Standing Committee on Justice Policy with amendments today (the changes are indicated by underlines for new text and a strikethrough for deleted text).
- The following orders/regulations were added to E-Laws this afternoon (made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*):
 - [O. Reg. 646/20](#) – Stages of Reopening – related to the framework changes announced on Friday.
 - [O. Reg. 647/20](#) – Stages of Reopening
 - [O. Reg. 648/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 2
- Ontario is launching a new agency to centralize government procurement. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario is protecting agri-food workers and the food supply chain with a comprehensive new strategy designed to prevent the spread of COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
 - The resulting joint government-industry Prevention, Control and Outbreak Support Strategy for COVID-19 in Ontario's Farm Workers provides guiding principles and actions on how to ensure enhanced prevention and control on farm operations, farm-worker safety and wellness, and maintaining the sustainability and viability of the agri-food sector.
- 95,496 cases, an increase of 4,316 since Friday, including 39 deaths.

Quebec

- 125,072 cases, an increase of 3,877 since Friday, including 25 deaths.

November 9 – November 13

November 13, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Finance Minister Freeland says new legislation is coming to fix a flaw in Bill C-9 on commercial rent relief. ([ipolitics](#))
 - Freeland told the Senate national finance committee, which is currently studying Bill C-9, that a new bill will be tabled to address the issue of pre-payment as soon as Bill C-9 is passed. The new proposal would allow tenants to include rent owed to a landlord as an eligible expense under the CERS.
- Prime Minister Trudeau announced the details of an investment of C\$1.5-billion in the Workforce Development Agreements (WDAs) with provinces and territories. ([News Release](#))

- This investment will help Canadians in underrepresented groups and those in sectors that have been hardest hit by the pandemic (such as construction, transportation and hospitality) quickly access supports to reenter the workforce. It could include skills training, on-the-job training, employer-sponsored training, financial assistance and benefits, employment counselling and services, and job opportunities.
- Interim Order Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19, No. 12 (made under the *Aeronautics Act*) was published in the November 14 Canada Gazette, Part I.
- The federal government's COVID-19 support is not "infinite," PM warns premiers. (CBC)

U.S. – Federal

- The Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration announced US\$2,856,533 in coronavirus violations. ([News Release](#))
- Biden aide sees localized COVID-19 restrictions, not national lockdown, after inauguration. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- New targeted health measures will take effect on November 13 to curb the rapid growth of COVID-19 in Alberta. ([News Release](#), [Order](#) and [New Measures at a Glance](#))
 - All restaurants, bars, lounges and pubs in regions under enhanced status must cease liquor sales by 10 p.m. and close by 11 p.m. The restriction will remain in place until November 27.
 - Two-week ban on indoor group fitness classes, team sport activities and group performance activities in Edmonton and surrounding areas, Calgary and surrounding areas, Grande Prairie, Fort McMurray, Red Deer, and Lethbridge.
 - Additional public health measures will also be implemented in all regions under an enhanced status. These measures will be in place until further notice:
 - Maximum attendance of 50 at wedding or funeral ceremonies.
 - All faith-based activities should limit attendance to one-third capacity per service.
 - Residents should not hold social gatherings within their homes and should not plan social gatherings outside their community.
 - All employers in office settings should implement measures to reduce the number of employees in the workplace at one time.
- 36,405 cases, an increase of 860 since Wednesday, including 17 deaths.

British Columbia

- 20,368 cases, an increase of 536 since yesterday, including four deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario updating COVID-19 Response Framework to help stop the spread of COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
 - The framework changes are in response to the current data and trends and will lower the threshold for each of the five levels for: weekly incidence rates, positivity rate, effective reproductive number (Rt), outbreak trends and the level of community transmission.
 - Based on these new thresholds, the following public health unit regions would be moved to the following levels in the framework:
 - Red-Control:
 - Hamilton Public Health Services
 - Halton Region Public Health
 - Toronto Public Health

- York Region Public Health
- Orange-Restrict:
 - Brant County Health Unit
 - Durham Region Health Department
 - Eastern Ontario Health Unit
 - Niagara Region Public Health
 - Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health
 - Region of Waterloo Public Health
- Yellow-Protect:
 - Huron Perth Public Health
 - Middlesex-London Health Unit
 - Public Health Sudbury & Districts
 - Southwestern Public Health
 - Windsor-Essex County Health Unit
- Beginning today, new, active, resolved, deceased and total cases (by public health unit) can be viewed on a map at [Ontario.ca/coronavirus](https://ontario.ca/coronavirus).
- Quebec and Ontario weigh extending the winter break at schools as COVID-19 cases surge. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
 - The Council of Ontario Directors of Education said on Thursday that his organization has spoken to the province's Ministry of Education about extending the winter break so staff and students would not return to school buildings on January 4.
 - The heads of school boards are suggesting that students would learn virtually during that period.
- Ontario supports production of face shields in the fight against COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- 91,180 cases, an increase of 1,396 since yesterday, including 19 deaths.

Quebec

- 121,195 cases, an increase of 1,301 since yesterday, including 22 deaths.

November 12, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- A promising new therapy for COVID-19 cleared by the U.S. is still under review by Health Canada. ([CBC](#))
- [P.C. 2020-0877](#) – *Regulations Amending the Income Tax Regulations, No. 3 (COVID-19 — Wage Subsidy for Furloughed Employees)* (made under the *Income Tax Act*). Full text forthcoming.
- [P.C. 2020-0873](#) – *Regulations Amending the Canada Labour Standards Regulations (COVID-19), No.2* (made under the *Canada Labour Code*). Full text forthcoming.
- Canadian experts say evolving mask guidance is to be expected. ([CTV](#))
- The Emergency Processing Fund is a one-time, federal investment of up to C\$77.5-million to help companies implement changes to safeguard the health and safety of workers and their families due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. ([Backgrounder](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. government has partnered with pharmacy chains to increase COVID-19 vaccine access. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Stricter COVID-19 measures being discussed in high-level meetings in Alberta. ([Global News](#))
 - Proposed restrictions are expected to affect recreational sports, dance and fitness classes.
- The Government of Canada supports 2,700 jobs in southern Alberta through targeted help for businesses. ([News Release](#))
- No case update due to Remembrance Day holiday.

British Columbia

- No case update due to Remembrance Day holiday.

Ontario

- Mayor urges Torontonians to stay home. ([National Post](#))
- Ontario could hit 6,500 new COVID-19 cases daily by mid-December without further action, new modelling shows. ([CBC](#) and [Government Modelling Report](#))
 - Some epidemiologists are projecting Ontario will surpass 2,000 new cases a day by early December.
- FedNor supports northwestern Ontario businesses and workers to help them recover from the impacts of COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- 89,784 cases, an increase of 1,575 since yesterday, 18 deaths.

Quebec

- Quebec considers temporarily closing schools as COVID-19 cases continue to rise. ([CTV](#))
 - The province will meet with education unions about extending the school year into the summer to make up for lost weeks, and Legault assured that parents will be given advanced warning of any closures.
- [O.C. 1168-2020](#) – The public health emergency has been renewed until November 18, 2020.
- More than C\$3.7-million has been granted to 30 Quebec international cooperation organizations to support the implementation of projects aimed at reducing the effects of COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- Agricultural conditions have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. ([News Release](#))
- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-90](#) – Related to updated measures for the Eastern Townships region.
- The Quebec government expects the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic will leave it with a C\$15-billion deficit this fiscal year. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- 119,894 cases, an increase of 1,395 since yesterday, including nine deaths.

November 11, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Alberta's business ecosystem will receive federal support to protect jobs. ([News Release](#))
- 34,873 cases, an increase of 713 since yesterday, including seven deaths.

British Columbia

- The following provincial health orders were published today:
 - [COVID-19 Prevention Regional Measures](#)
 - Fraser Health and Vancouver Coastal Health orders:
 - [General guidance](#)
 - [Business guidance](#)
 - [Restaurant guidance](#)
 - [Gym, fitness centre and recreational centre guidance](#)
- [Order in Council No. 581](#) – The state of emergency has been extended until November 23, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- 19,239 cases, an increase of 525 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Ontario

- The City of Toronto is mandating stricter restrictions to decrease COVID-19 transmission in Toronto. ([News Release](#))
 - Toronto Public Health – Specific Enhanced Measures ([Backgrounder](#)):
 - Workplaces:
 - Require a compliance officer to ensure implementation of occupational health and safety and infection prevention and control measures.
 - Instruct businesses and/or facilities to review HVAC systems to ensure they are in good working order.
 - Promote working from home wherever possible.
 - Social gatherings:
 - Limit all social gatherings to household members only and/or one or two essential supports.
 - Restrict close contacts to household.
 - Eliminate visiting private homes, unless for emergency reasons, one-on-one teaching (e.g., tutoring), emergency repairs, renovations or construction.
 - Limit in-person activities outside the home to essential activities only.
 - Cancel or hold virtually all in-person activities that are discretionary.
 - Restaurants, bars and food or drink establishments:
 - Indoor dining closed.
 - Gyms and fitness studios:
 - Indoor group fitness classes closed.
 - Malls:
 - Prohibit consumption of food or drink while walking through malls.
 - Other:
 - Meeting and event spaces closed.
 - Cinemas, casinos, bingo halls and other gaming establishments closed.
- 88,209 cases, an increase of 1,426 since yesterday, 15 deaths.

Quebec

- 118,529 cases, an increase of 1,378 since yesterday, including 19 deaths.

November 10, 2010

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada signed another agreement for COVID-19 antigen rapid tests. ([News Release](#))
- The Prime Minister told the provinces not to keep businesses open at the expense of the COVID-19 fight. ([CTV](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The FDA granted emergency-use authorization to Eli Lilly's COVID-19 antibody treatment. ([CTV](#))

Alberta

- 34,160 cases, an increase of 3,713 since Friday, including 26 deaths.

British Columbia

- 18,714 cases, an increase of 536 since yesterday, including five deaths.

Ontario

- Toronto will extend the prohibition on indoor dining at bars and restaurants, and ordered the continued closure of casinos and meeting spaces. ([CP24](#))
 - Medical Officer of Health Dr. Eileen de Villa said that as of midnight on Friday the city will formally be moved into the “red” zone in the province’s tiered framework but will face a number of additional restrictions that she is issuing under Section 22 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*.
 - Those restrictions include the prohibition of all indoor dining at bars and restaurants, as well as all indoor group fitness and exercise classes for at least the next 28 days.
 - De Villa said that she will also use her powers to require the continued closure of meeting and event spaces, casinos, bingo halls and other gaming establishments.
 - People are also being strongly encouraged to restrict all social gatherings outside of their home.
- The Ontario government is proposing to give municipalities the flexibility to target property tax relief to small businesses. The province is also considering matching these reductions, which would provide small businesses with as much as C\$385-million in municipal and provincial property tax relief. ([News Release](#))
- 86,783 cases, an increase of 1,388 since yesterday, including 15 deaths.

Quebec

- COVID-19 measures will remain in Quebec's red zones until November 23. ([CTV](#))
- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-88](#) – Related to updated measures in Nord-du-Québec.
- 117,151 cases, an increase of 1,162 since yesterday, including nine deaths.

November 9, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Minister Garneau provided a [statement](#) on measures to protect Canadians from the impacts of COVID-19 on the air travel sector.
- The Government of Canada's investments in Digital Main Street support businesses and students to weather the impacts of COVID-19 and prepare for future growth. ([News Release](#))
- [Bill C-9](#), *An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy and Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy)*, received third reading Friday evening.
- Prime Minister Trudeau announced an investment of C\$1.75-billion to help connect Canadians to high-speed internet across the country, grow businesses and create jobs. ([News Release](#))
- Pfizer says early data indicates COVID-19 vaccine is effective. ([CBC](#))

U.S. – Federal

- President-elect Joe Biden welcomes Pfizer coronavirus vaccine news but says safety measures are still needed. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- New COVID-19 mandatory and voluntary measures were announced/effective Friday ([update](#)):
 - All Edmonton and Calgary residents should stop holding social gatherings within their homes and instead socialize in structured settings where it is easier to limit risk of exposure.
 - The mandatory 15-person limit on social gatherings is being expanded to all communities on the watch list.
 - Voluntary measures to limit cohorts to no more than three and to wear masks in the workplace unless able to safely distance are also strongly recommended for any community on the watch list, regardless of location.
 - AHS is prioritizing the hiring of about 380 additional contact-tracing staff that will expand the contact-tracing team to more than 1,100 people.
 - Alberta is piloting a targeted contact-testing approach. Alberta Health Services will directly notify close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases in three priority groups only:
 - Health-care workers
 - Minors (parents will still be notified if their child has been exposed in a school setting)
 - Individuals who live or work within congregate or communal facilities
 - Alberta will also be shifting back to daily reporting of case numbers and information, including on weekends and holidays.
- COVID-19 case numbers will be updated on November 9.

British Columbia

- Effective immediately, the province is extending the freeze on rent increases until July 10, 2021, under the powers of the *Emergency Program Act* and *COVID-19 Related Measures Act*. ([News Release](#))
 - [O.I.C. 579/2020](#) – *COVID-19 (Residential Tenancy Act and Manufactured Home Park Tenancy Act) (No. 3) Regulation*.

- By order of the PHO, all individuals, places of work and businesses within the Vancouver Coastal Health and Fraser Health regions must significantly reduce social interactions and travel. ([Update](#))
 - The order is in effect from November 7, 2020, at 10 p.m. to November 23, 2020, at 12 p.m. (PST).
- Workplace inspections are going to increase as the B.C. government copes with a steep rise in COVID-19 cases, Premier John Horgan says. ([Abbotsford News](#))
- [Order in Council No. 580](#) – Amending the *Employment and Assistance Regulation* and the *Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Regulation* (related to the *Canada Recovery Benefits Act*).
- 17,716 cases, an increase of 567 on Friday, including one death.

Ontario

- Toronto's mayor and top public health doctor say they plan to release more information tomorrow about whether the city will introduce additional restrictions. ([CP24](#))
- Ontario is providing additional public health support for Peel Region. The province is taking action to help local workplaces stay open safely. ([News Release](#))
- The following orders were added to E-Laws Friday evening (made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*):
 - [O.Reg. 642/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 3
 - [O.Reg. 641/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 2
 - [O.Reg. 640/20](#) – Stages of Reopening
- 85,395 cases, an increase of 3,702 since Friday, including 25 deaths.

Quebec

- Private businesses whose sectors of activity are not subject to a restriction due to the alert level of their region may authorize their employees to return to the workplace. However, a maximum occupation rate of 25 per cent is set for businesses whose premises are located in office buildings. ([Update](#))
 - Remote working continues to be strongly recommended where possible.
- 115,989 cases, an increase of 3,800 since Friday, including 15 deaths.

November 2 – November 6

November 6, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Department of Finance published the following backgrounders yesterday evening:
 - Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy and Lockdown Support ([Backgrounder](#))
 - Rate Structures Applicable in Periods 8, 9 and 10 (September 27 to December 19, 2020)
 - Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy ([Backgrounder](#))
 - Details on the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy Extension ([Backgrounder](#))
 - Lockdown Support for Businesses Facing Significant Public Health Restrictions ([Backgrounder](#))

- [Bill C-9](#), *An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy and Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy)*. Yesterday evening, the Committee reported the bill without amendment to the House. The bill was also submitted to the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance for pre-study.
- Update from the Action Committee on Court Operations in Response to COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
 - Following presentations from experts on how the pandemic has affected court operations in northern, remote and Indigenous communities, the Action Committee on Court Operations in Response to COVID-19 has published a [document](#) on the safe restoration of court operations in these communities.
 - The Action Committee also published a new [Tip Sheet on Courtroom Symptom Appearance and Related Situations](#).
- The following orders were published in the November 7 [Canada Gazette](#), Part I:
 - Made under the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001*:
 - Interim Order No. 2 Restricting Pleasure Craft Navigation Due to COVID-19
 - Interim Order No. 4 Respecting Passenger Vessel Restrictions Due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)
 - Made under the *Quarantine Act*:
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Mandatory Isolation), No. 7
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country Other than the United States)
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States)
- The federal government's long-term fiscal health remains sound, despite added pressure from the COVID-19 pandemic, according to [a new report](#) from the parliamentary budget officer. ([ipolitics](#))
- Prime Minister Trudeau says hoped-for COVID-19 vaccine faces distribution hurdles in the new year. ([CTV](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Health experts and the government have been discussing whether to introduce new restrictions to help slow the spread of the novel coronavirus, but did not provide a timeline for when any restrictions may be brought in. ([Global News](#))
 - Premier Jason Kenney will join Dr. Deena Hinshaw for an update at 5:30 p.m. (EST)/ 3:30 p.m. (MST).
- 30, 447 cases, an increase of 515 since yesterday, including five deaths.

British Columbia

- 16,560 cases, an increase of 425 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- [Bill 229](#), *Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures)*, 2020, was introduced yesterday evening.
 - The list of proposed legislation amended by this act is [here](#).
 - Proposed new acts:
 - *Innovation Centre Governance Act, 2020*

- *Ontario Loan Act, 2020 (No. 2)*
- Ontario increasing services to workers and small businesses. ([News Release](#))
 - Ontario is providing more than C\$600,000 to the Office of the Worker Adviser and Office of the Employer Adviser to help make it easier for workers and small businesses to navigate the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board's compensation system.
- Ontario has moved public health unit regions into COVID-19 response framework to keep Ontario safe and open. ([News Release](#))
 - Public health measures required for each level can be found in the [Keeping Ontario Safe and Open Framework](#).
 - Regions are based on public health unit boundaries.
- The Ontario government is investing nearly C\$45-million to create up to 254 more beds in hospitals and alternative health facilities in Ottawa, including nearly C\$18-million to address ambulance offload times in Ottawa and the hiring of more frontline staff. ([News Release](#))
- Premier Doug Ford announced that as of 12:01 a.m. (EST) on Saturday, these public health unit regions will be moved to the following levels of the province's pandemic plan ([CTV](#)):
 - Red–Control:
 - Peel Regional Health Unit
 - Orange–Restrict:
 - Ottawa Public Health
 - York Region Public Health
 - Yellow–Protect:
 - Brant County Health Unit
 - City of Hamilton Public Health Services
 - Durham Region Health Department
 - Eastern Ontario Health Unit
 - Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit
 - Halton Region Public Health
 - Niagara Region Public Health
 - Region of Waterloo Public Health and Emergency Services
- Ontario parents will get another C\$200 payout to help with education costs. ([CTV](#))
- 81,693 cases, an increase of 998 since yesterday, including 14 deaths.

Quebec

- The Ministère des Finances is publishing today an information bulletin that announces changes to the Quebec taxation system mainly related to the impact of the current crisis and the implementation of federal government measures. The changes concern Canada Recovery Benefits, assistance that affects tax incentives, the flow-through share regime, Health and Welfare Trusts, the accelerated investment incentive, tax credits for holders of a taxi driver's or owner's permit and zero-emission automotive vehicles and equipment. ([News Release](#))
- Additional assistance of \$ 50 million to support educational childcare services ([News Release](#)).
- 112,189 cases, an increase of 1,133 since yesterday, 5 deaths.

November 5, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- [Bill C-9](#), *An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy and Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy)*, received second reading and was referred to the Committee of the Whole yesterday evening.

- Members of Parliament unanimously adopted a motion to fast-track Bill C-9 through the House. If all goes well for the Liberals, the bill will be sent from the House to the Senate on Friday and be passed right before MPs take a one-week break ([ipolitics](#)).
- Combating unauthorized and counterfeit goods during the COVID-19 pandemic: the Canada Border Services Agency, Health Canada and the RCMP announce the results of Project Purify. ([News Release](#))
- The Government of Canada renews support for Quebec businesses and their employees. ([News Release](#))
- Canada follows the WHO and U.S. in acknowledging aerosol transmission of coronavirus. ([CTV](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 30,447 cases, an increase of 515 since yesterday, including five deaths.

British Columbia

- 16,135 cases, an increase of 335 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Finance Minister Rod Phillips released [Ontario's Action Plan: Protect, Support, Recover](#) — the next phase of a comprehensive action plan to respond to the serious health and economic impacts of COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- 80,690 cases, an increase of 998 since yesterday, including 13 deaths.

Quebec

- Quebec will not loosen most red zone restrictions despite call from Montréal public health officials. ([CBC](#))
- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-087](#) – Related to health and social services professionals.
- [Order in Council 1150-2020](#) – Published in the November 5 *Gazette officielle du Québec*. The public health emergency has been renewed until November 11, 2020.
- 111,056 cases, an increase of 1,138 since yesterday, including 10 deaths.

November 4, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 29,932 cases, an increase of 2,268 since Friday, including 15 deaths.

British Columbia

- 15,800 cases, an increase of 299 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Ontario

- Dr. Eileen de Villa said Toronto's public health unit is scaling up all of its COVID-19 infrastructure in an effort to have the city ready for the easing of restrictions on November 14. ([Toronto Star](#))
- 79,692 cases, an increase of 987 since yesterday, including 16 deaths.

Quebec

- The Minister of Health and Social Services, Christian Dubé, announced that the territory of the Magdalen Islands is going to the pre-alert level, that is to say in the yellow zone. ([News Release](#))
- Deputy premier Genevieve Guilbault warned restaurant owners in the province's red zones who open their dining rooms in defiance of current rules that both they and their customers could face harsh fines. ([CTV](#))
- COVID-19: Quebec is making progress, but two regions are slipping, Legault says. ([Montreal Gazette](#))
 - The two regions that are slipping are Saguenay – Lac-Saint-Jean and the northern part of Lanaudière.
- 109,918 cases, an increase of 1,029 since yesterday, including eight deaths.

November 3, 2020

Canada – Federal

- The Public Health Agency of Canada has updated its recommendations on non-medical face masks with the country's top doctor now suggesting Canadians wear coverings that are made of three layers including a filter. ([CTV](#))
- The Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade, Mary Ng, announced new measures to help Canadian small businesses access global markets amid COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
 - The CanExport SMEs program is pivoting to now help small businesses:
 - Develop and expand their e-commerce presence by covering partial costs associated with online sales platforms and digital strategy consulting, as well as advertising and search engine optimization.
 - Attend virtual trade shows and other business-to-business events.
 - Navigate new COVID-19-related trade barriers by helping pay for new international market certifications and requirements.
- The Government of Canada announced new mandatory requirements for travellers to Canada. ([News Release](#))
- Canada continues to lead the Ministerial Coordination Group on COVID-19 responding to global challenges. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- More COVID-19 measures to come in Alberta later this week, Premier Kenney says, but no details were given about what those new measures may be. ([Edmonton Journal](#))
- Alberta's premier is urging people to avoid large private gatherings as the number of novel coronavirus cases in the province climbs. ([CBC](#))
- Due to routine maintenance on the Alberta case data website, updated numbers will be made available tomorrow.

British Columbia

- B.C. hires hundreds more COVID-19 contact tracers as health officials continue to dismiss federal app. ([CBC](#))
- 15,501 cases, an increase of 1,120 since Friday, including six deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario releases [COVID-19 response framework](#) to help keep the province safe and open. The government will be providing additional details on the C\$300-million to support eligible businesses. ([News Release](#))
 - The province will transition public health unit regions to the new framework, which takes a gradual approach that includes introducing preventative measures earlier to help avoid broader closures and allow for additional public health and workplace safety measures to be introduced or removed incrementally.
 - It categorizes public health unit regions into five levels: Green-Prevent, Yellow-Protect, Orange-Restrict, Red-Control, and Lockdown being a measure of last and urgent resort. Each level outlines the types of public health and workplace safety measures for businesses and organizations. These include targeted measures for specific sectors, institutions and other settings.
 - In the news release the government included a proposed list of where regions will be placed when the new system is implemented. The changes will go into effect on November 7 for the COVID-19 hot spots, except for Toronto, which has been delayed until November 14.
 - In all scenarios, except a full lockdown, indoor dining and gyms can reopen with modified guidelines in place. Schools and daycares will remain open.
 - Ontario's gathering limits remain at 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors for private events, while organized events can have 50 people indoors and 100 outdoors, unless the region moves to the control phase.
 - The government will continually assess the impact of public health measures applied to public health unit regions for 28 days, or two COVID-19 incubation periods.
 - The government is making C\$300-million available to businesses required to close or significantly restrict services in areas subject to modified Stage 2 public health restrictions (Ottawa, Peel, Toronto and York Region) or, going forward, in areas categorized as Control or Lockdown.
 - Beginning November 16, 2020, eligible businesses will be able to apply for temporary property tax and energy cost rebates directly to the province through a single [online application portal](#).
- 78,705 cases, an increase of 1,050 since yesterday, including 14 deaths.

Quebec

- [Bill 75](#), *An Act to improve justice accessibility and efficiency, in particular to address consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic* received first reading.
 - Legislation amended by this bill:

- *Act respecting industrial accidents and occupational diseases*
- *Act respecting the Barreau du Québec*
- *Code of Civil Procedure*
- *Code of Penal Procedure*
- *Act respecting the forfeiture, administration and appropriation of proceeds and instruments of unlawful activity*
- *Jurors Act*
- *Notaries Act*
- *Act respecting payment of certain witnesses*
- *Youth Protection Act*
- *Courts of Justice Act*
- 108,889 cases, an increase of 871 since yesterday, including five deaths.

November 2, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- [Bill C-9](#), *An Act to amend the Income Tax Act (Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy and Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy)*, was introduced in the House this afternoon. ([News Release](#))
 - Technical backgrounders will be released to provide additional details on the new Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy, the new Lockdown Support and the extended Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy, including details on eligibility.
- The Government of Canada is extending the support program for farmers and processors to protect temporary foreign workers' health and safety during pandemic. ([News Release](#))
- [Statement](#) from the Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health: Working with Canadians on the ongoing management of COVID-19 in the months ahead.
- Canadian company's COVID-19 vaccine candidate begins clinical trial in Australia ([CTV](#)).
- A global aviation manual now under review by a UN body suggests global guidelines calling for the use of highly reliable tests when screening passengers to detect the novel coronavirus ahead of flights. ([Firstpost](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- A COVID-19 testing pilot begins for international travellers arriving at the Calgary International Airport and the Coutts border crossing in southern Alberta. ([CTV](#))
- [O.C. 327/2020](#) – Section 11(3)(b) and (c) and (19) of [Bill 32](#), *Restoring Balance in Alberta's Workplaces Act, 2020*, proclaimed in force October 30, 2020. These sections amend the *Labour Relations Code*.
- 27,664 cases, an increase of 622 on Friday, including five deaths.

British Columbia

- B.C.'s health minister is warning that the number of COVID-19 cases recorded over the weekend in the province will be significant, following record numbers last week. ([CBC](#))
- 14,381 cases, an increase of 272 on Friday, including one death.

Ontario

- Solicitor General Sylvia Jones tabled a [report](#) in the Legislature providing details of the emergency measures put in place by the province to stop the spread of COVID-19 and keep Ontarians safe. ([News Release](#))
 - The report focuses on the 47 emergency orders made between March 17 and July 24, 2020, when the Declaration of a Provincial Emergency was in effect under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*.
- Premier Ford said that health officials are currently working on a reopening plan that's set to go before his cabinet as early as today. ([CBC](#))
- The province is increasing direct care for long-term care residents to four hours per day. ([News Release](#))
- 77,655 cases, an increase of 2,940 since Friday, including 16 deaths.

Quebec

- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-086](#) – Related to the amendment of measures for various health regions/ municipalities.
- 108,018 cases, an increase of 3,066 since Friday, including 14 deaths.

October 2020

October 26 – December 30

October 30, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- [According to new national modelling released today](#), Canadians need to decrease their current rate of contacts by 25 per cent in order to get the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic under control in this country. ([CTV](#))
- The Government of Canada is investing in a COVID-19 border study led by McMaster HealthLabs. ([News Release](#))
- The Government of Canada announced funding for research and development to address COVID-19 gaps and challenges. ([News Release](#))
 - Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, announced C\$796,000 in funding from the National Research Council of Canada (NRC) through the Pandemic Response Challenge program, as well as challenge winners and new contracts under the Innovative Solutions Canada Testing Stream.
- The COVID Alert app can now notify users of potential exposure to cases during the time period when the people who tested positive were most infectious. ([News Release](#))
- Prime Minister Trudeau announced over C\$200-million in new funding to provide support to Indigenous Peoples and communities. ([News Release](#))
- The Government of Canada announces plan to support economic recovery through immigration. ([News Release](#))
- The following orders were issued under the *Quarantine Act*:
 - [P.C. 2020-0840](#) – Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Mandatory Isolation), No. 7 (made under the *Quarantine Act*).
 - [P.C. 2020-0839](#) – Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country Other than the United States) (made under the *Quarantine Act*).

- [P.C. 2020-838](#) – Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States) (made under the *Quarantine Act*).
- The following orders were published in the October 31 [Canada Gazette](#), Part I.
 - Interim Order Respecting the Prevention and Alleviation of Shortages of Drugs in Relation to COVID-19 (made under the *Food and Drugs Act*).
 - Order Approving the Interim Order Respecting the Prevention and Alleviation of Shortages of Drugs in Relation to COVID-19 (made under the *Food and Drugs Act*).
 - Interim Order Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19, No. 11 (made under the *Aeronautics Act*).

U.S. – Federal

- Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said that any new coronavirus aid package should be considered in early 2021. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Effective November 2, Alberta is removing runny nose and sore throat from the list of core symptoms requiring mandatory isolation for those under the age of 18. This includes the [daily checklist](#) used for school and childcare settings. ([Update](#))
- 27,042 cases, an increase of 477 since yesterday, including nine deaths.

British Columbia

- [Updated Order](#) of the Provincial Health Officer for Gatherings and Events.
 - The order repeals and replaces the October 9, 2020, order with respect to limiting the number of persons in addition to the occupants who may gather in a private residence.
- 14,109 cases, an increase of 234 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Premier Ford said he'll ask the province's health experts to come up with a plan to allow more businesses to reopen in the areas hardest hit by COVID-19 after a 28-day period of tighter public health restrictions expires next month, ([CBC](#))
- 74,715 cases, an increase of 896 since yesterday, including nine deaths.

Quebec

- The Minister of Health and Social Services, Christian Dubé, announces that Public Health has updated the alert levels for the Saguenay - Lac-Saint-Jean and Chaudière-Appalaches regions. ([News Release](#))
- 104 952 cases, an increase of 952 since yesterday, including 18 deaths.

October 29, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) published its biennial [report](#) on its continuous disclosure review program. Due to the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the report also includes guidance for issuers on reporting the impact of COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- The Minister of Transport, Marc Garneau, announced the extension of measures pertaining to cruise ships and pleasure craft until February 28, 2021. ([News Release](#))
- The Government of Canada is investing C\$945,000 to further protect Prince Edward Island farm workers during COVID-19. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- Dr. Anthony Fauci says first U.S. COVID-19 vaccines could ship late December or early January. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- 26,565 cases, an increase of 410 since yesterday, including four deaths.

British Columbia

- 13,875 cases, an increase of 287 since yesterday, including two deaths.

Ontario

- New provincial projections for COVID-19 spread released today show that virus growth in Ontario is slowing and the province is seeing a "more gentle curve" than it was initially preparing for, public health officials say. ([CBC](#) and [COVID Modelling Slides](#))
- [Bill 215](#), *Main Street Recovery Act, 2020*, received second reading today and was referred to the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs.
- 73,819 cases, an increase of 936 since yesterday, including 10 deaths.

Quebec

- The Committee on Public Finance [tabled their report](#) on [Bill 66](#), *An Act respecting the acceleration of certain infrastructure projects*.
- Three days of training and planning added to the school calendar to promote student success. ([News Release](#))
- The following orders have been published in the October 29 *Gazette officielle du Québec*:
 - [Order in Council No. 1113-2020](#) – The public health emergency has been renewed until 4 November 2020.
 - [Order in Council No. 1145-2020](#) – Related to modifications of suspended activities.
- 103,844 cases, an increase of 1,030 since yesterday, including 25 deaths.

October 28, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- [Address by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance to the Toronto Global Forum](#): Canada's plan for a strong economic recovery from COVID-19.

- Rather than outlining any new policy measures or detailed fiscal targets, the finance minister's speech laid out the principles guiding the government's decision-making ahead of an expected fall update on the state of federal finances. Freeland said the government's recovery plan will focus on building an economy that is green, innovative and fair. ([CBC](#))
- [P.C. 2020-0833](#) Order Approving the Interim Order Respecting the Prevention and Alleviation of Shortages of Drugs in Relation to COVID-19 (made under the *Food and Drugs Act*).
- The following regulations have been added to the [October 28 Canada Gazette, Part II](#):
 - S.O.R./2020-226 – *Regulations Amending the Canada Labour Standards Regulations (Entitlement to Medical Leave Without Certificate)* (made under the *Canada Labour Code*).
 - SOR/2020-227 – *Regulations Amending the Income Tax Regulations, No. 2 (COVID-19 – Wage Subsidy for Furloughed Employees)* (made under the *Income Tax Act*).
- [Statement](#) from the Chief Public Health Officer of Canada on her Report on the State of Public Health in Canada 2020—From Risk to Resilience: An Equity Approach to COVID-19.
 - The report describes COVID-19's broader consequences and is a call to incorporate a health equity approach into pandemic preparedness, response and recovery. ([Backgrounder](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- A 15-person limit has been set on social gatherings in Calgary, as the province's top doctor announced new mandatory and voluntary public health measures for Alberta's two largest cities on Monday. The mandatory limit on social gatherings will be in place for a month before it is reassessed. ([Calgary Herald](#))
- 26,155 cases, an increase of 422 since yesterday, including two deaths.

British Columbia

- State of emergency extended to November 10, 2020 ([Information Bulletin](#) and [Order](#)).
- 13,588 cases, an increase of 217 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- The Ontario government is providing up to C\$1.05-billion in combined federal-provincial funding through the new COVID-19 Resilience infrastructure stream to build or renovate health-and-safety-related projects in long-term care, education and municipalities. Eligible projects must begin by September 30, 2021, and be completed by December 31, 2021. ([News Release](#))
 - Eligible projects under the COVID-19 Resilience stream will fall under four main categories:
 - Community, recreation, health and education renovations (e.g., retrofits, repairs or upgrades to long-term care homes, publicly funded schools and co-located childcare centre facilities, recreation centres or shelters).
 - COVID-19 response infrastructure (e.g., heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, new builds or renovations to enable physical distancing).
 - Active transportation (e.g., parks, trails).
 - Disaster mitigation, adaptation or remediation (e.g., flood mitigation).
- The Toronto City Council approves extended winter patio program for curbside cafes and expanded private patios. ([News Release](#))

- The Ontario government is providing municipalities and Indigenous community partners with over C\$241-million to help more than 110,000 Ontarians affected by COVID-19, including those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. ([News Release](#))
- 72,885 cases, an increase of 834 since yesterday, including five deaths.

Quebec

- The Minister of Health and Social Services, Christian Dubé, announced that Public Health is raising the regional county municipalities of Montcalm and Matawinie to the maximum alert level, which means that the entire Lanaudière region is now at the red level of maximum alert. ([News Release](#))
- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-84](#) – Related to the holding of municipal elections. ([News Release](#))
- The Minister for Health and Social Services, Lionel Carmant, today announced the granting of an additional amount of C\$25-million to improve the offer of mental health services for young people, young adults and their families. ([News Release](#))
- 102,814 cases, an increase of 929 since yesterday, including 17 deaths.

October 27, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada launches consultations to improve living conditions for temporary foreign workers. ([News Release](#))
 - As a first step, the Government of Canada is seeking input until December 22, 2020, on proposed accommodation requirements in the TFW Program's primary agriculture stream. The government is also seeking feedback on potential approaches to strengthen oversight of worker accommodations, both prior to and after workers' arrivals.
 - The Government of Canada will also soon be launching a survey of temporary foreign worker employers in the agricultural sector to inform the development of new proposed federal accommodations requirements and how they would be implemented.
 - [Backgrounder](#): Temporary Foreign Worker Program: Mandatory Requirements for Employer-Provided Accommodations.
- The Government of Canada invests C\$4.9-million to further protect British Columbia farm workers during COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- The Procurement Ombudsman releases his 2019-20 Annual Report. ([News Release](#))
 - The Procurement Ombudsman reiterates the need to simplify the overly burdensome federal procurement process in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and highlights the importance of government transparency and due diligence.
- The Prime Minister's [remarks](#) at the Canadian Chamber of Commerce's Annual General Meeting and Convention:
 - No specifics given on when the legislation for the Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy will be tabled.

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump said there would likely be a new COVID-19 stimulus package after the November 3 election. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- 25,733 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,472 since Friday, including 11 deaths.

British Columbia

- 13,371 confirmed cases, an increase of 817 since Friday, including three deaths.

Ontario

- The Ontario government is providing C\$116.5-million to create up to 766 more beds at 32 hospitals and alternate health facilities across the province. This investment will help reduce surgical backlogs and improve access to care during COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- [Bill 218](#), *Supporting Ontario's Recovery and Municipal Elections Act, 2020*, received second reading and was referred to the Standing Committee on Justice Policy.
- 72,051 cases, an increase of 827 since yesterday, including four deaths.

Quebec

- Yesterday evening Premier Legault, as well as the Minister of Health and Services social workers, Christian Dubé, announced the extension of measures in red zones until November 23. ([News Release](#))
 - However, some easing could be announced in two weeks for regions where the downward trend continues.
- 101,885 cases, an increase of 963 since yesterday, including 19 deaths.

October 26, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Canada Emergency Business Account is now open to businesses using personal banking accounts. ([News Release](#))
- Canada and Alberta invest in green infrastructure projects in Alberta to strengthen the economy and support communities. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 24,261 cases, an increase of 432 on Friday, including four deaths.

British Columbia

- 12,554 cases, an increase of 223 on Friday, no deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario government to table budget on November 5, 2020. ([News Release](#))

- Finance Minister Rod Phillips says the budget will lay out three scenarios for the pandemic's financial impact, while also detailing a three-year plan to address the economic challenges. ([CTV](#))
- The Ford government did not make a decision today on whether to move Halton and Durham regions back into a modified version of Stage 2. ([CP24](#))
 - "Instead of imposing blanket measures, Halton residents are asking that we target activities and locations that pose the highest risk of transmission, including limiting non-essential travel outside of identified hotspots."
- 71,224 cases, an increase of 2,871 since Friday, 13 deaths.

Quebec

- Premier Legault is expected to extend many of the measures imposed earlier this month in the province's "red zones" at a news conference today at 5 p.m. (EDT) ([CBC](#))
- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-82](#) – Related to modifications for the region of L'Assomption, in the health region of Lanaudière.
- 100,922 cases, an increase of 2,696 since Friday, including 12 deaths.

October 19 – October 23

October 23, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau announced funding of up to C\$173-million to advance Quebec-based Medicago's virus-like particle vaccine and establish a large-scale vaccine and antibody production facility to increase Canada's domestic biomanufacturing capacity. ([News Release](#))
 - Trudeau said he is hopeful that vaccines can be deployed in the early part of 2021. ([CBC](#))
- Canada and Nova Scotia reached an agreement for federal funding to cover some of the costs of improvements to health and safety measures to protect farm workers. ([News Release](#))
- The deadline to apply for the Disability Tax Credit (DTC) to receive the one-time payment has been extended from September 25, 2020, to December 31, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- The following orders are published in the [October 24, 2020, Canada Gazette, Part I](#).
 - Interim Order Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19, No. 10 (under the *Aeronautics Act*)
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States) (under the *Quarantine Act*)

U.S. – Federal

- The Food and Drug Administration approved Gilead Sciences Inc.'s antiviral drug Remdesivir for treating patients hospitalized with COVID-19, making it the first and only drug approved for the disease in the United States. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- 23,829 confirmed cases, an increase of 427 since yesterday, no deaths.

British Columbia

- 12,331 confirmed cases, an increase of 274 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford said he is considering stricter COVID-19 restrictions in the Halton and Durham Regions. ([CBC](#))
- Provincial health officials laid out a plan to distribute the first batch of COVID-19 rapid tests, which are expected to arrive next month. ([CBC](#))
- Ontario's Long-Term Care COVID-19 Commission released [recommendations](#) today that it sent in a letter to Minister of Long Term Care Minister Merrilee Fullerton. ([CBC](#))
- 68,353 confirmed cases, an increase of 826 since yesterday, including nine deaths.

Quebec

- The city of L'Épiphanie has been raised to the maximum alert level. The measures associated with this, such as the closure of bars and restaurants, will come into force on Monday, October 26, from 12:01 a.m. Those relating to schools and sports will come into force on Wednesday, October 28. ([News Release](#))
- Risks of hospitalization and projections of hospital needs – Update of October 23, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- 98,226 confirmed cases, an increase of 905 since yesterday, including four deaths in the past 24 hours, and eight deaths from earlier dates.

October 22, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Despite record numbers of COVID-19 cases, the Alberta government has no plans to impose "indiscriminate" restrictions that would shut down the hospitality industry, says Premier Jason Kenney. ([CBC](#))
- New COVID-19 pilot planned for international travellers. ([News Release](#))
 - Beginning on November 2, COVID-19 testing will be offered initially at two ports of entry into Canada: the Coutts land border crossing and the Calgary International Airport in Alberta.
 - Travellers who participate will receive a COVID-19 test upon entry into Canada before proceeding into the required quarantine. Once the test comes back negative, they will then be allowed to leave their place of quarantine so long as they commit to getting a second test on day six or seven after arrival, at a community pharmacy participating in the pilot program
 - Participants will be closely monitored through daily symptoms checks

- It is time for more mandatory measures, say local doctors, as Alberta counts record-setting day. ([CTV](#))
- 23,402 cases, an increase of 406 since yesterday, including three deaths.

British Columbia

- 12,057 cases, an increase of 203 since yesterday, including two deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario premier open to replacing 14-day quarantine for international travellers with rapid COVID-19 test. ([CTV](#))
- [Bill 200](#) – *Employment Standards Amendment Act (Sick Notes)*, 2020 was referred to the Standing Committee on General Government yesterday.
- 67,527 cases, an increase of 841 since yesterday, including nine deaths.

Quebec

- Quebec government suggests more people work from home as COVID-19 situation 'remains worrisome'. ([CTV](#))
- Minister Christian Dubé announces the deployment of a technological solution that will facilitate screening across Quebec - from online appointment booking to receipt of result by text message. ([News Release](#))
- The following Orders were issued:
 - [Order in Council No. 1094-2020](#) – The public health emergency has been renewed until 28 October 2020
 - [Ministerial Order No. 2020-080](#) – Related to modified health measures for the territories of the regional county municipalities of Arthabaska and L'Érable.
 - [Ministerial Order No. 2020-081](#) – Related to modified health measures for various organized activities.
- 97,321 cases, an increase of 1,033 since yesterday, including eight deaths.

October 21, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance remark on new business supports – new legislation/processes will be introduced “very soon.” ([Speech](#))
- Supporting competition on the road to economic recovery ([Remarks](#) by Matthew Boswell, Commissioner of Competition)
 - Commenting on the Bureau’s COVID-19 competitor collaboration guidance released in April: “Our guidance remains in place and we anticipate that it will remain in place until we return to something more closely resembling the pre-COVID ‘normal.’”
- Canada receives shipment of 100,000 COVID-19 rapid tests: procurement minister. ([Toronto Star](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- [Bill 35](#), *Tax Statutes (Creating Jobs and Driving Innovation) Amendment Act, 2020*, was tabled yesterday. ([News Release](#))
 - Amendments proposed to the *Alberta Corporate Tax Act* to allow for the extension of time limits and periods (COVID-19).
- Alberta is pressing pause on asymptomatic COVID-19 testing to help reduce testing wait times, speed up results and limit the spread. ([Update](#))
- 22,996 cases, an increase of 323 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- 11,854 cases, an increase of 167 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- 66,686 cases, an increase of 790 since yesterday, including nine deaths.

Quebec

- The Minister of Health and Social Services, Christian Dubé, announced that the health region of Mauricie-et-Center-du-Québec has been raised to the maximum alert (red) level. ([News Release](#))
- 96,288 cases, an increase of 1,072 since yesterday, including two deaths.

October 20, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade, announced an investment of C\$12-million in the [Canada United Small Business Relief Fund](#). ([News Release](#))
 - Canada United is a national fundraising campaign created by the Royal Bank of Canada in collaboration with private-sector partners and provincial and territorial chambers of commerce, including the Ontario Chamber of Commerce (OCC).
 - The Relief Fund, which is managed by the OCC, is supporting Canadian businesses across different sectors and industries with grants of up to C\$5,000.
- The EU may shut the door to travel from Canada, The update of the list comes amid a resurgence in coronavirus cases in Europe itself and, barring any changes in the plan, is due to be endorsed by EU member-country envoys on Wednesday. ([Bloomberg](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 22,673 cases, an increase of 898 since Friday, including four deaths.

British Columbia

- 11,687 cases, an increase of 498 since Friday, including two deaths.

Ontario

- The Ontario government introduced [Bill 218](#), *Supporting Ontario's Recovery and Municipal Elections Act, 2020*, that if passed, will provide liability protection for workers, volunteers and organizations that make an effort to follow public health guidelines and laws relating to exposure to COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
 - If passed, the legislation will provide targeted protection for:
 - Health-care workers and institutions
 - Frontline workers who serve the public everywhere from grocery stores to restaurants and retail stores
 - Businesses and their employees
 - Charities and non-profit organizations
 - Coaches, volunteers and minor sports associations
- The Ontario government is extending most orders currently in force under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020* (except those that deal with hydro prices and access to electronic personal health information). This extension will be in effect until November 21, 2020. ([News Release](#) and [O.Reg. 589/20](#))
- The following regulations were added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 591/20](#) – Electricity Price for RPP Consumer (made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*).
 - [O.Reg. 590/20](#) – Access to Personal Health Information by Means of Electronic Health Records (made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*).
 - [O.Reg. 588/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 3 – related to in-person teaching and instruction for fire departments (made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*).
 - [O.Reg. 587/20](#): Rules for Areas in Stage 2 – related to dance classes (made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*).
- 65,896 cases, an increase of 821 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Quebec

- Premier Legault couldn't say when the restrictions put in place until at least October 28 will be lifted. ([CBC](#))
- 95,216 cases, an increase of 877 since yesterday, including five deaths.

October 19, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Canada-U.S. border will remain closed until November 21. Public Safety Minister Bill Blair confirmed [the plan](#) (via Twitter) earlier today. ([CTV](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. Senate will vote on Wednesday on a C\$300-billion Senate Republican coronavirus relief bill. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- 21,775 cases, an increase of 332 on Friday, no deaths.

British Columbia

- 11,189 cases, an increase of 155 on Friday, including one death.

Ontario

- The Ontario government released an action plan to make government services simpler, easier to use and more convenient and accessible during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. ([News Release](#))
 - Ontario's [Onwards: Ontario's COVID-19 Action Plan for a People-Focused Government](#) includes a roadmap to make public-sector services more customer-focused and digital- and data-driven, while increasing the speed of government operations and decision-making.
 - Starting in January, the government will consult with industry on how the province could introduce a secure Digital Identity for the people of Ontario by the end of 2021. ([Backgrounder](#))
- Given the high transmission of COVID-19 in the modified Stage 2 public health unit regions of Ottawa, Peel, Toronto and York Region, traditional door-to-door trick or treating is not recommended and people should consider alternative ways to celebrate. ([News Release](#))
- 65,075 cases, an increase of 2,167 since Friday, including four deaths.

Quebec

- 94,429 cases, an increase of 3,411 since Friday, including eight deaths.

October 12 – October 16

October 16, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry, announced the launch of two challenges through the Innovative Solutions Canada (ISC) program to make personal protective equipment (PPE) more compostable and recyclable: ([News Release](#))
 - [Recycling technologies for disposable \(single-use\) PPE used in health care sector](#)
 - [Compostable disposable surgical masks and compostable disposable respirators used in the Canadian health care system](#)
- The following regulations were posted:
 - [PC 2020-0805](#) – Regulations amending the income tax regulations, No. 2 (COVID-19 – Wage Subsidy for Furloughed Employees) (made under the *Income Tax Act*).
 - Extension of the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) treatment for furloughed employees to October 24, 2020.
 - [PC 2020-0804](#) – Regulations amending the Canada labour standards regulation (made under the *Canada Labour Code*).
 - Regulations to temporarily suspend an employer's ability to require an employee to provide a certificate from a health-care practitioner if he or she is absent for three or more days on medical leave.

- The following orders (made under the *Quarantine Act*) have now been published in the October 17 *Canada Gazette*, Part I:
 - Minimizing the risk of exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Mandatory Isolation), No. 6
 - Minimizing the risk of exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country Other than the United States)
 - Minimizing the risk of exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States)

U.S. – Federal

- CDC: Case investigation and contact tracing in non-health-care workplaces: [Information for employers](#).
- [Notice](#): Availability of COVID-19-related guidance documents:
 - Pursuant to the process described in the March 25, 2020, notice, FDA is announcing the availability of the COVID-19-related guidances.
 - The guidances are available at FDA's webpage entitled [COVID-19-Related Guidance Documents for Industry, FDA Staff, and Other Stakeholders](#) and through FDA's web page entitled [Search for FDA Guidance Documents](#).
- New coronavirus infections rise to record highs in U.S. Midwest and beyond. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- 21,443 cases, an increase of 244 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- 11,034 cases, an increase of 142 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- Effective Monday, October 19, 2020, at 12:01 a.m. (EDT), York Region will join Ottawa, Peel and Toronto public health regions in a modified Stage 2, as a result of their trends in public health indicators, including higher than average rates of COVID-19 transmission. ([News Release](#))
- The following regulations were added to E-laws this afternoon (made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*):
 - [O. Reg. 577/20](#): Stages of Reopening
 - [O. Reg. 578/20](#): Rules for Areas in Stage 2
 - [O. Reg. 579/20](#): Rules for Areas in Stage 3
- Greenfield Global is investing a total of C\$75-million at their facility in Johnstown Ontario to produce the medical-grade alcohol critical to making hand sanitizers. The Ontario government is investing C\$2.5-million through the Ontario Together Fund in support of this project. ([News Release](#))
- 62,908 cases, an increase of 712 since yesterday, including nine deaths.

Quebec

- Quebecers need to further reduce contacts to slow COVID-19, projections suggest. ([CBC](#))
 - Tightened restrictions imposed earlier this month in the greater Montréal and Québec areas, as well as the Chaudière-Appalaches region south of the provincial capital, are to

last until at least October 28. But Premier François Legault said it's "likely" some of the stricter rules will last longer in those regions. ([CBC](#))

- The Quebec government grants financial compensation to companies in the sale of alcohol for consumption onsite. ([News Release](#))
 - This new assistance measure targets entrepreneurs holding a permit authorizing the sale of alcohol for consumption on site, including:
 - Bars
 - Restaurants and clubs
 - Holders of a video lottery terminal license related to the operation of a bar
 - Certain holders of an alcoholic-beverage manufacturer's license, such as artisanal alcoholic beverage or beer producers
 - Brewers
- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-79](#) – Related to measures for the region health services in Montérégie, for municipalities that are not of the Montréal Metropolitan Community, and to the territories of regional county municipalities of Arthabaska and L'Érable, in the health region of Mauricie and Center-du-Québec.
- 91,018 cases, an increase of 1,055 since yesterday, including one death.

October 15, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food and Manitoba Minister of Agriculture and Resource Development, Blaine Pedersen, announced the launch of the 2020 Canada-Manitoba Finished Cattle Feed Assistance Program, which will provide up to C\$2.5-million in direct support of Manitoba cattle producers impacted by the pandemic. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 21,199 cases, an increase of 243 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- 10,892 cases, an increase of 158 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario government says it is reviewing COVID-19 guidelines and restrictions surrounding gyms and cycling studios across the province after a major outbreak at a cycling studio in Hamilton. ([CTV](#))
- Ontario adding over 200 more transitional care beds across the province. ([News Release](#))
- 61,413 cases, an increase of 783 since yesterday, including five deaths.

Quebec

- [Order in Council No. 1051-2020](#) – Related to the public health emergency being renewed to October 21, 2020 (published in the October 15 *Gazette officielle du Québec*).
- Minister Isabelle Charest announces a C\$70-million assistance plan for recreation and sport. ([News Release](#))
- 89,963 cases, an increase of 969 since yesterday, including eight deaths.

October 14, 2020

Canada – Federal

- The following regulations were published in today's [Canada Gazette, Part II](#):
 - S.O.R./2020-207 – *Regulations Amending the Income Tax Regulations (COVID-19 – Wage Subsidy for Furloughed Employees)*
 - S.O.R./2020-208 – Interim Order No. 10 Amending the *Employment Insurance Act* (Employment Insurance Emergency Response Benefit)
 - S.O.R./2020-213 – Establishment Licence Fees Remission Order (Indication of an Activity in respect of a COVID-19 Drug) (under the *Food and Drugs Act*)
- Canada announced funding of up to C\$50-million to support organizations providing supports and services to those experiencing gender-based violence. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Defense announced an agreement with AstraZeneca for late-stage development and large-scale manufacturing of the company's COVID-19 investigational product AZD7442, a cocktail of two monoclonal antibodies, that may help treat or prevent infection with SARS-CoV-2, the coronavirus that causes COVID-19. ([News Release](#))

Alberta

- 20,956 confirmed cases, an increase of 961 since Friday, including four deaths.

British Columbia

- State of emergency extended to October 27, 2020/ ([News Release](#))
- [O.I.C. 571/2020](#) – Extending the state of emergency to October 27, 2020 (under the *Emergency Program Act*).
- 10,734 confirmed cases, an increase of 549 since Friday, including five deaths.

Ontario

- Effective October 16 and until further notice, short-term and temporary absences for social or personal reasons will not be allowed at long-term care homes in Toronto, Peel and Ottawa. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario hiring hundreds more contact tracers and case managers. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario seeking immediate federal action to help farmers. ([News Release](#))
- 61,413 confirmed cases, an increase of 721 since yesterday, no deaths.

Quebec

- Premier Legault and Minister of Health and Social Services Christian Dubé announced changes to the alert levels of certain regions, moving the regions to red or orange. ([News Release](#) and [Erratum](#))
- Palliative and end-of-life care visitor guidelines (COVID-19) were posted. ([Guidelines](#))
- 88,994 confirmed cases, an increase of 844 since yesterday, including one death in the past 24 hours and five earlier deaths.

October 13, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- A new online tool kit is helping workplaces build a customized COVID-19 health and safety plan. ([News Release](#))
 - The online hub provides one-stop access to more than 40 free resources. The guide includes information on the responsibilities of employers and workers and what workplaces should do to control risks.
 - Topics covered include how the coronavirus spreads, employers' duties, handling work refusals, hazard and risk assessment identification for COVID-19, and how to control the risk and apply the hierarchy of controls in the workplace.
- The application process for the Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB) opened yesterday. ([News Release](#))
- Canada will be discussing a coordinated global response to COVID-19 at the G7, G20 and annual meetings of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The White House is pushing for a limited coronavirus relief bill as a broader effort is meeting resistance. ([National Post](#))
- The U.S. government has entered into an agreement with life sciences company Cytiva, a unit of Danaher Corp., to expand the manufacturing of products needed to make COVID-19 vaccines, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services said on Tuesday. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- 19,995 cases, an increase of 277 on Friday, no deaths.

British Columbia

- Updated orders from the Provincial Health Officer on [Gatherings and Events](#) and [Food and Liquor Serving Premises](#) (made under the *Public Health Act*).
- 10,185 cases, an increase of 119 on Friday, no deaths.

Ontario

- The following regulations were added to E-Laws, related to the recently announced restrictions for Toronto, Ottawa and Peel health region (made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act*):
 - [O.Reg. 574/2020](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 3
 - [O.Reg. 573/2020](#) – Stages of Reopening
 - [O.Reg. 572/2020](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 2
- To provide relief for local restaurants and other businesses impacted by the new public health measures, Ontario announced C\$300-million to help offset fixed costs, including property taxes, hydro and natural gas bills. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario is increasing production of COVID-19 testing supplies. The province is partnering with Mississauga-based Microbix Biosystems to strengthen domestic capacity. ([News Release](#))
- A new agreement between Ontario and the federal government will see Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada invest an additional C\$11.6-million to help support efforts by Ontario producers to stop the spread of COVID-19 on their farms. ([News Release](#))
- 60,692 cases, an increase of 3,011 since Friday, including 12 deaths.

Quebec

- The Government of Quebec has announced support of more than C\$263-million for Montréal to offset the financial impacts of the pandemic. ([News Release](#))
- The CNESST has launched the third phase of its prevention campaign in workplaces in the context of COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-078](#) – Related to the restrictions on the city of Gatineau and the regional county municipality of Collines-de-l'Outaouais.
- 87,791 cases, an increase of 3,697 since Friday, including 18 deaths.

October 5 – October 9

October 9, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The government plans to introduce legislation for new, targeted support to help businesses through the pandemic. ([News Release](#))
 - The new Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy would provide rent and mortgage support until June 2021 for qualifying organizations affected by COVID-19.
 - Organizations would be able to make claims retroactively for the period that began September 27 and ends October 24, 2020.
 - Rent-relief plan allows small-businesses to apply directly for funds.
 - A top-up Canada Emergency Rent Subsidy of 25 per cent for organizations temporarily mandated to shut down.
 - The extension of the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy until June 2021.
 - An expanded Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA), which would enable businesses and not-for-profits eligible for a CEBA loan that continue to be seriously impacted by the pandemic to access an interest-free loan of up to C\$20,000, in addition to the original CEBA loan of C\$40,000.
 - The application deadline for CEBA is being extended to December 31, 2020. Further details, including the launch date and application process, will be announced in the coming days.
- The following orders were added to the Orders in Council database today:
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Mandatory Isolation), No. 6 (made under the *Quarantine Act*) related to clarifying existing exemptions granted by the Chief Public Health Officer.
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country other than the United States) related to entry of extended family, compassionate grounds and students.
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States).
- Orders under the *Time Limits and Other Periods Act* (COVID-19), the *Quarantine Act* and the *Aeronautics Act* have now been added to the October 10 [Canada Gazette, Part I](#).
- Government of Canada and provincial partners support research addressing mental health impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Alberta's government is implementing [voluntary public health measures](#) to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the Edmonton Zone and protect the health of Albertans.
 - Effective immediately, all residents and visitors to the Edmonton Zone should:
 - Limit their social and family gatherings to no more than 15 people.
 - Wear non-medical masks in all indoor work settings, except when alone in workspaces, such as offices or cubicles, and where separated from others or an appropriate barrier is in place.
 - Limit their number of cohorts to no more than three (a core/household cohort; a school cohort; and one additional sport, social or other cohort). Young children who attend childcare centres could be part of four cohorts, given that childcare cohorts have not shown a high-risk of spreading COVID-19.
- 19,718 confirmed cases, an increase of 364 since yesterday, including two deaths.

British Columbia

- 10,066 confirmed cases, an increase of 110 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Effective Saturday, October 10, 2020, at 12:01 a.m. (EDT), additional targeted measures are being implemented in Ottawa, Peel and Toronto. ([News Release](#))
 - Measures under a modified Stage 2 include:
 - Limiting trips outside of home, except for essential purposes only such as work where it is not possible to work from home, school, grocery shopping, medical appointments and outdoor healthy physical activity.
 - Limiting travel to other regions in the province other than for essential purposes.
 - Reducing limits for all social gatherings and organized public events to a maximum of 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors where physical distancing can be maintained. The two limits may not be combined for an indoor-outdoor event.
 - Prohibiting indoor food and drink service in restaurants, bars and other food and drink establishments, including nightclubs and food court areas in malls.
 - Closing of:
 - Indoor gyms and fitness centres.
 - Casinos, bingo halls and other gaming establishments, and indoor cinemas.
 - Performing arts centres and venues, and spectator areas in racing venues.
 - Interactive exhibits or exhibits with high risk of personal contact in museums, galleries, zoos, science centres, landmarks, etc.
 - Prohibiting personal care services where face coverings must be removed for the service (e.g., makeup application, beard trimming).
 - Reducing the capacity limits for:
 - Tour and guide services to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors.
 - Real estate open houses to 10 people indoors, where physical distancing can be maintained.
 - In-person teaching and instruction (e.g., cooking class) to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors, with exemptions for schools, childcare centres, universities,

colleges of applied arts and technology, private career colleges, the Ontario Police College, etc.

- Meeting and event spaces to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors.
- Limiting team sports to training sessions (no games or scrimmages).
- There has been an increase in COVID-19 precautions for congregate care settings. Further direction will help protect vulnerable people and those who care for them. ([News Release](#))
- 57,681 cases, an increase of 939 since yesterday, including five deaths.

Quebec

- The Minister of Health and Social Services, Christian Dubé, announced that new sectors will go to the red level. To ensure compliance with instructions and limit non-essential travel between regions, random police checkpoints will be deployed starting tomorrow. ([News Release](#) and [Order](#))
 - The health region of the Capitale-Nationale, the MRC de Portneuf; the health region of Mauricie-et-Centre-du-Québec, the RCMs of Drummond, Bécancour and Nicolet-Yamaska; and the city of Trois-Rivières are being added to the red level.
 - For these sectors, most of the measures will come into effect on Saturday, October 10, such as the closure for restaurants, bars and other places concerned. However, certain measures, in particular those concerning schools and sports, will come into force on Wednesday, October 14.
 - The applicable measures for the red zones are online at: quebec.ca/zonerouge.
- The number of hospitalized COVID-19 patients could reach hospital capacity in the next four weeks. ([News Release](#))
- A reminder of the terms and conditions concerning hunting activities during the COVID-19 pandemic. ([News Release](#))
- 84,094 cases, an increase of 1,102 since yesterday, including four deaths.

October 8, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. – Federal

- Pelosi seeks airline aid and comprehensive deal as U.S. COVID-19 talks resume. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- New [public health guidance](#) for how long students are required to stay home from school when they have different symptoms of COVID-19.
- 19,354 confirmed cases, an increase of 143 since yesterday, no deaths.

British Columbia

- COVID-19 patios in downtown Victoria to remain until October 2021. ([CTV](#))
- 9,956 confirmed cases, an increase of 115 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- Mayor John Tory and the city's top doctor, Eileen de Villa, presented new modelling numbers on Wednesday, suggesting that COVID-19 will get worse if additional measures aren't enforced. ([680 news](#))
 - City of Toronto urges residents to celebrate Thanksgiving only within their households to slow second wave of COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario is investing C\$9-million through the new Reconnect Festival and Event Program to support municipalities and event organizers during COVID-19. This funding will be used to maintain public safety requirements and allow people to reconnect with their communities through online, drive-through and other innovative experiences. ([News Release](#))
- 56,742 confirmed cases, an increase of 797 since yesterday, including four deaths.

Quebec

- The Quebec government has instructed police to increase presence around high schools. Starting today, high school students in red zones must wear masks at all times on school grounds. ([CBC](#))
- The following orders were issued:
 - [Order in Council No. 1023-2020](#) – The public health emergency has been extended to October 14, 2020.
 - [Order in Council No. 1039-2020](#) – Related to the school/education and sport activity restrictions announced earlier this week.
- Quebec will be receiving federal funding to support childcare. ([News Release](#))
- 82,992 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,078 since yesterday, including two deaths.

October 7, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) to launch expression of interest process for service delivery improvements projects. ([News Release](#))
 - As part of a government-wide response to the current pandemic, IRCC will allocate approximately C\$30-million in SDI funding in the first year toward settlement services for newcomers to safely and sustainably recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- New interest relief measure to provide much-needed help to Canada Student Loan borrowers on medical or parental leave. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The National Institutes of Health, working in collaboration with the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority, today announced a third round of contract awards for scale-up and manufacturing of new COVID-19 testing technologies. ([News Release](#))
- COVID-19 Related Relief Concerning Operations at Chicago O'Hare International Airport, John F. Kennedy International Airport, Los Angeles International Airport, Newark Liberty International Airport, New York LaGuardia Airport, Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, and San Francisco International Airport for the Winter 2020/2021 Scheduling Season. ([Notice](#))
- U.S. starts forgiving pandemic loans amid criticism and uncertainty. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Made-in-Calgary masks to help protect Albertans. A Calgary-based company will create up to 100 jobs and provide more than 40 million locally made medical masks to Alberta Health Services. ([News Release](#))
- 19,211 confirmed cases, an increase of 276 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- 9,841 confirmed cases, an increase of 102 since yesterday, including two deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario supports small Main Street businesses with C\$60-Million in funding through PPE grant. New measures will help businesses reopen safer, rehire faster and recover from COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
 - Today, Prabmeet Sarkaria announced Ontario's Main Street Recovery Plan and intends to introduce the [Main Street Recovery Act, 2020](#) (Bill 215) proposed legislation that would support small businesses and modernize rules to allow them to innovate and meet the challenges of today.
 - The plan's regulatory and legislative changes, if passed, will:
 - Commit to exploring options to permanently allow licensed restaurants and bars to include alcohol with food as part of a takeout or delivery order before the existing regulation expires.
 - Permanently allow 24/7 deliveries to businesses that include retail stores, restaurants and distribution facilities.
 - Support the distribution of local food and food products by increasing the range of products sold at the Ontario Food Terminal.
 - Enable Community Net Metering demonstration projects to help support local communities to develop innovative community projects like net-zero or community micro-grids.
 - Modernize the Assistive Devices Program.
 - Support Ontario's Taxi and Limousine Industry by increasing fines for illegal operators.
- The Government of Canada will support Ontario dairy processors to enhance productivity and protect worker health. ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#))
 - Through the Dairy Processing Investment Fund, the Government of Canada has approved over C\$28-million in funding for 29 projects across Ontario that will benefit cheese, yogurt, cream and butter processors.
- Ontario is building a modern, connected and comprehensive mental health and addictions system. The province will invest in an additional C\$176-million to expand access to critical services. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario recently announced it would end testing for asymptomatic people at its 153 COVID-19 assessment centres, instead moving to an appointment-only model for those with symptoms of the disease. Health experts have cautioned the change could result in artificially deflated new daily case numbers this week. ([CBC](#))
- 55,945 confirmed cases, an increase of 583 since yesterday, including one death.

Quebec

- Ministers Blais and Dubé announced relaxed restrictions to allow people to visit loved ones who are near death. ([News Release](#))
- [Bill 66](#), *An Act respecting the acceleration of certain infrastructure projects*, was referred to the Committee on Public Finance.
- 81,914 confirmed cases, an increase of 900 since yesterday, including four deaths.

October 6, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada signs new agreement for COVID-19 rapid tests with Abbott Rapid Diagnostics. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The Food and Drug Administration has told coronavirus vaccine developers it wants at least two months of safety data from half of their trial volunteers in order to authorize emergency use, a requirement that would likely push any U.S. vaccine availability past the November 3 presidential election. ([Reuters](#))
- Trump says stimulus relief negotiations are over until after the election, upending aid talks. ([Washington Post](#))

Alberta

- 18,935 confirmed cases, an increase of 578 since Friday, including eight deaths.

British Columbia

- B.C.'s COVID-19 reproduction rate is falling and its growth rate flattening, provincial health officer Dr. Bonnie Henry reported Monday. ([Beaumont News](#))
- 9,739 confirmed cases, an increase of 358 since Friday, including four deaths.

Ontario

- [Draft regulations](#) under the *Farm Registration and Farm Organizations Funding Act, 1993*, which establishes the Farm Business Registration Program (FBR Program) to support electronic delivery of the Farm Business Registration program, reduce administrative burden for farmers and provide flexibility due to COVID-19 was added to the Regulatory Registry.
- Report of high COVID-19 test positivity rates in some Toronto neighbourhoods "very concerning," Yaffe says. ([Toronto Star via CP24](#))
 - According to *The Star*, four areas with positivity rates of more than 10 per cent include Weston and Finch, Sheppard and Jane, Lawrence and Keele, and an area northeast of Yonge and Eglinton.
- The government will add more testing locations to improve access and reduce wait times, as well as increase processing capacity within the provincial laboratory network. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario increases mental health funding for postsecondary students. Investment will increase access to more programs, community services and mental health workers. ([News Release](#))
- 55,362 confirmed cases, an increase of 615 since yesterday, including seven deaths.

Quebec

- Following a sharp increase in deaths and hospitalizations, Quebec Health Minister Christian Dubé called Tuesday on all Quebecers to stay home, regardless of the alert level in their region. ([CBC](#))
- [Ministerial Order 2020-076](#) – Related to Health Canada's COVID Alert application. ([News Release](#))

- Support of over C\$68-million to mitigate the financial impacts of the pandemic on municipalities in the Capitale-Nationale region. ([News Release](#))
- 81,014 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,364 since yesterday, including seven deaths.

October 5, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada has introduced three new benefits, delivered by the Canada Revenue Agency: the Canada Recovery Benefit (CRB), the Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit (CRSB) and the Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit (CRCB). ([News Release](#))
 - The Minister of National Revenue opened the application process for the CRSB and the CRCB. Applications for the CRB will be accepted as of October 12, 2020.
 - More information can be found on the newly updated [Canada Recovery Benefits web pages](#).
- On Friday evening, the government released its [backgrounder](#) on Bill C-4, *COVID-19 Response Measures Act*, that was passed last week. ([News Release](#))
- Agriculture and Agri-food Minister Marie-Claude Bibeau today announced that applications are now being accepted for the Emergency On-Farm Support Fund in certain provinces and territories. ([News Release](#))
 - This fund provides a C\$35-million investment to improve health and safety on farms and in employee living quarters to prevent and respond to the spread of COVID-19.
- At a press conference earlier today, Trudeau promised additional federal help for COVID hotspots in Quebec, Ontario and Alberta. ([CBC](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 18,357 confirmed cases, an increase of 122 on Friday, including three deaths.

British Columbia

- 9,381 confirmed cases, an increase of 161 on Friday, including three deaths.

Ontario

- Ford reluctant to enforce anymore closures, for now. ([CBC](#))
 - Last week, Toronto's chief medical officer, Dr. Eileen de Villa, announced recommendations to help curb the current resurgence of COVID-19 cases in the city. Her proposals included shutting down indoor dining at Toronto restaurants for four weeks, as well as prohibiting indoor fitness and recreation activities.
- The Premier said he is reluctant to close restaurants in order to preserve income for small business owners.
- The Ontario government is announcing the allocation of C\$35-million to provide additional immediate school-board supports in the communities of Peel, Ottawa, Toronto and York Region to enhance public health measures and protection strategies. ([News Release](#))
- The following regulation was added to E-Laws this afternoon:

- [O.Reg. 546/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 3 (made under *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*) related to the restrictions announced Friday for Peel, Toronto and Ottawa.
- 54,814 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,834 since Friday, nine deaths.

Quebec

- Additional measures will be put in place as of October 8 and will be in effect until October 28 in education and higher education networks as well as in leisure and sport for regions that have reached the maximum red alert level (as of today, Quebec regions in red zones are Montréal and Laval, as well as parts of Québec, Chaudière-Appalaches, Lanaudière, the Laurentians, Montérégie and Gaspésie). ([News Release](#))
 - Extension of the obligation to wear a mask in the red zone. Prior to the new restrictions, students grade four and up were required to wear a mask when walking in indoor shared spaces, such as hallways, and while on the school bus, but the province had resisted making masks mandatory in the classroom.
 - Reinforcement of measures to minimize social contact in the school context.
 - Pausing organized leisure and sports.
 - Training rooms and fitness centres will be closed.
 - Students in grades 10 and 11 will pivot to a hybrid form of schooling, where they will be physically in school only one out of every two days to reduce class sizes.
- In-person courses and activities in universities and CEGEPs (community colleges) are also suspended in red zones, with only limited exceptions. ([CBC](#))
- The Quebec government also announced the launch of recruitment platform. This platform will speed up the recruitment of people wishing to be supervisors of students, janitors or educators in school day care. ([News Release](#))
- The following orders were issued on Friday evening:
 - [Ministerial Order No. 2020-075](#) – Related to access to the territories of Municipalité Pointe-à-la-Croix and the Listuguj Community, in the Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine health region.
 - [Ministerial Order No. 2020-074](#) – Related to municipal elections.
- 79,650 confirmed cases, an increase of 3,377 since Friday, including 10 deaths.

September 2020

September 28 – October 2

October 2, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada expands the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund to provide further support for businesses. ([News Release](#))
- Helping agri-food businesses with Canada Brand digital marketing during COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- The government has introduced new border measures to protect Canadian public health and provided an update on travel restrictions. ([News Release](#))
 - These processes will provide for the entry of:

- Certain extended family members of Canadian citizens and Canadian permanent residents, including those in an exclusive dating relationship of at least one year and their dependent children, as well as adult children, grandchildren, siblings and grandparents.
- Foreign nationals for compassionate reasons in specific circumstances, such as life-threatening illness, critical injury or death, with potential limited release from quarantine.
- International students, starting October 20, 2020, if they will be attending a designated learning institution that has been identified by their provincial or territorial government as having a COVID-19 readiness plan in place.
- S.C. 2020, c. 12 ([Bill C-4](#)) *COVID-19 Response Measures Act* received royal assent today. Coming into force information is set out at the end of each part. If there is no CIF information provided, the part comes into force on royal assent.
- The following orders were added to the October 3 *Canada Gazette*, Part I:
 - [Order](#) Approving the Interim Order Respecting the Importation, Sale and Advertising of Drugs for Use in Relation to COVID-19 (made under the *Food and Drugs Act*) – includes explanatory note.
 - Made under the *Time Limits and Other Periods Act (COVID-19)*:
 - [Order](#) Extending a Time Limit Established by the Pension Benefits Division Act (COVID-19).
 - [Order](#) Respecting Time Limits Established by or Under the Lieutenant Governors Superannuation Act (COVID-19).
 - [Order](#) Respecting Time Limits Established by or Under the Members of Parliament Retiring Allowances Act (COVID-19).
 - [Order](#) Respecting Time Limits Established by or Under the Public Service Superannuation Act (COVID-19).
 - [Order](#) Respecting Time Limits Established by the Diplomatic Service (Special) Superannuation Act (COVID-19).
- The Government of Canada and Canada's video game industry team up to #CRUSHCOVID. ([News Release](#))
- Health Canada begins first authorization review of a COVID-19 vaccine submission. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 18,235 confirmed cases, an increase of 173 since yesterday, including two deaths.

British Columbia

- 9,220 confirmed cases, an increase of 82 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Ontario implementing additional public health and testing measures. ([News Release](#) – full text of orders are forthcoming)
 - [New Public Health Measures](#) (in effect on Saturday, October 3, 2020, at 12:01 a.m.):
 - 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.

- The following targeted measures will also be implemented in **Ottawa, Peel and Toronto**:
 - Indoor capacity limit to restrict occupancy at restaurants, bars and other food and drink establishments (including nightclubs) to a maximum of 100 patrons, permitting no more than six patrons per table.
 - Mandating that the name and contact information for each patron be collected.
 - 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.
 - 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.
- New Measures for Testing:
 - Transitioning to appointment-based testing at Ontario assessment centres beginning Tuesday, October 6, 2020. On October 4, 2020, assessment centres will discontinue walk-in testing services.
 - Expanding the number of pharmacies where people with no symptoms within provincial testing guidance can get tested.
 - Implementing updated testing guidance for children to help parents determine when it is most appropriate for students, children and their families to seek a test for COVID-19.
- In addition, the government is:
 - Extending the pause on any further reopening of businesses, facilities and organizations **for an additional 28 days**, unless already permitted to open.
 - Pausing social circles and advising that all Ontarians allow close contact only with people living in their own household and maintain two metres physical distancing from everyone else (individuals who live alone may consider having close contact with another household).
 - Toronto's Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Eileen de Villa, today wrote to the Province of Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. David Williams, with strong recommendations to significantly reduce the further spread of COVID-19 in Toronto. ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#))
 - The following public health measure recommendations were made to the province today:
 - Restaurants and Bars: Prohibiting indoor dining.
 - General Public: Individuals to only leave their homes for essential trips. Dr. de Villa recommends that people only leave their homes for essential activities, such as work, education, exercise and fitness, healthcare appointments and the purchase of food. Up to two individuals from outside a household would be permitted to provide social support if an individual lives alone.
 - Recreation, Sports and Gyms: All indoor group classes in gyms and indoor sports team activities to be discontinued.
 - Managing Public Health Measures in Large Venues: Require a plan be submitted to Toronto Public Health demonstrating how these venues will comply with public health measures, such as seating that ensures physical distancing and a method to collect individual contact information.
- [S.O. 2020, c. 18](#), *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020*, Sched. 11, s. 1-12 proclaimed in force January 1, 2021.
 - Schedule 11 enacts the *Modernizing Ontario for People and Businesses Act, 2020* and repeals the *Burden Reduction Reporting Act, 2014* and the *Reducing Regulatory Costs for Business Act, 2017*.
- 52,980 confirmed cases, an increase of 732 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Quebec

- Update of the economic recovery plan for the cultural sector. The Legault government invests an additional C\$50-million to help the cultural sector. ([News Release](#))
- [Updated guidance](#) on travelling from one region to another or from one city to another during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Government of Canada expands Regional Relief and Recovery Fund to provide further support for businesses in Quebec. ([News Release](#))
- 76,273 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,052 since yesterday, including six deaths.

October 1, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Prime Minister announces a new infrastructure plan to create jobs and grow the economy. ([News Release](#))
 - The growth plan will invest in five major initiatives:
 - C\$2.5-billion for clean power to support renewable generation and storage and transmit clean electricity between provinces, territories and regions, including to northern and Indigenous communities.
 - C\$2-billion to connect approximately 750,000 homes and small businesses to broadband in underserved communities so Canadians can better participate in the digital economy.
 - C\$2-billion to invest in large-scale building retrofits to increase energy efficiency and help make communities more sustainable.
 - C\$1.5-billion for agriculture irrigation projects to help the agriculture sector enhance production, strengthen Canada's food security and expand export opportunities.
 - C\$1.5-billion to accelerate the adoption of zero-emission buses and charging infrastructure so Canadians can have cleaner commutes.
- A promise of hybrid sittings of the upper house clears the way for the Senate to deal with the new worker aid bill. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- Government of Canada COVID-19 measures are delivering support for young people in Quebec this fall. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The FDA widens the U.S. safety inquiry into AstraZeneca coronavirus vaccine. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said she believes Democratic lawmakers and the White House are close to agreeing on the size of a coronavirus relief bill, and the House will bring the legislation to the floor on Thursday. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Canada and Alberta are investing in infrastructure projects in southern Alberta to strengthen the economy and build resilient communities. ([News Release](#))
- [Informational Publication](#) published on job-protected leaves.
- 18,062 confirmed cases, an increase of 153 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- 9,138 confirmed cases, an increase of 125 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- [Bill 204](#), *Helping Tenants and Small Businesses Act, 2020*, received royal assent this afternoon. Information on when the bill will come into force is set out at the end of each schedule.
- The following orders/regulations were added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 544/20](#) – Extension of Temporary Suspension Period (made under the *Corporations Act*).
 - [O.Reg. 543/20](#) – Extension of Temporary Suspension Period (made under the *Co-operative Corporations Act*).
 - [O.Reg. 542/20](#) – Extension of Temporary Suspension Period (made under the *Business Corporations Act*).
 - [O.Reg. 541/20](#) – Extension of Temporary Suspension Period (made under the *Condominium Act*).
- Ontario has revised COVID-19 screening guidance for schools and childcare. The updates reflect the latest public health advice. ([News Release](#))
 - The guidance can be found immediately at the [COVID-19 Screening Tool for Children in School and Child Care](#), and the refreshed online tool will launch on Friday, October 2 for download.
 - Children who have only a runny nose or sore throat will no longer need to test negative for COVID-19 in order to return to school or daycare, but they will still have to stay home for at least 24 hours. ([CTV](#))
- Speaking at a news conference earlier today, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. David Williams, said the province will take a targeted and regional approach if a decision is made to force more businesses to close. ([CTV](#))
 - Williams said that any new measures would be introduced regionally in order to combat the spread of COVID-19 in the province's hotspots. He is still "strongly recommending" that Ontario does not close schools.
- Ontario provides C\$461-million to temporarily enhance wages for personal support workers. New investments support the province's COVID-19 Fall Preparedness Plan. ([News Release](#))
- Toronto City Council voted unanimously to strengthen bylaws to prevent continued COVID-19 resurgence. ([News Release](#) and [Board of Health Recommendations](#))
 - Following yesterday's council vote, on Thursday, October 8, several new temporary bylaw amendments will come into force to:
 - Limit the total number of patrons permitted to be inside at any one time to 75 (down from 100).
 - Maintain a customer log for each patron, not just one person from the party.
 - Limit the maximum number of people able to sit at each table, both inside and outside, to six people (down from 10).
 - Keep background music and any other background sounds, such as from televisions or other electronic sound producing devices, no louder than the volume of normal conversation (with the exception of live performances carried out in accordance with the provincial Stage 3 regulation).
- 52,248 confirmed cases, an increase of 538 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Quebec

- New aid for businesses in regions on high alert. ([News Release](#))
 - The Quebec government is improving the Temporary Concerted Action Program for Enterprises (PACTE) and the Emergency Assistance Program for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (PAUPME) to help businesses targeted by a closure order in the context of the second wave of COVID-19.
- [O.C. 1020-2020](#) – Related to the recent restrictions on gatherings and [O.C. 1000-2020](#), the renewal of the public health emergency until October 7, 2020, was published in the October 1 *Gazette officielle du Québec*.
- The Ministry of Health and Social Services [updated the impacted economic sectors](#) in the red zone.
- 75,221 confirmed cases, an increase of 933 since yesterday, including two deaths.

September 30, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- [Bill C-4](#) received third reading in the House of Commons (without amendment) yesterday evening and today has been introduced at first reading in the Senate.
 - For regular, official updates about proceedings of the bill's passage in the Senate, click [here](#).
- Canada approves new rapid COVID-19 test for use in "coming weeks": PM. ([CTV](#))
- The following order/regulation was issued:
 - Order approving the [Interim Order Respecting the Importation, Sale and Advertising of Drugs for Use in Relation to COVID-19](#), made by the Minister of Health on September 16, 2020, to allow the issuance of an expedited authorization for the importation, sale and advertising of drugs used in relation to COVID-19 (made under the *Food and Drugs Act*).
 - [S.O.R./2020-0681](#) – *Regulations Amending Certain Regulations Made Under the Food and Drugs Act (Sale of a New Drug for Emergency Treatment)* to facilitate access to drugs for Canadians by modernizing the emergency provisions in the *Food and Drug Regulations* to arrive at less burdensome processes for drugs accessed through the Special Access Program or the Emergency Drug Release Program (made under the *Food and Drugs Act*).
- Regional Relief and Recovery Fund support for Atlantic Canadian businesses tops C\$63-million. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- U.S. Senate aims to pass government funding bill Wednesday, avoiding shutdown. ([Reuters](#))
 - Pelosi and Mnuchin meet in bid to reach U.S. COVID-19 relief deal. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- 17,909 confirmed cases, an increase of 160 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- [Order in Council No. 570](#) – The state of emergency has been extended to October 13, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- Case numbers suggest B.C. COVID-19 curve is flat again. The provincial health officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, said on Monday public health officials are now finding very few new cases that cannot be connected to a previously confirmed case. ([Vancouver Sun](#))
- Premier Horgan pledges C\$1.4-billion and 10-year strategy to revamp long-term care in B.C. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- 9,013 confirmed cases, an increase of 105 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Toronto considers plan to support restaurants and bars amid new COVID-19 restrictions. Council holding hybrid meeting today to consider a report from Medical Officer of Health Dr. Eileen de Villa. ([CTV](#))
 - The report is recommending that council lower the allowed capacity at restaurants and bars from 100 to 75 and the maximum number of people permitted at any one table from 10 to six.
 - Dr. de Villa is also asking council to require that restaurants and bars collect contact information for each patron they serve. Currently, restaurants and bars only need to get contact information from one person for each table.
 - It would also see the city formally request that the province extend the order permitting the sale of alcohol as part of takeout and delivery orders through 2021 and continue its pause on commercial evictions “until the COVID-19 resurgence eases.”
 - Finally, the city would formally express its support of any provincial government actions to prevent the “astronomical” insurance premium increases that some businesses have reportedly faced so far in the pandemic.
- The Ontario government today released [updated COVID-19 modelling](#), which shows the province is experiencing a second surge in cases similar to what other jurisdictions have experienced. ([News Release](#))
 - Cases are currently doubling approximately every 10 to 12 days. The modelling does not take into account the government’s recent tightening of public health measures that included slashing social gatherings, closing strip clubs and tougher restrictions on bars and restaurants.
 - Ontario’s Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. David Williams, said the province will “have some more actions coming” to flatten the second wave of the disease ([CTV](#)) but still no word on when those regional rollbacks could take place.
- Ontario delivers C\$2.8-billion COVID-19 Fall Preparedness Plan. New investments prepare province for second wave of COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario modernizes social assistance to help more people re-enter the workforce. ([News Release](#))
 - As part of the first phase of the social assistance recovery and renewal plan, the province will be focusing on improved access to employment and training services, developing new digital tools and modern service options, and ways to process financial assistance faster.
- 51,710 confirmed cases, an increase of 625 since yesterday, including four deaths.

Quebec

- Retail stores see most workplace COVID-19 outbreaks in Montreal. ([Gazette](#))
- Revenu Québec will show flexibility with regard to individuals and businesses. ([News Release](#))
 - As announced during the first wave of COVID-19 last spring, Revenu Québec continues to adapt its interventions, both in terms of verification and inspection and collection.
- 74,288 confirmed cases, an increase of 838 since yesterday, including one death.

September 29, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- ****Correction from Monday's digest**** – Yesterday's [Bill C-4](#) is a revised version of Bill C-2 introduced last Thursday and proposes to implement new income support programs that were announced last month.
 - To secure the support of the NDP, the government agreed to increase minimum payments under the new programs from C\$400 a week to C\$500, matching the payment levels of CERB. It also agreed to broader criteria for Canadians seeking to access a new Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit for individuals who have experienced a drop in employment income of 50 per cent or more because they contracted COVID-19 or were required to isolate themselves. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
 - Under the Liberals' preferred timeline, the bill would undergo a lightning-round debate at second reading before being deemed passed at all stages that could put it in the queue for Senate approval as early as Wednesday. ([iPolitics](#))
 - For regular, official updates about proceedings of the bill's passage in the House of Commons today, please click here: [@HoCChamber](#).
- FCAC offers information to help consumers understand their options as mortgage deferrals begin to expire. ([News Release](#))
- Transport Canada is expanding mandatory temperature screening to all passengers in 11 additional airports across the country. ([News Release](#))
- The federal government is publishing new guidance for companies developing rapid COVID-19 tests. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- The Government of Canada signs agreement for COVID-19 rapid tests and analyzers. ([News Release](#))
- The Prime Minister co-chaired a high-level meeting to address economic devastation caused by COVID-19 and announced new funding to fight the pandemic. ([News Release](#))
 - Trudeau announced an additional C\$400-million in international development funding this year.
- World leaders to focus on key actions to assist countries battered by the financial crisis caused by COVID-19. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi said on Monday that Democratic lawmakers unveiled a new US\$2.2-trillion coronavirus relief bill that she said was a compromise measure that reduces the costs of the economic aid. ([Reuters](#))
 - In a letter to Democratic lawmakers released by Pelosi's office, she said the legislation "includes new funding needed to avert catastrophe for schools, small businesses, restaurants, performance spaces, airline workers and others."
- [CDC Guidance](#) for Reopening Buildings After Prolonged Shutdown or Reduced Operation (update).
- Trump, pressured over pandemic, says the states will receive 150 million tests. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- 17,749 confirmed cases, an increase of 406 since Friday, including four deaths.

British Columbia

- 8,908 confirmed cases, an increase of 267 since Friday, including three deaths.

Ontario

- The province has made changes to long-term care visits. As of October 5, Premier Ford said that visitors to long-term care homes in Toronto, Ottawa and Peel Region will be restricted to staff, essential visitors and essential caregivers only. ([CBC](#))
- The following regulation was added to e-laws yesterday evening:
 - [O.Reg. 531/20](#) – Rules For Areas in Stage 3, related to the sale and service of liquor (made under the *Reopening Ontario (a Flexible Response to Covid-19) Act, 2020*).
- Ontario is providing over half a billion dollars to protect vulnerable seniors against second wave of COVID-19. New investments are part of the government's COVID-19 Fall Preparedness Plan. ([News Release](#))
- 51,085 confirmed cases, an increase of 554 since yesterday, including four deaths.

Quebec

- Premier François Legault announced at a press conference yesterday evening that three regions of Quebec – Montréal, Québec and Chaudière-Appalache – are being moved to the “red zone.” Details are at www.quebec.ca/zonerouge. A map of the regions is found [here](#). ([News Release](#))
 - For 28 days (October 1 to October 28), the following restrictions will apply in these regions:
 - Bars, restaurants, casinos, theatres, museums and libraries are closed. Restaurants can open for takeout and delivery only.
 - Private gatherings are banned. Only people from the same address can be in a home. There are exceptions for one service person or caregiver.
 - There is a limit of 25 people for funerals and places of worship.
 - People must stay two metres apart outdoors and masks are mandatory during all demonstrations.
 - Schools and other businesses (stores, hair salons, hotels) remain open. The government said its priority is to protect schools so parents can work.
 - The limit of 25 per cent of workers in office towers in downtown Montréal will not change. However, the recommendation is to work from home as much as possible.
 - Inter-regional travel is not recommended (but is not prohibited).
- Quebec to adopt federal COVID-19 alert contact-tracing smartphone app. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- 73,450 confirmed cases, an increase of 799 since yesterday, including five deaths.

September 28, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The government introduced [Bill C-4](#), *COVID-19 Response Measures Act*, this afternoon. The bill's text appears to be identical to [Bill C-2](#), *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act*, other than the title.
- The federal government reached a deal with the NDP on Friday evening to soon pass the Liberals' recently tabled bill to implement a trio of new COVID-19 benefits to fill gaps left by the expiring Canadian Emergency Response Benefit program. ([CTV](#))
- On Friday evening the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, the Honourable Chrystia Freeland, proposed to extend the current treatment of furloughed employees under the wage subsidy program for the upcoming four-week period, from September 27 to October 24, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- The following orders were made under the *Quarantine Act*:

- Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Mandatory Isolation), No. 5.
- Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country other than the United States).

U.S. – Federal

- Under pressure over the coronavirus, Trump will be announcing more tests for all states. ([Reuters](#))
- The U.S. Department of Labor today announced the award of US\$8-million for three projects relating to Unemployment Insurance. ([News Release](#))

Alberta

- Alberta has reached what the government is calling a "testing milestone" in its battle to control the spread of the coronavirus.
 - The province's health minister and chief medical officer of health are expected to talk about this milestone and give the latest update on COVID-19 at a news conference today at 3:30 p.m. (MDT).
- Seven Alberta-based researchers are receiving funding for innovative technology projects that will help fight COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- 17,343 confirmed cases, an increase of 153 on Friday, no deaths.

British Columbia

- 8,641 confirmed cases, an increase of 98 on Friday, including one death.

Ontario

- Second wave could peak in October, modelling projects. ([CTV](#))
 - Dr. Kelly Barrett with the COVID-19 Modelling Collaborative, a group of scientists and clinicians from expert facilities in Toronto, said that Ontario could see a peak in infections in mid to late October.
 - Ford said this afternoon his government will not be rolling back to Stage 2 just yet.
- Ontario Investing C\$52.5-million to recruit, retain and support more health care w; initiative will ensure the province can meet any surge in demand during COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario launches recovery program for northern businesses impacted by COVID-19. Funding will support the purchase of personal protective equipment, installation of safety equipment and other important measures. ([News Release](#))
- 50,531 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,626 since Friday, including three deaths.

Quebec

- Montréal and Québec are set to enter the highest alert level. Bars and restaurants are among the expected targets of new restrictions announced today. ([CBC](#))
 - Premier François Legault is expected to hold a news conference at 5:30 p.m. (EDT) to outline the change.
 - When asked what containment measures the red zone label would entail, the minister said he had the difficult task of finding a balance to allow children to continue to go to school, for people to continue working and for certain businesses to remain open. ([CTV](#))
- Additional investments to strengthen support and safety for students and staff. The government of Quebec is confirming a series of additional investments totalling C\$85-million. ([News Release](#))

- Symptomatic people and people who have been in contact with an infected person will be prioritized for screening. ([News Release](#))
- [Ministerial Order 2020-072](#) – Related to measures for territories of the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal and Municipalité régionale de comté de La Rivière-du-Nord.
- 72,651 confirmed cases, an increase of 2,344 since Friday, including three deaths.

September 21 – September 25

September 25, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- The Government of Canada is creating a Canada-wide early learning and child care system ([News Release](#)).
- Flexible, more accessible employment insurance (EI) system to help support Canadians through the next phase of the recovery ([News Release](#)).
 - EI will now be available to more Canadians, including those who would not have qualified for EI in the past;
- For workers not eligible for EI, Bill C-2 was tabled in Parliament yesterday to create three new temporary Recovery Benefits to support Canadians who are unable to work for reasons related to COVID-19.
- Government of Canada announces temporary measure to compensate for the lack of insurance coverage for production stoppages due to confirmed COVID-19 cases on film sets in the audiovisual industry ([News Release](#)).
- New agreements to secure additional vaccine candidates for COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - Prime Minister Trudeau announced an agreement with AstraZeneca to procure up to 20 million doses of its COVID-19 vaccine candidate. This agreement adds to those already reached with Sanofi and GlaxoSmithKline, Johnson & Johnson, Novavax, Pfizer and Moderna, which were made following the recommendations of the COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force.
- [Interim Order](#) Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19, No. 8 was added to the September 26 Canada Gazette Part I (made under the *Aeronautics Act*).

U.S. Federal

- U.S. Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao announces US\$335-million in infrastructure grants to America's airports ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta's chief medical officer of health says the province is not in a second wave of COVID-19 despite increased daily case numbers in recent months ([Globe and Mail](#)).
 - "We have seen increased daily case counts for the past few months, but those have remained relatively stable," Hinshaw told a news conference.
- 17,190 confirmed cases, an increase of 158 since yesterday, 1 death.

British Columbia

- 8,543 confirmed cases, an increase of 148 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

Ontario

- New public health measures implemented province-wide to keep Ontarians safe ([News Release](#)).
 - To ensure the continued health and safety of Ontarians, reduce the risk of transmission, and limit future outbreaks of COVID-19, the amended order ([O.Reg. 530/20](#): Rules for Areas in Stage 3) will apply province-wide effective 12:01 a.m. on Saturday September 26 and will:
 - Apply additional measures and restrictions to restaurants, bars and other food and drink establishments (including nightclubs) by prohibiting the sale of alcohol after 11 p.m., and prohibiting the consumption of alcohol on the premises after 12 a.m. until 9 a.m. (including employees), and requiring establishments to close by 12 a.m. and remain closed until 5 a.m., except for takeout or delivery;
 - Close all strip clubs across the province; and
 - Require businesses or organizations to comply with any advice, [recommendations](#), and instructions issued by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health on screening for COVID-19.
- Ontario investing C\$741-million to reduce surgeries backlog and expand access to care; additional health capacity critical to responding to future surges and outbreaks ([News Release](#)).
- NDP publishes its [own recovery roadmap](#) ([CBC](#)).
- 48,905 confirmed cases, an increase of 409 since yesterday, 1 death.

Quebec

- COVID-19 pandemic: Minister Dubé asks for 28 days of effort to break the second wave ([News Release](#)).
 - According to the recommendation of the public health authorities, the Minister of Health and Social Services, Christian Dubé, announces today that the entire territory of the Montreal Metropolitan Community as well as the MRC de la Rivière-du-Nord, in the Laurentian region, go to the orange alert level.
- The government is announcing C\$2.3-billion in financial assistance to help the municipalities weather the crisis ([News Release](#)).
- The Government of Quebec is increasing its emergency assistance to Quebec public transit to C\$1.2-billion ([News Release](#)).
- 70,307 confirmed cases, an increase of 637 since yesterday, 4 deaths.

September 24, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- The Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister, Chrystia Freeland, and the Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion, Carla Qualtrough, announced the introduction of Bill C-2, to create three new temporary Recovery Benefits to support Canadians who are unable to work for reasons related to COVID-19 ([News Release](#) and [Background](#)).
 - [Bill C-2](#) COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act makes proposed amendments to the following:
 - *Canada Labour Code*;
 - *Canada Labour Standards Regulations*;
 - *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act*;
 - and enacts the *Canada Recovery Benefits Act* and the *Public Health Events of National Concern Payments Act*.
- Prime Minister's remarks addressing Canadians on the COVID-19 situation from yesterday evening ([News Release](#)).

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 17,032 confirmed cases, an increase of 143 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

British Columbia

- 8,395 confirmed cases, an increase of 91 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- Leaked document (obtained by CBC) reveals Ontario's plan to avoid another COVID-19 lockdown; the plan favours responding with targeted restrictions, rather than widespread closures or a lockdown.
 - The 21-page draft, provided by a government source this week, acknowledges the recent upsurge in new COVID-19 cases, and lays out three possible scenarios of what the second wave could look like: small, moderate or large ([CBC](#)).
- The following regulation was added to e-laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 529/20](#) Rules for Areas in Stage 3 (made under the *Reopening Ontario (a Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*)
- Ontario Investing More Than \$1 Billion to Expand COVID-19 Testing and Contact Tracing; Province Also Enhancing Efforts to Quickly Identify, Manage and Prevent COVID-19 Outbreaks ([News Release](#)).
 - [Updates to Ontario COVID-19 Testing Guidelines](#).
 - Ontario now discouraging asymptomatic COVID-19 testing at assessment centres ([CTV](#)).
- Ontario needs immediate restrictions on non-essential businesses, health-care leaders warn ([CTV](#)).
- Ontario Extends Critical Delivery Program for Seniors and People with Disabilities; Deliveries of food and essentials will continue into 2021 ([News Release](#)).
- 48,496 confirmed cases, an increase of 409 since yesterday, 1 death.

Quebec

- Avoid all social gatherings as COVID-19 community transmissions rise, health minister urges Quebecers ([CBC](#)).
- [Order in Council 965-2020](#) renewing the public health emergency to September 30th, 2020 added to the September 24th *Gazette officielle du Québec*.
- 69,670 confirmed cases, an increase of 582 since yesterday, 1 death.

September 23, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The [Speech from the Throne](#) opened the new session of Parliament this afternoon. This fall, the government will release an update to Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan. This will outline the government's economic and fiscal position, provide fiscal projections and set out new measures to implement this Throne Speech.

- Highlights as it relates to COVID-19 from the Throne Speech:
 - To prevent small clusters from becoming major outbreaks, communities may need to enact short-term closure orders. To make that decision easier for the public health authorities, the government will work to target additional financial support directly to businesses that have to temporarily shut down as a result of a local public health decision.
 - The Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy will be extended into next summer.
 - In addition to extending the wage subsidy, the government will take further steps to bridge vulnerable businesses to the other side of the pandemic by:
 - Expanding the Canada Emergency Business Account to help businesses with fixed costs.
 - Improving the Business Credit Availability Program.
 - Introducing further support for industries that have been the hardest hit, including travel and tourism, hospitality and cultural industries like the performing arts.
 - The government will work with Parliament on *Criminal Code* amendments to explicitly penalize those who neglect seniors under their care and work with the provinces and territories to set new, national standards for long-term care.
 - The government will bring forward a Disability Inclusion Plan/Benefit.
 - The government remains committed to a national, universal pharmacare program and will accelerate steps to achieve this system.
 - The government will launch a campaign to create over one million jobs, restoring employment to previous levels, including direct investments in the social sector and infrastructure and incentives for employers to hire and retain workers.
 - For people who would not traditionally qualify for EI, the government will create the transitional Canada Recovery Benefit.
 - Subsidizing before- and after-school program costs.
- [S.O.R./2020-207](#) – *Regulations Amending the Income Tax Regulations (COVID-19 – Wage Subsidy for Furloughed Employees)* in order to extend the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) treatment for furloughed employees to September 26, 2020 (made under the *Income Tax Act*). Full text forthcoming.
- Mapping out Canada's COVID-19 hotspots: new modelling shows where cases are rising. ([CTV](#))
 - [Update on COVID-19 in Canada: Epidemiology and Modelling](#) (Public Health Agency of Canada).
 - Data-driven models forecast short-term epidemic trajectory.
 - Experience of other countries shows resurgence can exceed the initial wave.
- Federal parties agree on "hybrid" House of Commons sittings through autumn. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- Feds promise help for surging COVID-19 test demand but won't OK rapid-test tech yet. ([CTV](#))
- The Prime Minister will deliver an address to the nation at 6:30 p.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) is announcing upcoming action by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to provide US\$200-million to jurisdictions for COVID-19 vaccine preparedness. ([News Release](#))
- CDC chief says he expects most Americans could receive COVID-19 vaccine by July 2021. ([The Globe and Mail](#))

Alberta

- Alberta's government will invest up to /C\$750-million from the Technology Innovation and Emissions Reduction (TIER) fund on a series of programs to create jobs and reduce emissions.

This investment is in direct response to the unprecedented economic consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic and low oil prices. ([News Release](#))

- 16,889 confirmed cases, an increase of 150 since yesterday, including two deaths.

British Columbia

- 8,304 confirmed cases, an increase of 96 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- Legislative activity:
 - [Bill 205](#), *Protecting Renters from Illegal Evictions Act, 2020* was tabled yesterday evening. Proposed amendments to the following acts:
 - *Legal Aid Services Act, 1998*
 - *Legal Aid Services Act, 2020*
 - *Ministry of Labour Act*
 - *Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Act*
 - *Protecting Tenants and Strengthening Community Housing Act, 2020*
 - *Residential Tenancies Act, 2006*
 - [Bill 204](#), *Helping Tenants and Small Businesses Act, 2020* received second reading this afternoon.
- Ontario expands COVID-19 testing to pharmacies; as of Friday, up to 60 pharmacies in Ontario will begin offering testing by appointment only, with further locations coming online in the coming weeks. ([News Release](#))
 - Full list of Ontario pharmacies offering COVID-19 testing as of Friday. ([CTV](#))
- The Ontario government is launching a recruitment campaign to increase its team of frontline health and safety inspectors by 98 and help ensure workplaces across the province are doing their part to prevent the spread of COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- 48,087 confirmed cases, an increase of 335 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Quebec

- Quebec Treasury Board President Sonia LeBel has tabled a new economic stimulus bill after the government was forced to withdraw its earlier proposed legislation, Bill 61, earlier this year. ([CBC](#))
 - [Bill 66](#), *An Act respecting the acceleration of certain infrastructure projects* would clear the way for 181 publicly funded infrastructure proposals, including highway projects, building renovations and the speeding up of the extension of the Montreal Metro Blue line. It will apply only to those projects, which include 50 new seniors' residences and CHSLDs, 40 school projects, 52 road and public transit projects, and eight government office renovations.
- [Ministerial Order 2020-069](#) – Related to the *Regulation respecting the professional activities that may be engaged in by medical technology externs*.
- 69,088 confirmed cases, an increase of 471 since yesterday, including one death.

September 22, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau will address Canadians in a national broadcast Wednesday evening, just hours after his government is scheduled to unveil its updated policy agenda in a Speech From the Throne. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
 - “He will also give a summary of the government’s plans in the Throne Speech to fight the virus and build our economic recovery.”
- Government of Canada signs new agreements to secure additional vaccine candidate and treatment for COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- Canada “at a crossroads”: COVID-19 will keep spreading if behaviours don’t change, Tam says. ([CTV](#))
- Canada signs deals for supply of Sanofi vaccine candidate and antiviral drug to treat COVID-19. ([CTV](#))

U.S. Federal

- [Testimony](#) by Chair Powell on *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act*.

Alberta

- Government House Leader Jason Nixon has indicated he will advise the Speaker to call Alberta MLAs back to the legislature on Tuesday, October 20. ([News Release](#))
- More support is coming to help relaunch childcare sector. Licensed childcare programs will receive C\$87-million in new funding as part of Alberta’s Recovery Plan and the federal Safe Restart agreement. ([News Release](#))
- Alberta is shifting to [targeted COVID-19 testing](#) to reduce testing wait times, speed up access to results and support Albertans during influenza season and the winter months.
- 16,739 confirmed cases, an increase of 358 since the weekend, including one death.

British Columbia

- The following orders were issued:
 - [Order in Council No. 526](#) – Related to motor vehicle regulations (fees, extension of “covid-19 emergency”) (made under the *Motor Vehicle Act* and the *Commercial Transport Act*).
 - [Order in Council No. 558](#) – Related to the *Carbon Tax Remission (COVID-19 Emergency) Regulation* (made under the *Financial Administration Act*, *Motor Fuel Tax Act* and the *Carbon Tax Act*).
 - [Order in Council No. 544](#) – *Emergency Benefit for Workers Regulation* (made under the *Income Tax Act*).
 - [Order in Council No. 547](#) – Related to the *Employment and Assistance Regulation* and the *Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Regulation* (made under the *Employment and Assistance Act* and the *Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Act*).
 - [Order in Council No. 564](#) – Related to *Local Government Grants Regulations* (COVID-19 Safe Restart Grants) (made under the *Local Government Grants Act*).
 - [Order in Council No. 566](#) – Related to amendments to the *COVID-19 Related Measures Act* (as per [Ministerial Order No. 358](#) – Food and Liquor Premises, Gatherings and Events (COVID 19) Order).
- 8,208 confirmed cases, an increase of 366 since the weekend, including four deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario set to launch largest flu immunization campaign in province’s history; new investments part of the government’s COVID-19 fall preparedness plan. ([News Release](#))

- The plan, entitled Keeping Ontarians Safe: Preparing for Future Waves of COVID-19, sets out a series of steps to prevent, identify and respond to any outbreak scenario this fall.
 - More details on Ontario's fall plan coming soon. Health Minister Christine Elliott added that the rest of province's fall preparedness plan will be unveiled in the "next several days."
 - The health minister said the plan focuses on six "key areas":
 - Maintaining public health measures, including expanding testing for the novel coronavirus and contact tracing.
 - Implementing the largest flu immunization campaign in the province's history.
 - Quickly identifying, managing and preventing outbreaks of the disease.
 - Accelerating efforts to reduce health service backlogs.
 - Preparing the province for surges in COVID-19 cases.
 - Recruiting, retaining, training and supporting health-care workers.
- The Ontario government is making it easier, faster and more affordable to access the justice system by investing in technology and providing more services online. This will enable the province to provide more remote proceedings and reduce the number of courthouse visits, making the justice system safer to access during the COVID-19 outbreak and recovery period. ([News Release](#))
- 47,752 confirmed cases, an increase of 478 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Quebec

- More regions in Quebec will be facing stricter restrictions as new cases and hospitalizations rise in the province. Quebec's Laval and Outaouais regions will be under "moderate alert," or the orange alert level, said Quebec Health Minister Christian Dubé in a news conference Tuesday. The Centre-Quebec region will move from green alert to yellow alert, he said. ([CBC](#))
- Implementation of a major financial incentive to encourage newly retired teachers to come and lend a hand to the school network. ([News Release](#) and [Order in Council 964-2020](#))
- 68,617 confirmed cases, an increase of 489 since yesterday, including one death.

September 21, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- Throne Speech will chart Liberals' path to pandemic recovery ([Globe and Mail](#)).
- The following Order has now been issued:
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States) (made under the *Quarantine Act*). The effective date of the previous Order extended to October 21, 2020.
- Government of Canada encouraging Indigenous participation in its response to COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- Latest COVID-19 research investment supports knowledge exchange on social, cultural and economic impact of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).

U.S. Federal

- U.S. House Democrats file bill to fund government through December 11, 2020, and avoid shutdown ([Reuters](#)).

- House Speaker Pelosi discusses aid with airline CEOs ([Reuters](#)).
- U.S. reverses COVID-19 testing guidance again: exposed without symptoms need tests ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- 16,381 confirmed cases, an increase of 107 on Friday, 1 death.

British Columbia

- Province updates measures to enforce COVID-19 public safety ([News Release](#)).
 - Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General Mike Farnworth is aligning the Province's ticketing measures with the provincial health officer's (PHO) updated orders on Food and Liquor Serving Premises and Gatherings and Events, giving police and other provincial enforcement officers the ability to issue violation tickets for contraventions.
 - B.C. announces expanded list of COVID-19 violations for restaurants and bars ([CBC](#)).
- 7,842 confirmed cases, an increase of 139 cases on Friday, 3 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario limits the size of unmonitored and private social gatherings across entire province ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario presses Ottawa to increase share of health funding; fair and flexible federal funding needed to fight COVID-19, modernize long-term care and build critical infrastructure ([News Release](#)).
- Added to e-laws this afternoon: [O.Reg. 519/20](#) Rules for Areas in Stage 3 (made under the *Reopening Ontario (a Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*).
- Ontario sees 425 new COVID-19 cases, most in more than 3 months ([CBC](#)).
- 47,274 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,197 since Friday, 3 deaths.

Quebec

- [Ministerial Order 2020-068](#) related to the further limits on gatherings.
- 'Red alert' looms in parts of Quebec ([CTV](#)).
- Update of regional alert levels and announcement of additional measures ([News Release](#)).
 - The Minister of Health and Social Services, Christian Dubé, announces that the regions of Montreal and Chaudière-Appalaches, as well as a portion of the Capitale-Nationale region, are moving to the orange level. He also announced that some parts of the Lanaudière and Laurentides regions are for their part going to the yellow level.
- 68,128 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,475 since Friday, 3 deaths.

September 14 – September 18

September 18, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Canada and the United States agreed to extend the temporary restriction of all non-essential travel across the Canada-U.S. border until October 21, 2020. ([News Release](#))

- British Columbia to receive federal funding to support childcare. ([News Release](#))
- C\$83-million in federal funding as part of the Safe Restart Agreement to ensure childcare spaces are available to support parents' gradual return to work.
- Over C\$12.3-million in relief and recovery funds flow to over 230 businesses in the Northwest Territories. ([News Release](#))
- Over C\$2.5-million in relief and recovery funds flow to 46 businesses in Nunavut. ([News Release](#))
- Government of Canada announces the Indigenous organizations in British Columbia who received funding to address the COVID-19 pandemic. ([News Release](#))
- Design of post-CERB benefits could change as COVID-19 pandemic shifts course, Qualtrough says. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- The following orders are published in the September 18 [Canada Gazette, Part I](#):
 - Order Extending a Period Established by the Wage Earner Protection Program Act (COVID-19) (under the *Time Limits and Other Periods Act (COVID-19)*)
 - Order Respecting Periods Under Certain Regulations Made Under the Canada Labour Code (COVID-19) (under the *Time Limits and Other Periods Act (COVID-19)*)
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any country other than the United States) [Erratum] (under the *Quarantine Act*)

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 16,274 confirmed cases, an increase of 146 since yesterday, no deaths.

British Columbia

- Premier John Horgan and Carole James, Minister of Finance, have released Stronger BC for Everyone: BC's Economic Recovery Plan. ([News Release](#))
 - The plan includes C\$1.5-billion in economic-recovery spending that was earmarked for recovery spending in the spring and is in addition to C\$660-million in tax measures and more than C\$1.86-billion in federal and provincial restart funding for municipalities, transit and education.
- Starting on September 28, 2020, civil jury trials will be suspended for a period of one year. ([News Release](#))
- [O.I.C. 517/2020](#) – Amending the *Supreme Court Civil Rules* (under the *Court Rules Act*)
- Patio, service-area expansions, sale and delivery of packaged liquor extended. ([News Release](#))
- [O.I.C. 515/2020](#) and [O.I.C. 516/2020](#) – Amending the *Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation* (under the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act*).
- Rent relief coming for outdoor adventure operators. ([News Release](#))
- [O.I.C. 518/2020](#), *Commercial Recreation Tenure (COVID-19 Emergency) Relief Regulation* (under the *Financial Administration Act*).
- TransLink, BC Transit and BC Ferries will share more than C\$1-billion under the federal/provincial Safe Restart Agreement. ([News Release](#))
- 7,663 confirmed cases, an increase of 165 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Premier Ford presses Ottawa to increase funding for Ontario priorities. ([News Release](#))
- Ford says restrictions on social gatherings will be expanded to other parts of Ontario. ([The Globe and Mail](#))

- [S.O. 2020, c. 18](#), *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020*: Schedule 3, ss. 1-11 (amending the *Development Charges Act, 1997*) and Schedule 17, ss. 1, 2, 4, and 5 (amending the *Planning Act*) proclaimed in force September 18, 2020. Related regulations:
 - [O. Reg. 509/20](#), *Community Benefits Charges and Parkland* (under the *Planning Act*).
 - [O. Reg. 510/20](#) and [O. Reg. 512/20](#) – Amending O. Reg. 232/18, *Inclusionary Zoning* (under the *Planning Act*).
 - [O. Reg. 511/20](#) – Amending O. Reg. 332/12, *Building Code* (under the *Building Code Act*).
 - [O. Reg. 513/20](#) and [O. Reg. 514/20](#) – Amending O. Reg. 82/98, *General* (under the *Development Charges Act, 1997*).
 - [O. Reg. 515/20](#) – Amending O. Reg. 173/16, *Community Planning Permits* (under the *Planning Act*).
- The following additional regulations were added to E-Laws today:
 - [O. Reg. 503/20](#) – Revoking O. Reg. 105/20, Order Made Under the Act – Extension of Emergency (under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*).
 - [O. Reg. 504/20](#) – Revoking O. Reg. 106/20, Order Made Under the Act – Extensions and Renewals of Orders (under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*).
 - [O. Reg. 517/20](#) – Amending R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 682, *Laboratories* (under the *Laboratory and Specimen Collection Centre Licensing Act*).
 - [O. Reg. 518/20](#) – Amending R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 683, *Specimen Collection Centres* ((under the *Laboratory and Specimen Collection Centre Licensing Act*).
- 46,077 confirmed cases, an increase of 401 since yesterday, no deaths.

Quebec

- Fight against the pandemic – Minister Guilbault announces a vast police operation in Quebec. ([News Release](#))
 - The operation will target over 1,000 licensed establishments, including bars, restaurants and reception venues over the next weekend.
- [M.O. 2020-64](#) – Regarding registration of visitors to seniors' residences (under the *Public Health Act*).
- 66,653 confirmed cases, an increase of 297 since yesterday, no deaths in the past 24 hours, but one death on an unknown date.

September 17, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau said his government's speech from the throne next week will still address Canada's future challenges, but his government has to focus on the present challenges of the pandemic. ([National Post](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. outlines sweeping plan to provide free COVID-19 vaccines. ([The Globe and Mail](#))

Alberta

- 16,128 confirmed cases, an increase of 171 since yesterday, no deaths.

British Columbia

- 7,498 confirmed cases, an increase of 122 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario introduces legislation to freeze residential rent in 2021. The proposed bill would also support small businesses by extending the ban on commercial evictions. ([News Release](#))
 - Bill 204, *Helping Tenants and Small Businesses Act*, also proposes to change the *Commercial Tenancies Act* to extend the temporary ban on evictions for commercial tenants. Full text of the bill will be uploaded [here](#) later today.
- There will be lower limits for unmonitored and private social gatherings in Ottawa, Peel and Toronto regions. The province is introducing legislation across Ontario to increase fines for non-compliance. ([News Release](#) and Order [O.Reg.501/20](#) (made under the *Reopening Ontario (a Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*)
 - The amended order will set a new limit on the number of people allowed to attend an unmonitored social gathering or organized public event to:
 - 10 people at an indoor event or gathering (previous limit of 50), or
 - 25 people at an outdoor event or gathering (previous limit of 100)
- The province is also instituting a minimum fine of C\$10,000 for the organizers of illegal social gatherings, as well as a C\$750 fine for people who show up to them.
- This order will come into effect on September 18 at 12:01 a.m. (EDT).
- The new limits will not apply to events or gatherings held in staffed businesses and facilities, such as bars, restaurants, cinemas, convention centres or banquet halls, gyms, and recreational sporting or performing art events. Existing rules, including public health and workplace safety measures, for these businesses and facilities continue to be in effect.
- The following orders were added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 499/20](#) – Extensions of Orders (made under *Reopening Ontario (a Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*).
 - [O.Reg. 500/20](#) – Enforcement of Orders (made under *Reopening Ontario (a Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*).
- 45,676 confirmed cases, an increase of 293 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Quebec

- [O.C. 948-2020](#) – The public health emergency has been renewed until September 23, 2020.
- 66,356 confirmed cases, an increase of 251 since yesterday, including two deaths.

September 16, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Prime Minister announces next steps for the Safe Restart Agreement. ([News Release](#))
 - Through the agreement, reached earlier this summer, the Government of Canada announced over C\$19-billion in federal funding to help provinces and territories safely restart the economy. Provinces and territories were asked to outline in a letter how these funds would best be allocated within their jurisdictions, based on their priorities. The premiers have now submitted [the letters](#), and the federal funding will be transferred to the provinces and territories.
 - The agreement will also provide direct support to Canadian workers, including safe childcare to help parents returning to work, and income support for people without paid sick leave.
- The Canada-U.S. border closure will likely be extended until November. ([CTV](#))

- The current agreement on closure of the U.S.-Canada border to non-essential travel was set to expire on September 21.
- The following regulations have been added to the September 16 [Canada Gazette](#), Part II:
 - [S.O.R./2020-191](#) – *Regulations Amending the Canada Labour Standards Regulations (Number of Weeks)*. (Made under the *Canada Labour Code*.)
 - [S.O.R./2020-188](#) – Interim Order No. 9 Amending the Employment Insurance Act (Employment Insurance Emergency Response Benefit). (Made under the *Employment Insurance Act*.)
 - [S.O.R./2020-189](#) – *Regulations Amending the Income Support Payment (Number of Weeks) Regulations*. (Made under the *Canada Emergency Response Benefit Act*.)
 - [S.O.R./2020-187](#) – Interim Order No. 8 Amending the Employment Insurance Act (Facilitated Access to Benefits). (Made under the *Employment Insurance Act*.)
 - [S.O.R./2020-182](#) – *Regulations Amending the Canada Student Financial Assistance Regulations*. (Made under the *Canada Student Financial Assistance Act*.)
 - [S.O.R./2020-184](#) – *Regulations Amending the Canada Student Loans Regulations*. (Made under the *Canada Student Loans Act*.)

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. government said it will start distributing a COVID-19 vaccine within one day of regulatory authorization. The federal government will allocate vaccines for each state based on the critical populations recommended first for vaccination by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- 15,957 confirmed cases, an increase of 124 since yesterday, no deaths.

British Columbia

- State of emergency extended to continue B.C.'s COVID-19 response. ([News Release](#))
- [O.I.C. 506/2020](#) – Extending the state of emergency to September 29, 2020 (under the *Emergency Program Act*).
- 7,376 confirmed cases, an increase of 97 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Ford pushing to lower gathering limits and warns "severe fines" are coming. ([CTV](#))
 - Social gathering limits will likely be reduced in Toronto, Peel Region and Ottawa after Ford meets with his cabinet on Wednesday to discuss making changes to the current guidelines.
 - The current limit on social gatherings is 50 people indoors and 100 outdoors.
- Ontario launches new COVID-19 [screening tool](#) to help protect students and staff. ([News Release](#))
 - The results will let parents, students and education staff know whether they should attend school each day or guide at-risk individuals to proper resources.
- 45,383 confirmed cases, an increase of 315 since yesterday, including two deaths.

Quebec

- A leaked internal government document offers a glimpse of what life might look like in a region of Quebec designated red under the COVID-19 alert system: much like during the lockdown period in the spring. ([CBC](#))

- 65,857 confirmed cases, an increase of 303 since yesterday, including one death.

September 15, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Government of Canada COVID-19 measures, including the Canada Emergency Student Benefit (CESB), will be delivering support for young people this fall. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 15,833 confirmed cases, an increase of 418 since the weekend, including one death.

British Columbia

- 7,279 confirmed cases, an increase of 317 since the weekend, including six deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Ford said he will be making announcements over the next day or two about measures to help slow the spread of COVID-19 in the province's hotspots. ([CTV](#))
 - He said he has spoken with the mayors of Toronto, Ottawa and Brampton, who have each identified their areas of concern.
- Ford says announcement coming soon on COVID-19 testing at pharmacies. ([CP24](#))
- The province ramps up production of Ontario-made ventilators. ([News Release](#))
- 45,068 confirmed cases, an increase of 251 since yesterday, including four deaths.

Quebec

- Premier Legault calls situation "critical" as Quebec increases alert level in four regions. ([CBC](#))
 - Legault announced that four regions classified as green under Quebec's colour-coded alert system — Montréal, the Montérégie, Lower Saint-Lawrence and Chaudière-Appalaches — were moved up to the yellow level under the province's regional alert system.
- 65,554 confirmed cases, an increase of 292 since yesterday, including one death.

September 14, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Sources have told CBC News that the throne speech could promise investments in housing and a long-term overhaul of the employment insurance system. ([CBC](#))

- The government is also expected to signal its intention to make childcare more widely available and to launch a green recovery plan, while focusing on the ongoing public health crisis.
- [Policy Statement](#) on Research Security and COVID-19 (Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada).

U.S. – Federal

- No new developments.

Alberta

- 15,415 confirmed cases, an increase of 111 on Friday.

British Columbia

- 5,273 confirmed cases, a increase of 132 on Friday.

Ontario

- The Ontario government is returning to the legislature today, with health preparedness and rebuilding the economy as top priorities for the fall legislative agenda. ([News Release](#))
- [Bill 200](#), *Employment Standards Amendment Act (Sick Notes)*, 2020, was tabled this afternoon. Full text of the bill will be available later today [at this link](#).
- Shutdown not off the table for Ontario after "disturbing" spike in COVID-19 infections. ([CTV](#))
 - "Ford said if Ontario was forced into another shutdown, he would look at rolling back parts of the province on a region-by-region basis.... [T]he government is putting the final touches on their 'comprehensive fall preparedness plan' to battle a second wave of COVID-19."
- 44,817 confirmed cases, an increase of 749 since Friday, including one death.

Quebec

- [O.C. 947-2020](#) – Related to face mask/covering and was published in the September 11 *Gazette officielle du Québec*.
- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-063](#) – Related to karaoke activities.
- Safety measures for workers and children in elementary schools during COVID-19 ([updated resource](#)).
- 65,262 confirmed cases, an increase of 799 since Friday, including one death.

September 7 – September 11

September 11, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Government of Canada and partners improve process to notify air travellers potentially exposed to COVID-19 on domestic flights. ([News Release](#))

- Added this afternoon: [S.O.R./2020-0191](#) – Regulations amending the *Canada Labour Standards Regulations* (number of weeks).
 - The regulations ensure that employees in the federally regulated sector that are unable or unavailable to work as a result of COVID-19 are able to continue to take job-protected leave without risking disciplinary action from their employer.
- The following orders were published in the September 12 *Canada Gazette*, Part I:
 - [Order](#) Respecting Time Limits and Other Periods under the Income Tax Act (COVID-19) (made under the *Time Limits and Other Periods Act (COVID-19)*).
 - [Order](#) Respecting Time Limits Under the Excise Tax Act (COVID-19) (made under the *Time Limits and Other Periods Act (COVID-19)*).
 - [Interim Order](#) Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19, No. 3 (made under the *Aeronautics Act*).
 - [Interim Order](#) Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19, No. 7 (made under the *Aeronautics Act*).

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- COVID-19 scheduled-surgery backlog cut by 88 per cent. ([News Release](#))
- 15,304 confirmed cases, an increase of 113 since yesterday, including five deaths.

British Columbia

- 6,830 confirmed cases, an increase of 139 since yesterday.

Ontario

- Curbside bars and restaurants in Toronto will be allowed to use portable heaters in a bid to extend patio season. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- Ontario launches COVID-19 school and licensed childcare-specific webpage. ([News Release](#))
 - Daily information available to parents and the general public.
- 44,068 confirmed cases, an increase of 213 since yesterday.

Quebec

- The Department of Health and Social Services announces the suspension of karaoke activities and the obligation to keep a register of bar customers. ([News Releases](#))
- 64,463 confirmed cases, an increase of 219 since yesterday.

September 10, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Minister of Health to announce federal funding to help reduce the spread of COVID-19 in Toronto (tomorrow at 9:15 a.m. (EDT)). ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. Senate killed a Republican bill that would have provided around US\$300-billion in new coronavirus aid. ([Reuters](#))
- Trump administration takes action to expand access to COVID-19 vaccines. ([News Release](#))
 - The guidance authorizes state-licensed pharmacists and state-licensed or registered pharmacy interns acting under the supervision of the qualified pharmacist to order and administer the vaccines.

Alberta

- [O.C. 262/2020](#) – *Employment Standards Amendment Regulation* was published yesterday.
- A new [online map](#) will list every school where there are two or more confirmed cases and an outbreak is declared. The map will also list schools that have shifted into scenario two or three to protect the health of students and staff.
- 15,191 confirmed cases, an increase of 98 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- Premier John Horgan announced [B.C.'s fall pandemic plan](#). The plan focuses on protecting the most vulnerable citizens and ensuring the health-care system has the necessary resources in place.
- 6,691 confirmed cases, an increase of 100 since yesterday.

Ontario

- New research projects aim to improve Ontario's response to COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- 43,855 confirmed cases, an increase of 170 since yesterday, including one death.

Quebec

- The following orders were published in the September 10 *Gazette officielle du Québec*:
 - [Order in Council No. 925-2020](#) – The public health emergency is renewed until September 16, 2020.
 - [Order in Council No 943-2020](#) – Related to a variety of orders concerning combat sport, Régie des alcools (permit for a sports event), employee dismissals and educational services.
- Premier Legault, in collaboration with the public health authorities, the Ministry of Public Security and the police, announced that as of next Saturday, individuals who refuse to wear a mask in indoor public places without a valid reason could be fined by police for committing an emergency report offence. ([News Release](#))
- The Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity and the Minister Responsible for the Mauricie Region, Mr. Jean Boulet, confirms that Quebec employees will be protected if they have to be absent from work due to COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- 64,244 confirmed cases, an increase of 188 since yesterday, including one death.

September 9, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The premiers of Ontario and Quebec are calling on Ottawa to increase health transfers to the provinces, saying sustainable, long-term funding is required on top of the federal COVID-19 relief to address health-care issues that predate the pandemic. ([The Globe and Mail](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 15,093 confirmed cases, an increase of 619 since Friday, including five deaths.

British Columbia

- B.C. is ordering nightclubs and stand-alone banquet halls closed, ending the sale of liquor at restaurants past 10 p.m. and telling venues to reduce the volume from music or other sources to conversational levels. ([News Release](#))
 - Liquor sales in all bars, pubs and restaurants must cease at 10 p.m. and they must close at 11 p.m., unless providing a full meal service, in which case they may stay open, but may not serve liquor until 11 a.m. the following day.
- 6,591 confirmed cases, an increase of 429 since Friday, including two deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario will report all cases of COVID-19 in the province's schools, Ford says ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Ontario-Québec Summit strengthens ties between the two provinces; governments agree to collaborate on key priority areas including health care, economic recovery and infrastructure renewal. ([News Release](#))
- Premier Ford said the province isn't currently considering rolling back reopenings on a provincial level but did note that individual regions have the option to enact measures like shutting bars early. ([CBC](#))
- 43,685 confirmed cases, an increase of 149 since yesterday.

Quebec

- The regional alert system with progressive intervention criteria defines additional measures to be taken as needed to ensure public safety in each of Quebec's socio-health regions. To find out the alert level in your region, consult the [Map of COVID-19 alert levels by region](#).
- 64,056 confirmed cases, an increase of 180 since yesterday.

September 8, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The government announced an extension of rent relief for small businesses. ([News Release](#))
 - This will be the final extension of this program as the government explores options to support small businesses.

- Details on the September extension will be available on the [CMHC website](#) on Wednesday, September 9.
- The following orders were added to the September 5 *Canada Gazette*, Part I.
 - [Interim Order](#) – Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19, No. 6. (Made under the *Aeronautics Act*.)
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Mandatory Isolation), No. 4. (Made under the *Quarantine Act*.)
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country Other than the United States). (Made under the *Quarantine Act*.)

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- At least 20 Alberta schools report COVID-19 cases as students return to class; Alberta Health Services says it is compiling a list of schools with confirmed cases. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- 14,474 confirmed cases, an increase of 164 on Friday.

British Columbia

- 6,162 confirmed cases, an increase of 121 on Friday, including one death.

Ontario

- Ontario is pausing any further steps in its reopening plan as daily COVID-19 case counts continue to spike in the province. ([CBC](#))
 - Health Minister Christine Elliott made the announcement today. Elliott said that Ontario will take "a pause of four weeks" before the province considers any further loosening of public health measures or further reopening of businesses, facilities or organizations.
 - The pause does not include schools, which started reopening in parts of the province on Tuesday.
 - Premier Ford said Ontario isn't at the point yet where it needs to revert to Stage 2.
- Premier Ford and Premier Legault to meet for their inaugural Ontario-Québec Summit on Economic Recovery today and tomorrow. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario takes extraordinary steps to reopen schools safely; provincial back-to-school plan includes substantial investments in PPE along with more teachers, nurses and custodians. ([News Release](#))
- 43,536 confirmed cases, an increase of 702 since Friday.

Quebec

- In view of a potential second wave of COVID-19, the Minister of Health and Social Services, Christian Dubé, unveiled the system of regional alerts and interventions developed by Public Health, which will specify, for each region of Quebec, additional measures to be deployed to ensure the health and safety of Quebecers over the coming months, if necessary. ([News Release](#))
- The Government of Quebec published a first list of reported cases of COVID-19 in schools in Quebec. This list presents the schools with at least one reported case, for the period from August 26 to September 3, 2020. ([News Release](#))

- The CNESST launches the second phase of its prevention campaign in workplaces in the context of COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- [Ministerial Order 2020-062](#) – Related to the *Regulation respecting the professional activities which may be performed by persons other than nurses*.
- 63, 876 confirmed cases, an increase of 756 since Friday, including one death.

August 2020

August 31 – September 4

September 4, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- Protecting the safety of agri-food workers through the Emergency Processing Fund ([News Release](#)).
 - The Emergency Processing Fund is focused on projects to help companies respond to the urgent health and safety needs of workers in agri-food sectors impacted by COVID-19, with an emphasis on supporting meat processing facilities.
- Transport Canada fines two individuals for failing to follow direction from the flight crew to wear face coverings during flight ([News Release](#)).
- The Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, Ahmed Hussen, today announced up to C\$763.34-million in support for Ontario through the Safe Return to Class Fund ([News Release](#)).

U.S. Federal

- Temporary Halt in Residential Evictions To Prevent the Further Spread of COVID-19 ([Order](#)).
 - This Order is effective September 4, 2020, through December 31, 2020.

Alberta

- Alberta has issued a [new order](#) that gives continuing care facilities and hospices more flexibility with isolation requirements, recreation, dining and volunteers.
- 14,310 confirmed cases, an increase of 130 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- B.C. on "a precipice," provincial health officer warns, as 89 new COVID-19 cases confirmed ([CBC](#)).
- 6,041 confirmed cases, an increase of 89 since yesterday, 1 death.

Ontario

- Doug Ford ready to act to curb 'slow creep' in COVID-19 cases in hard-hit regions ([Globe and Mail](#)).

- The latest figures showed Peel Region, a long-standing hot spot for the novel coronavirus, was home to 72 of the 148 new COVID-19 cases reported provincewide [...] “We won’t hesitate to again shut it down,” Ford said at his daily pandemic briefing.
- Province supports Ontario-made face masks in the fight against COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- The following Regulations have been added to e-laws this afternoon:
 - [494/20](#) Standards (made under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*).
 - [492/20](#) Infectious Disease Emergency Leave (made under the *Employment Standards Act, 2000*).
- 42,834 confirmed cases, an increase of 148 since yesterday.

Quebec

- Quebec Health Minister Christian Dubé said a new system of classifications will be introduced next week, which will allow the government to impose restrictions in more targeted areas of the province. He warned the measures would be applied if case numbers continue to climb ([CBC](#)).
- 63,117 confirmed cases, an increase of 184 since yesterday, 1 death.

September 3, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada announces over 1,000 new projects in support of seniors impacted by COVID-19. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- Anthony Fauci said today it is unlikely a COVID-19 vaccine will be ready by the end of October, but that it is not impossible. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- 14,180 confirmed cases, an increase of 114, including one death.

British Columbia

- Maximum allowable rent increase set at 1.4 per cent for 2021. ([News Release](#))
- Province confirms tax measure implementation dates, deferral deadlines for businesses. ([News Release](#))
 - The province is delaying implementation dates to April 2021 for changes to provincial sales tax and B.C.’s carbon tax to help businesses and families through the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery.
- 5,952 confirmed cases, an increase of 104 since yesterday.

Ontario

- Ontario extends support for employers and employees impacted by COVID-19. This extension will last until January 2, 2021. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario-Québec Summit to convene on economic recovery. ([News Release](#))
 - Premier Ford and Legault will convene their first-ever Ontario-Québec Summit to advance shared priorities on economic recovery and health preparedness, issues

important to the people of the two provinces. The summit will take place on September 8 and 9, 2020, in Mississauga.

- The following regulation was added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 484/20](#) – Class Size (made under the *Education Act*).
- 42,686 confirmed cases, an increase of 132 since yesterday.

Quebec

- Premier Legault says he'll close bars and reduce the limit on gatherings if COVID-19 cases continue to climb in Quebec ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - He told reporters that if authorities need to confine Quebecers once again, they will close off specific regions of the province or smaller areas within regions as opposed to locking down the entire population.
- The following have been added to the September 3 *Gazette officielle du Québec*:
 - [Ministerial Order No. 2020-4303](#) – Lifting of the suspension of prescription and procedural periods and extension of certain procedural periods in civil matters owing to the public health emergency declared on March 13, 2020 (made under the *Code of Civil Procedure*).
 - [Ministerial Order No. 2020-4304](#) – Measures for ensuring the proper administration of justice amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation (made under *An Act respecting the Ministère de la Justice*).
 - [O.C. 917-2020](#) – Renewal of the public health emergency until September 9, 2020.
- 62,933 confirmed cases, an increase of 187 since yesterday.

September 2, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- [S.I./2020-62](#) – Order Amending the Remission Order in Respect of Non-residential Leases and Licences of Occupation Under the Administration of the Parks Canada Agency (PCA) was published in the *Canada Gazette*, Part II (made under the *Financial Administration Act*).
 - In line with the Government of Canada's broader strategy to support small businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic, the order extends the rent relief available to PCA's commercial tenants through the original order.

U.S. – Federal

- The FDA to bring outside experts to review COVID-19 vaccines. ([Reuters](#))
- Medicare and Medicaid Programs, Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA), and Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; Additional Policy and Regulatory Revisions in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. ([Rule](#))

Alberta

- Alberta premier says that COVID-19 in schools is inevitable and that reducing class sizes is unrealistic. ([CBC](#))
- Alberta's government will be distributing C\$262-million in federal funding to school authorities for COVID-19-related expenses. ([News Release](#))
- 14,066 confirmed cases, an increase of 164 since yesterday, including two deaths.

British Columbia

- Temporary layoff extensions protect thousands of jobs. ([News Release](#))
- [Order in Council No. 494](#) – The state of emergency has been extended to September 15, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- 5,848 confirmed cases, an increase of 58 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Ontario protecting transit riders and workers as province reopens. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario NDP call on the province's ombudsman to review government's back-to-school plan. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- 42,554 confirmed cases, an increase of 133 since yesterday.

Quebec

- [Ministerial Order 2020-061](#) – Related to physical distancing and combat sport.
- Quebec grants C\$2.6-million to Angany to increase vaccine production capacity in Quebec. ([News Release](#))
- 62,746 confirmed cases, an increase of 132 since yesterday.

September 1, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Health Canada is now considering at-home COVID-19 tests for "screening purposes." ([CTV](#))
 - In a statement to CTVNews.ca on Monday evening, Cole Davidson, a spokesperson for the federal minister of health, said as new information has become available about the potential value of self-testing devices, Health Canada has revised its position.

U.S. – Federal

- White House says Senate Republicans may take up COVID-19 bill next week. ([Reuters](#))
 - Senate Republicans are likely to take up their COVID-19 relief bill next week offering US\$500-billion in additional federal aid, White House chief of staff Mark Meadows said on Tuesday, adding that the administration was still weighing help for U.S. airlines.
- FDA chief willing to approve a COVID-19 vaccine before Phase 3 trials end. ([National Post](#))
- GM and Ventec Life Systems deliver 30,000 ventilators to the U.S. government. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Alberta's top doctor apologized yesterday for the anxiety and confusion a back-to-school public-health order caused over the weekend. The order codifies Alberta's policy requiring masks in schools.
 - Staff and students in grades four to 12 must cover their faces when they're in common and shared indoor areas where physical distancing cannot be maintained, like hallways and buses. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- 13,902 confirmed cases, an increase of 426 since Friday, including two deaths.

British Columbia

- More classrooms and safer seats are coming to Surrey students. A 240-seat expansion at K.B. Woodward Elementary and seismic upgrades at Prince Charles Elementary and Queen Elizabeth Secondary will bring an improved learning experience to students in Surrey. ([News Release](#))
- [Order in Council No. 492](#) – Section 8 of the Schedule of [B.C. Reg. 172/2020](#) is repealed and the following substituted: “8 Effective October 1, 2020, item 22 of Schedule 2 is repealed.” (Made under the *COVID-19 Related Measures Act*.)
- 5,790 confirmed cases, an increase of 294 since Friday, including deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario boards will need to combine some classes as students return to school, trustees group says. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- 42,421 confirmed cases, an increase of 112 since yesterday, including one death.

Quebec

- The Quebec government announces the establishment of a new phase of recovery in combat sports.
 - From September 2, combat sports, such as karate, taekwondo, boxing or judo, may resume as long as the submitted plans are in accordance with recommendations from public health authorities (pods of four athletes). ([News Release](#))
- 62,614 confirmed cases, an increase of 122 since yesterday.

August 31, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- The government announces greater flexibility and extension of the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA). ([News Release](#))
 - The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance announced that the application deadline for the CEBA has been extended from August 31 to October 31, 2020.
 - The Deputy Prime Minister also announced that the Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP) is extended to June 2021.
- Business rent aid to fall short of budget, the parliamentary budget officer says as credit program expands. ([CTV](#))
- Prime Minister Trudeau announced that agreements in principle have been reached with Johnson & Johnson and Novavax to procure millions of doses of experimental COVID-19 vaccines. ([News Release](#))
- The following orders were published (both extend the previous orders to September 30, 2020):
 - [Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order](#) – (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country Other than the United States).
 - [Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order](#) – (Mandatory Isolation), No. 4.
- Travel restrictions to Canada remain in place for the September long weekend. ([New Release](#))
- A proposed class-action lawsuit has been launched against the federal government on behalf of Canadians who applied online for COVID-19 emergency aid — only to have their personal and financial information stolen by hackers. ([CBC](#))

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- A health order signed over the weekend by Alberta's chief medical officer of health has lifted a mandate requiring physical distancing in the classroom when students return to school. ([CTV](#))
 - [Record of decision](#) of the Chief Medical Officer.
- [Published document](#) provides advice on what to do if a student has COVID-19 symptoms.
- 13,476 confirmed cases, an increase of 158 on Friday.

British Columbia

- Public accounts confirm economic impacts of COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- [Minister of Labour's statement](#) on the report of the hotel sector.
- [Ministerial Order No. M324](#) – Effective at the end of the day on August 28, 2020, the Haida Gwaii (COVID-19) Order made by M.O. 257/2020 is repealed.
- 5,496 confirmed cases, an increase of 124 on Friday.

Ontario

- Premier Ford said he "will not hesitate for a second to close these schools down" if the number of COVID-19 cases among students appears to spike. ([CBC](#))
- Minister of Labour Monte McNaughton told reporters that inspectors with the province have contacted all of Ontario's school boards and are visiting them daily.
- Toronto Public Health (TPH) releases plans to battle "potential resurgence" of coronavirus. ([CP24](#))
 - TPH plans include approaches based on three different scenarios for COVID-19 activity in the city:
 - A fall/winter peak
 - A series of smaller peaks and valleys, that repeat throughout the season
 - A "slow burn" ripple effect where there are continued cases but without a concrete pattern
- Teachers' unions to file labour board complaint over Ontario's school reopening plan. ([CBC](#))
 - Teachers' unions, school boards and some parents say the province must lower elementary class sizes and fund the reduction, instead of insisting boards dip into their own reserve funds to lease extra space or hire additional staff to promote physical distancing.
- Ontario says it will introduce legislation this fall to freeze rent for some families next year ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - The legislature returns for its fall session on September 14, and Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Steve Clark's office says he will introduce the bill in the coming weeks.
- 42,309 confirmed cases, an increase of 374 since Friday, including one death.

Quebec

- Quebec premier warns rising cases of COVID-19 could prompt another lockdown; the next few weeks will be critical in containing the second wave of COVID-19, Premier Legault says. ([CBC](#))
- [Ministerial Order 2020-060](#) – Related to organizing a gathering and to elections and referendums in municipalities.
- 81 Québec students in isolation after COVID-19 cases confirmed at two schools. ([CTV](#))
- 62,492 confirmed cases, an increase of 338 since Friday, including three deaths.

August 24 – August 28

August 28, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Health officials looking into whether airport COVID-19 tests can replace quarantine measures. ([CBC](#))
- The following orders were added to the August 29 *Canada Gazette*:
 - [Interim Order](#) – Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19, No. 5 (made under the *Aeronautics Act*).
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States) (made under the *Quarantine Act*).
- Canada extends restrictions on international travel until at least September 30. ([CTV](#))

U.S. – Federal

- Trump administration announces the distribution of US\$2.5-billion to nursing homes for COVID-19 relief funding. ([News Release](#))
- FDA warns consumers about hand sanitizer packaged in food and drink containers. ([News Release](#))
- President Trump willing to sign a US\$1.3-trillion coronavirus relief bill. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Municipal Affairs Minister Tracy Allard and Education Minister Adriana LaGrange issued a [statement](#) on PPE for schools.
- Albertans age 14 and up can access the MyHealth Records tool immediately after signing up without waiting for mailout verification. Users can see their COVID test results as soon as they are ready. ([Update](#))
- 13,318 confirmed cases, an increase of 108 since yesterday, including two deaths.

British Columbia

- Support for a safe return to school. ([News Release](#))
 - The Minister of Digital Government, the Honourable Joyce Murray, today highlighted up to C\$242.36-million in support for British Columbia through the Safe Return to Class Fund.
- B.C. releases [map](#) showing regions with highest concentrations of COVID-19 cases. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- 5,372 confirmed cases, an increase of 68 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Long-term-care residents can now leave their residences for short-stay and temporary absences. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario government urges school boards to use funding for improved ventilation by Thanksgiving. ([The Globe and Mail](#))

- 41,935 confirmed cases, an increase of 122 since yesterday, including six deaths.

Quebec

- The isolation period for confirmed cases will now be 10 days after the first symptoms or 10 days after a positive test if the person is asymptomatic. ([News Release](#))
- Teachers in quarantine and a temporary shut down mark day two of back-to-school in Quebec. ([CBC](#))
- Sports and art activities between class groups to be allowed on September 14, Legault says. ([CTV](#))
- 62,154 confirmed cases, an increase of 98 since yesterday, no deaths.

August 27, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump to announce deal to buy 150 million rapid coronavirus tests ([CTV](#)).
- Waiver of Recovery of Certain Overpayment Debts Accruing During the COVID-19 Pandemic Period ([Social Security Administration Rule](#)).

Alberta

- 13,210 confirmed cases, an increase of 127 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- Back-to-school plans for K-12 families are now posted for all 60 school districts ([News Release and Backgrounders](#)).
 - Education Minister Rob Fleming spoke about the new plans and shared in a live briefing how some districts have personalized them for their specific needs ([CTV](#)).
 - Also outlined are what the various plans could look like in small, medium and large districts in different parts of the province.
 - After plans are posted online, families should expect to be contacted by school principals to confirm students' attendance.
- [Ministerial Order No. M321](#) – Related to municipal affairs and housing (made under the *Local Government Act*).
- 5,304 confirmed cases, an increase of 62 since yesterday.

Ontario

- 41,813 confirmed cases, an increase of 118 since yesterday, including one death.

Quebec

- The following orders were added to the August 27 *Gazette Officielle du Québec*:

- [O.C. 895-2020](#) – The public health emergency has been renewed until September 2, 2020.
- [O.C. 913-2020](#) – Related to the maximum distance maintained between students and the wearing of a face covering.
- [Ministerial Order 2020-059](#) – Related to places of worship.
- The government unveils its action plan for the network of childcare services in the event of a second wave ([News Release](#)).
 - In the event of a second wave of COVID-19, educational childcare services will remain open.
- 62,056 confirmed cases, an increase of 111 since yesterday, including one death.

August 26, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced up to C\$2-billion in support for provinces and territories through the Safe Return to Class Fund ([News Release](#)).
- Facilitative measures to support international students affected by the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- [PC 2020-0568](#) (full text forthcoming) – Regulations amending the *Canada Student Financial Assistance Regulations* in order to help make Canada student loans more affordable by introducing interest-free and payment-free leave from student-loan repayment for up to 18 months for borrowers taking temporary leave from their studies for medical or parental reasons, including mental-health leave.

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Businesses hope to expand pharmacy testing from Alberta to other provinces ([CBC](#)).
- 13,083 confirmed cases, an increase of 77 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- B.C. education minister to provide update on coronavirus back-to-school plan today at 1:45 p.m. (PDT)/4:45 p.m. (EDT) ([CTV](#)).
- 5,242 confirmed cases, an increase of 58 since yesterday.

Ontario

- Ontario releases COVID-19 management plan for schools ([News Release](#)).
 - The government has released the [Operational Guidance: COVID-19 Management in Schools document](#). It includes detailed instructions for a variety of different scenarios. It also outlines recommendations for what parents should do to support their children.
 - The guide calls for students in cohorts that have been dismissed from school to be tested "as soon as possible," though there is no requirement for mandatory COVID-19 testing ([CBC](#)).

- Additional funds to enhance Ontario's robust back-to-school plan. Funding will be used to complement provincial health and safety measures already in place ([News Release](#)).
- 41,695 confirmed cases, an increase of 88 since yesterday, including two deaths.

Quebec

- [Draft Regulation](#) to amend the *Regulation respecting financial assistance for education expenses* was added to the August 26 *Gazette Officielle du Québec* (made under the *An Act respecting financial assistance for education expenses*).
- 61,945 confirmed cases, an increase of 102 since yesterday.

August 25, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Minister of Indigenous Services Marc Miller announced C\$82.5-million in mental health and wellness supports to help Indigenous communities adapt and expand mental wellness services in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. ([News Release](#))
- Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages and Minister Responsible for FedDev Ontario Mélanie Joly announced a non-repayable FedDev Ontario investment of C\$500,000 to support the tourism industry in Niagara-on-the-Lake. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 13,006 confirmed cases, an increase of 258 since the weekend, including four deaths.

British Columbia

- 5,184 confirmed cases, an increase of 269 since the weekend, including one death.

Ontario

- 41,607 confirmed cases, an increase of 100 since yesterday, including two deaths.

Quebec

- Quebec will not go ahead with the mobile app at this time but will be ready to deploy it if necessary. ([News Release](#))
- 61,803 confirmed cases, an increase of 62 since yesterday, including two deaths in the past 24 hours and one death from last week.

August 24, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy will be extended for four weeks to September 26. Further details will be announced in the coming weeks. ([News Release](#))
- Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Marco Mendicino announced a temporary policy change that allows visitors currently in Canada with a valid job offer to apply for an employer-specific work permit and, if approved, receive the permit without having to leave the country. ([News Release](#))
- Fish Harvester Benefit and Fish Harvester Grant now open for applications. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The Food and Drug Administration issued an emergency use authorization for investigational convalescent plasma for the treatment of COVID-19 in hospitalized patients. ([News Release](#))
- The Environmental Protection Agency granted emergency approval for American Airlines to use a disinfectant against the coronavirus on certain surfaces that lasts for up to seven days and is studying whether it could be effective in places like schools. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- 12,748 confirmed cases, an increase of 144 since Friday, including two deaths.

British Columbia

- B.C. is moving to Phase 3 of the Return to Sport Guidelines. ([News Release](#))
- 4,915 confirmed cases, an increase of 90 since Friday, including two deaths.

Ontario

- Beginning August 21, 2020, facilities that rent out professional meeting and event spaces can have up to 50 guests for each indoor meeting room or event space within the facility. ([News Release](#))
- The following regulations were added to E-Laws:
 - [O. Reg. 464/20](#), amending O. Reg. 228/20, Infectious Disease Emergency Leave.
 - [O. Reg. 461/20](#), revoking O. Reg. 205/20, Education Sector.
- 41,507 confirmed cases, an increase of 328 since Friday, including two deaths.

Quebec

- Minister of Culture and Communications Nathalie Roy announced an additional C\$1.2-million in aid for the arts and crafts sector. ([News Release](#))
- 61,741 confirmed cases, an increase of 246 since Friday, including five deaths and one death of unknown date

August 17 – August 21

August 21, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau and Premier Ford announced an agreement between Canada, Ontario, and 3M Canada on a joint investment to expand a manufacturing facility for N95 respirators in Brockville, Ontario. ([News release](#))
 - Canada and Ontario will contribute C\$23.33-million each. The facility will produce 25-million N95 respirators for the Government of Canada and 25-million for the Government of Ontario per year over five years.
- Minister Joly announced more than C\$4-million in federal investments to help Northern Ontario's communities and businesses. ([News release](#))
- [P.C. 2020-565](#), *Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States)*.
- Department of Health *Order Respecting Certain Time Limits Under the Food and Drug Regulations (COVID-19)* published in the [August 22, 2020 Canada Gazette, Part I](#).

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Alberta releases outbreak response plan for back to school ([CBC](#))
- 12,604 confirmed cases, an increase of 103 since yesterday, 1 death.

British Columbia

- Province introduces new measures to enforce COVID-19 public safety. ([News release](#))
 - Police and other provincial enforcement officers can issue C\$2,000 tickets to those hosting large events and C\$200 tickets to individuals not following the direction of police or enforcement staff at events.
 - [O.I.C. 485/2020](#) amending the *COVID-19 Related Measures Act* and the *Violation Ticket Administration and Fines Regulation*.
 - [Ministerial Order M314](#), *Gatherings and Events (COVID-19) Order*.
- 4,825 confirmed cases, an increase of 80 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

Ontario

- [O. Reg. 458/20](#), *Extensions of Orders (under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020)*.
- 41,179 confirmed cases, an increase of 131 since yesterday, 3 deaths (includes data from August 19, 2020, for 11 public health units).

Quebec

- Minister McCann announces C\$375-million in additional assistance for post-secondary students ([News release](#)).
- 61,495 confirmed cases, an increase of 93 since yesterday, 1 death in the past 24 hours and 2 earlier deaths.

August 20, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- Government of Canada announces plan to help support Canadians through the next phase of the recovery ([News release](#) and [Background](#))
 - The Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) will be extended by an additional four weeks to a maximum of 28 weeks.
 - Effective September 27, 2020, the government will transition to a simplified Employment Insurance (EI) program. 120 hours of work is required to qualify for a minimum benefit of C\$400 per week, for at least 26 weeks. Claimants will receive a one-time insurable hours credit of 300 hours for regular benefits and 480 hours for special benefits (sickness, maternity/parental, compassionate care or family caregiver). The credit will be retroactive to March 15, 2020, for claimants looking to transition from CERB to EI maternity, parental, compassionate care, family caregiver or work-sharing benefits.
 - Three new benefits are being proposed and will be introduced in legislation when Parliament returns in September:
 - Canada Recovery Benefit of C\$400 per week for up to 26 weeks for workers who are self-employed or otherwise ineligible for EI;
 - Canada Recovery Sickness Benefit of C\$500 per week for up to two weeks for workers who are sick or must isolate due to COVID-19; and
 - Canada Recovery Caregiving Benefit of C\$500 per week for up to 26 weeks per household for workers who are unable to work because of certain caregiving responsibilities.
- Government of Canada invests in agri-food producers and organizations in the North ([News release](#))
- The following regulations/orders were published in the [August 19, 2020 Canada Gazette, Part II](#):
 - Interim Order No. 7 Amending the Employment Insurance Act (Employment Insurance Emergency Response Benefit)
 - Proclamation Proroguing Parliament to September 23, 2020
 - Proclamation summoning Parliament to meet on September 23, 2020

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 12,501 confirmed cases, an increase of 82 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

British Columbia

- 4,745 confirmed cases, an increase of 68 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario extends orders under the *Reopening Ontario Act, 2020* ([News release](#))
- All orders under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020* have been extended to September 22, 2020, with the following exceptions:
 - The Education Sector order will end on August 31, 2020.
 - The Limitation Periods order will end and suspended time periods will resume running on September 14, 2020.
- The Ontario government is expanding eligibility for agriculture societies to apply for funding to help offset the financial losses due to the cancellation of fall fairs, exhibitions and activities during the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic. ([News release](#))

- The following regulations were published on e-Laws:
 - [O. Reg. 455/20](#) – amending O. Reg. 263/20, *Rules for Areas in Stage 2* (under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*).
 - [O. Reg. 456/20](#) – amending O. Reg. 364/20, *Rules for Areas in Stage 3* (under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*).
 - [O. Reg. 457/20](#) – revoking O. Reg. 73/20, *Limitation Periods* (under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*).
- 41,048 confirmed cases, an increase of 76 since yesterday, 1 death (does not include data from 11 public health units).

Quebec

- The following Orders were published in the [August 20, 2020 Gazette officielle du Québec](#):
 - O.C. 845-2020, Renewal of the public health emergency pursuant to section 119 of the Public Health Act (renews the public health emergency to August 26, 2020).
 - O.C. 885-2020, Ordering of measures to protect the health of the population amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation (relates to education and childcare services).
 - Ministerial Order 2020-058 of the Minister of Health and Social Services - Ordering of measures to protect the health of the population amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation.
- 61,402 confirmed cases, an increase of 86 since yesterday, no deaths in past 24 hours, 1 death of unknown date.

August 19, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. Federal

- As White House pushes 'skinny' COVID-19 bill, Democrat sees September action ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- Expanding COVID-19 testing for asymptomatic Albertans ([News Release](#)).
 - More than 50 Shoppers Drug Mart and Loblaw pharmacies in Real Canadian Superstore locations are already offering asymptomatic testing, and by September 1, 2020 all 234 of the company's pharmacies in Alberta (including pharmacies at Independent Foods, Extra Foods, City Market, and No Frills) will offer asymptomatic COVID-19 testing.
- Alberta to expand contact-tracing team, eyes 12-hour notification window ([Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Alberta, which is struggling to pinpoint sources for hundreds of new coronavirus infections, intends to beef up its contact-tracing team, according to the provincial health authority.
- 12,419 confirmed cases, an increase of 89 since yesterday, 1 death.

British Columbia

- [Order in Council No. 482](#) the state of emergency has been extended to September 1, 2020 (see also the related [news release](#)).
- 4,677 confirmed cases, an increase of 83 since yesterday.

Ontario

- Ontario Invests in Made-in-Ontario Physician Scheduling Technology in the Fight Against COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- Ottawa to boost COVID-19 testing in preparation for fall surge ([CBC](#)).
- 40,972 confirmed cases, an increase of 102 since yesterday, 1 death.

Quebec

- 61,316 confirmed cases, an increase of 64 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

August 18, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau announced he has asked the Governor General to prorogue parliament until September 23, 2020 ([CTV](#)).
 - Trudeau said in the coming weeks the federal government will be plotting out and unveiling its roadmap out of the pandemic, which will include a throne speech to mark the beginning of a new session on September 23, 2020, which is the same week the House of Commons was previously scheduled to return.

U.S. Federal

- FDA flags accuracy issue with widely used coronavirus test ([FNN](#)).

Alberta

- Edmonton's COVID-19 cases double Toronto's as Alberta capital put under health watch ([CTV](#)).
- 12,412 confirmed cases, an increase 359 since the weekend, of 3 deaths.

British Columbia

- [Order in Council No. 481](#) Carbon Tax Remission (COVID-19 Emergency) Regulation (made under the *Financial Administration Act*).
- K-12 operational guidelines set requirements for masks ([Information Bulletin](#)).
- The following Bills received royal assent on August 14, 2020:
 - S.B.C. 2020 c.19 ([Bill 18](#)), *Economic Stabilization (COVID-19) Act*. See section 22 for the coming into force dates.
 - S.B.C. 2020 c. 12 ([Bill 21](#)), *Wills, Estates and Succession Amendment Act, 2020*. See section 13 for coming into force dates (section 2, 4-10 and 12 are in force on proclamation – not yet in force).
 - S.B.C. 2020 c. 20 ([Bill 23](#)), *Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2020*. See section 37 for the coming into force dates.
- 4,594 confirmed cases, an increase of 236 since the weekend, 2 deaths.

Ontario

- 40,870 confirmed cases, an increase of 125 since yesterday, 4 deaths.

Quebec

- The government unveils its action plan in anticipation of a second wave ([News Release](#)).
 - The action plan unveiled today takes stock of this and presents the priority projects as well as the solutions to be implemented by September 30, 2020, to prepare the health and social services network for a potential second wave of outbreaks.
 - The action plan is based on nine areas of intervention, namely living environments for the elderly, vulnerable clientele, the workforce, screening, prevention and control of outbreaks, clinical organization and services, procurement, governance and communications.
- The government is announcing a 12-week extension of the credit on employer contributions to the Health Services Fund in respect of employees on paid implemented in the wake of the establishment of the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy ([News Release](#)).
- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-058](#), related to an amendment to Ministerial Order 2020-014 dated April 2, 2020.
- 61,252 confirmed cases, an increase of 46 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

August 17, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- [Online Course](#) (from the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety) provides guidance on returning to work safely during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- Canada Revenue Agency opens applications for enhanced Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy ([News Release](#)).

U.S. Federal

- FDA issues emergency use authorization to Yale School of Public Health for SalivaDirect, which uses a new method of saliva sample processing when testing for COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- COVID-19 forces some U.S. schools to close, as new cases remain high in most states ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- 12,053 confirmed cases, an increase of 84 since Friday, 1 death.

British Columbia

- [Order in Council No. 477](#) related to the BC Ferries Medical Travel (COVID-19) Order and item 23.2 in Schedule 2 of the *COVID-19 Related Measures Act*.
- Emergency support for vulnerable people during COVID-19 continues ([News Release](#)).
- 4,358 confirmed cases, an increase of 84 since Friday.

Ontario

- 40,745 confirmed cases, an increase of 286 since Friday.

Quebec

- The Quebec government presents three new measures for a successful return to school which will allow all students to benefit from more direct services and make up for any delays that could have developed during the school closure period last spring ([News Release](#)).
- Quebec to hire specialized teachers to help students catch up ([CBC](#)).
- 61,206 confirmed cases, an increase of 202 since Friday, 1 death.

August 10 - August 14

August 14, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Canada-U.S. border will remain closed to non-essential travel until September 21, 2020. ([CBC](#))
- Minister of Transport Marc Garneau announced Canada's Flight Plan for Navigating COVID-19, a system of safety measures to support public health by protecting air travellers and industry workers. ([News Release](#))
 - Key changes include travel restrictions, mandatory use of face masks, mandatory health checks prior to passenger boarding, temperature screening at the busiest Canadian airports and points of origin for all incoming flights to Canada, restricted services and passenger movement during flights, enhanced cleaning and sanitation, enhanced air conditioning and filtration systems in airports, frequent cleaning in airports, touchless technology to scan boarding passes, and physical distancing.
- The Government of Canada has extended time limits to pay rent for mineral leases in Nunavut and has granted rent relief. ([News Release](#))
 - The order extends time limits to pay rent for mineral leases under the regulations that become due between March 13, 2020, and October 29, 2020, inclusively by up to six months, and not extending beyond October 30, 2020. (Order published in the [August 15, 2020 Canada Gazette, Part I](#))
 - Canada has also amended the *Nunavut Mining Regulations* to waive for one year, upon request in writing to the Department, the payment of annual rent on mineral leases due in the one-year period from March 13, 2020, to March 12, 2021.
- Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages Mélanie Joly announced C\$2,968,566 in financial assistance to businesses and organizations in the Gaspésie region, as well as a total of up to C\$667,685 in investments to six businesses and organizations through the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund. ([News Release](#))
- Minister of Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Marco Mendicino announced a temporary measure that will provide a pathway to permanent residency for asylum claimants working in the health-care sector during the COVID-19 pandemic. ([News release](#))
- Expected peak of COVID-19 outbreak in Canada this fall could temporarily overwhelm health systems: Dr. Tam ([The Globe and Mail](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The Trump administration is collaborating with McKesson for COVID-19 vaccine distribution. ([News Release](#))
- The top U.S. health official says approval of COVID vaccines unlikely before November. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Masks will now be required for all K-12 students and staff at Calgary public and Catholic schools. ([CBC](#))
- 11,969 confirmed cases, an increase of 76 since yesterday, including three deaths.

British Columbia

- New repayment framework gives renters until July 2021 to repay arrears ([Information Bulletin](#)).
- [Order in Council No. 475](#) – The COVID-19 (*Residential Tenancy Act and Manufactured Home Park Tenancy Act*) (No. 2) Regulation is made.
 - The COVID-19 Related Measures Act is also amended as set out in the hyperlinked Appendix 2, effective on the dates as set out in that appendix.
- B.C. could see second wave of COVID-19 in September bigger than the first, provincial modelling shows. ([CBC](#))
- 4,274 confirmed cases, an increase of 78 since yesterday.

Ontario

- Ontario is supporting the safe reopening of more spaces at gyms and recreation centres. The province is also investing C\$8-million to ensure the safe return of amateur sports. ([News Release](#) and [Guidance](#))
 - Beginning August 15, 2020, at 12:01 a.m. (EDT), facilities can have up to 50 patrons for each indoor sport or fitness room, while ensuring physical distancing of at least two metres.
 - The revised capacity limits are on a per room basis. They will apply to the gymnasiums, health clubs, community centres, multi-purpose facilities, arenas, exercise studios, yoga and dance studios, and other fitness facilities that are able to follow the new guidance.
 - The following related regulations were added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 453/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 3 (made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*).
 - [O.Reg. 452/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 2 (made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*).
- Ontario takes additional steps to better protect students and staff by making further investments to ensure a safe return to school in September. ([News Release](#))
 - The directive outlines effective practices, such as training and technical support, that will enhance the implementation of synchronous instruction for students and staff.
- 40,459 confirmed cases, an increase of 78 since yesterday, including one death.

Quebec

- 61,004 confirmed cases, an increase of 87 since yesterday, including three deaths.

August 13, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Asymptomatic testing is recommended for all teachers and staff in the early childhood services to grade 12 education system prior to the start of the 2020-21 school year ([Update](#)).
 - A [re-entry tool kit](#) is available to help prepare parents and students.
- Edmonton has reached a new high in terms of active case numbers, as 95 of the 121 new cases reported in Alberta Wednesday came from the capital region ([Edmonton Journal](#)).
- 11,893 confirmed cases, an increase of 121 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- Deadline looms for temporary layoff extensions ([News Release](#)).
- 4,196 confirmed cases, an increase of 85 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Education minister "unlocks" C\$500-million to improve distancing and ventilation for back-to-school; Lecce announced funding towards PPE, custodians and enhanced ventilation ([CBC](#)).
 - The minister also announced an additional C\$50-million for upgrades to ventilation systems amid concerns over student safety during the threat of COVID-19.
 - Official press release is still forthcoming.
- 40,367 confirmed cases, an increase in 78 since yesterday.

Quebec

- [Order in Council No. 818-2020](#) – The public health emergency has been renewed until August 19, 2020.
- 60,917 confirmed cases, an increase in 104 since yesterday.

August 12, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- *Order Respecting Time Limits and Other Periods Established By or Under Certain Acts and Regulations for which the Minister of Industry is Responsible (COVID-19)*, published in the [August 12, 2020, Canada Gazette, Part I](#) (Extra).
 - Affected legislation: *Boards of Trade Act, Canada Business Corporations Act, Canada Cooperatives Act, Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act, National Security Review of Investments Regulations*.
- Funding announcements:
 - Alberta's plant-based food sector receives federal support. ([News Release](#))
 - Government of Canada announces funding for Indigenous communities and organizations to support community-based responses to COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
 - Government of Canada invests in agri-food producers and organizations in northern Ontario. ([News Release](#))
 - Government of Canada invests in Quebec's agri-food industry. ([News Release](#))
 - FedDev Ontario feeds growth in southern Ontario's agri-food sector ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Defense announced an agreement with Moderna, Inc. to manufacture and deliver 100 million doses of the company's COVID-19 vaccine candidate. ([News Release](#))
- White House, Democrats show no sign of budging on U.S. coronavirus aid ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- COVID-19 information: guidance for seniors centres and seniors serving organizations. Replaces the guidance from June 13, 2020. ([Guidance Document](#))
- 11,772 confirmed cases, an increase of 85 since yesterday, including three deaths.

British Columbia

- Approximately 500 additional health professionals will be hired to increase contact tracing around British Columbia. ([News Release](#))
- There will be a gradual restart of school in the week of September 8-11, 2020, to allow extra time to orient students and staff on the new safety measures. Students will return on September 10, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- 4,111 confirmed cases, an increase of 46 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario providing municipalities with up to C\$1.6-billion in first round of emergency funding. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario released the 2020-21 First Quarter Finances and an update to Ontario's Action Plan: Responding to COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
 - The COVID-19 response action plan is now a projected C\$30-billion, up from C\$17-billion announced in Ontario's Action Plan: Responding to COVID-19 on March 25, 2020. A deficit of C\$38.5-billion is now projected for 2020-21.
- 40,289 confirmed cases, an increase of 95 since yesterday, including one death.

Quebec

- 60,813 confirmed cases, an increase of 95 since yesterday, one new death, plus 11 deaths that occurred previously.

August 11, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada launches updated Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy Calculator to support employers ([News Release](#)).
- The Government of Canada is providing assistance to help Indigenous Peoples living in urban centres in response to the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- U.S. governors question the cost of Trump's COVID-19 aid plans and urge talks to continue ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- 11,687 confirmed cases, an increase of 257 since the weekend, including five deaths.

British Columbia

- Masks to remain optional for B.C. students, despite public health guidelines ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- [Bill 23](#), *Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2020*, received third reading yesterday.
- The federal and provincial governments have confirmed that the transit funding envelope of the Safe Restart Agreement will include eligibility for BC Ferries ([News Release](#)).
- 4,065 confirmed cases, an increase of 131 since the weekend.

Ontario

- [O.Reg. 444/20](#) – Stages of Reopening (made under the *Reopening Ontario (Flexible Response to Covid-19) Act, 2020*).
- 40,194 confirmed cases, an increase of 33 since yesterday.

Quebec

- 60,718 confirmed cases, an increase of 91 since yesterday, including one death.

August 10, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada temporarily set a minimum unemployment rate for the Employment Insurance program. ([News release](#))
 - Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion, announced that effective August 9, 2020, a minimum unemployment rate of 13.1 per cent will be applied temporarily for all EI economic regions across Canada.
 - When individuals begin transitioning off of the CERB back to EI regular benefits at the end of this month, those living in EI regions with an unemployment rate lower than 13.1% will have their EI benefits calculated on the basis of the 13.1% rate, while individuals living in regions with a higher unemployment rate will have their benefits calculated using the actual rate for that region.

U.S. – Federal

- Trump signs coronavirus relief orders after talks with Congress break down. ([Reuters](#))
- Presidential [Memorandum](#) on Authorizing the Other Needs Assistance Program for Major Disaster Declarations Related to Coronavirus Disease 2019.
- Presidential [Memorandum](#) on Deferring Payroll Tax Obligations in Light of the Ongoing COVID-19 Disaster.

- Executive [Order](#) on Fighting the Spread of COVID-19 by Providing Assistance to Renters and Homeowners.
- Presidential [Memorandum](#) on Continued Student Loan Payment Relief During the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Alberta

- Masks for schools procurement: Minister LaGrange. ([Statement](#))
- Alberta to adopt national COVID-19 exposure app. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- 11,430 confirmed cases, an increase of 134 since Friday, no deaths.

British Columbia

- [O.I.C. 472/2020](#) – Amending the *Medical and Health Care Services Regulation* (under the *Medicare Protection Act*)
- 3,934 confirmed cases, an increase of 53 since Friday, no deaths.

Ontario

- Windsor-Essex will be allowed to move into Stage 3 on August 12, 2020, at 12:01 a.m. (EDT). ([News release](#))
- 40,161 confirmed cases, an increase of 264 since Friday, including three deaths.

Quebec

- The Quebec government updates the back-to-school plan. ([News release](#))
- Masks will be required for students starting in the fifth grade when they are in common areas of the school or on school or public transport but will not be compulsory inside classrooms.
- Classes are no longer required to divide into sub-groups of six students, and students in the same class group will not have to maintain a distance between themselves.
- All students will return to class in the fall except those with medical conditions.
- Parents will be notified if there is an outbreak in the school.
- Quebec's top doctor says a return to lockdown this fall is "unlikely" ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- 60,627 confirmed cases, an increase of 386 since Friday, including seven deaths.

August 3 – August 7

August 7, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Public Health Agency of Canada's [COVID-19 guidance](#) for schools kindergarten to grade 12.
 - A summary of the Public Health Agency of Canada's back-to-school recommendations ([National Post](#)).
- The Government of Canada is providing assistance to urban Indigenous organizations in the Greater Toronto Area to address the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- The following orders have been added to the August 8 *Canada Gazette*:

- [Interim Order](#) – Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19, No. 4 (made under the *Aeronautics Act*).
- [Order](#) – Lifting Suspensions of Time Limits in Relation to Proceedings Commenced Under Certain Acts for Which the Minister of Industry is Responsible
- [Order](#) – Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country other than the United States) (made under the *Quarantine Act*).
- Canada's forest sector developing biodegradable face mask filters ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The White House turns down the Democrats' offer to meet halfway with US\$2-trillion coronavirus plan ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

Alberta

- COVID-19 funding for First Nations colleges; one-time funding will help First Nations colleges overcome obstacles to ensure students benefit from online course delivery ([News Release](#)).
- 11,296 confirmed cases, an increase of 56 since yesterday, including two deaths.

British Columbia

- Premier John Horgan says adjustments to the plan to reopen the province's schools may be necessary, including delaying the exact day elementary and high-school students return to their classes ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Masks will soon be mandatory on Metro Vancouver transit ([CTV](#)).
 - TransLink said the new policy takes effect on Aug. 24.
- [Order in Council No. 459](#) – Effective January 1, 2020, the linked *COVID-19 (Limits on Actions and Proceedings) Regulation* is made.
- The *COVID-19 Related Measures Act*, S.B.C. 2020, c. 8, is amended by repealing items 10 and 20 in Schedule 2.
- [Order of the Provincial Health Officer](#) to Owners and Operators of Places and Persons Who Organize or Attend Events at Vacation Accommodation or Other Places.
- 3,881 confirmed cases, an increase of 47 since yesterday.

Ontario

- Toronto Public Health raises concerns about Ontario's back-to-school plan as Premier Doug Ford defends against growing criticism ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The Ontario government, in partnership with the federal government, is providing C\$234.6-million in funding to keep children and staff safe in childcare and early years settings ([News Release](#)).
- 39,897 confirmed cases, an increase of 88 since yesterday.

Quebec

- 60,241 confirmed cases, an increase of 108 since yesterday.

August 6, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. – Federal

- White House health experts are warning of a slow rise in the percentage of people testing positive for the coronavirus in U.S. cities such as Boston, Chicago, Detroit and Washington and urging local leaders to remain vigilant to avoid a surge ([CBC](#)).
- President Trump drafting order on coronavirus aid actions: tweet ([Reuters](#)).
- President Donald Trump on Thursday will sign a long-awaited executive order aimed at boosting American production of medicines and medical equipment, and protecting the United States against shortfalls in a future pandemic ([Reuters](#)).
- New York City will implement COVID-19 quarantine check points at key entry points to the city to ensure that travellers coming from 35 states on New York's travel advisory comply with the 14-day quarantine mandate ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- 11,240 confirmed cases, an increase of 94 since yesterday, including two deaths.

British Columbia

- Expanded infrastructure program offers new support for COVID-19 community resilience in British Columbia ([News Release](#)).
- The Surrey Board of Trade will develop a plan for local employers to navigate their capacity to respond to COVID-19 workforce needs and help workers connect to employment opportunities ([News Release](#)).
- 3,834 confirmed cases, an increase of 47 since yesterday.

Ontario

- Ontario Premier Doug Ford is promising to introduce measures to help improve conditions for the province's personal support workers ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The Ontario government is investing C\$1.5-million through the new Tourism Economic Development Recovery Fund and offering promotional incentives at provincial attractions to help the province's tourism industry and welcome back visitors after the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- 39,809 confirmed cases, an increase of 95 since yesterday, including one death.

Quebec

- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-55](#) – Related to electoral polls.
- 60,133 confirmed cases, an increase of 133 since yesterday.

August 5, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Physical distancing and mask-wearing could be in place for two to three years even with a vaccine, Tam warns ([CBC](#)).
 - Tam said one of the busiest areas of planning for officials is the reopening of schools in September, for which, she said, the Public Health Agency of Canada will be publishing detailed guidelines later this week.
 - The guidelines will include a recommendation that children over the age of 10 be required to wear masks; extra consideration should be given for children under the age of 10.
- Health Canada is recalling more than 50 hand sanitizers ([CBC](#) and [Recalls Summary](#)).
- Ottawa looks to finalize deal with airlines amid contact-tracing concerns ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The Government of Canada announces major steps in treating and preventing COVID-19 through vaccines and therapies ([News Release](#)).
 - Minister Anand announced that, following the careful review and recommendation of the COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force, the Government of Canada has entered into two agreements with Pfizer and Moderna to secure millions of doses of COVID-19 vaccine candidates. The government is negotiating and signing agreements with a number of leading pharmaceutical companies to establish a guaranteed supply base of potential vaccine candidates.
- Infrastructure program expands to support COVID-19 community resilience ([News Release](#)).
 - The Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program is being adjusted so that provinces and territories can use federal funding to act quickly on a wider range of more pandemic-resilient infrastructure projects.
- [S.O.R./2020-169](#) – Interim Order No. 6 Amending the *Employment Insurance Act* (Employment Insurance Emergency Response Benefit) was added to the August 5 *Canada Gazette*.

U.S. – Federal

- Republicans push Friday deadline in congressional coronavirus relief talks ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Alberta to provide additional COVID-19 homelessness supports ([News Release](#)).
- 11,146 confirmed cases, an increase of 303 since the weekend, including six deaths.

British Columbia

- [Order in Council No. 458](#) – State of emergency extended to August 18, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- Workers and employers who need to extend temporary layoffs beyond the August 30, 2020, expiry date are reminded to apply for a variance using the Employment Standards Branch's new online application by August 25, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- 3,787 confirmed cases, an increase of 146 since the weekend.

Ontario

- The Toronto District School Board exploring ways to keep elementary classes smaller amid growing anxiety among parents ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Ontario supporting non-profits as province recovers from COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- The following regulations were added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 441/820](#) – *Rules of Civil Procedure* (related to the civil submissions online portal).
 - [O.Reg. 442/20](#) – General (under the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014*).
- Ford won't commit to lower class sizes ([CBC](#)).
- 39,714 confirmed cases, an increase of 86 since yesterday.

Quebec

- The following orders were issued:
 - [Order in Council No. 815-2020](#) – Public health emergency has been renewed until August 12, 2020.
 - [Order in Council No. 817-2020](#) – Related to the organization of a gathering (outdoor public place).
 - New limitation in public outdoor places: a maximum of 250 people is now allowed ([News Release](#)).
- 60,000 confirmed cases, an increase of 155 since yesterday, including one death.

August 4, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Canadian Armed Forces airlift support to the United Nations for their COVID-19 efforts concluded on Friday, July 31, 2020. ([News release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- President Donald Trump signed an executive order expanding access to telehealth services for 57 million Americans in underserved rural areas and elsewhere, after virtual visits soared during the coronavirus pandemic. ([Reuters](#))
- The U.S. government agreed to pay French drug maker Sanofi and British pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline up to US\$2.1-billion to supply enough vaccines for 50 million people, with the option to buy another 500 million doses. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Mask use for grade four to grade 12 students, and all school staff, will be mandatory when school returns for the 2020-21 year. ([News release](#))
- The government's distribution of non-medical masks program has ended; 40 million masks were distributed. ([News release](#))
- 10,843 confirmed cases, an increase of 127 since Friday.

British Columbia

- The province has amended regulations to allow private cannabis retail store licensees to sell non-medical cannabis products online for pickup in store. ([News release](#) and [O.I.C. 454/2020](#))
- [O.I.C. 453/2020](#) – Related to the COVID-19 (*Limitation Periods in Court Proceedings*) Regulation and amends the COVID-19 Related Measures Act.
- [O.I.C. 457/2020](#) – Related to the COVID-19 (*Passenger Transportation Act*) Regulation and amends the COVID-19 Related Measures Act.
- [Ministerial Order No. M256](#) – BC Ferries Medical Travel (COVID-19) Order (under the *Emergency Program Act*).
- [Ministerial Order No. M257](#) – Haida Gwaii (COVID-19) Order (under the *Emergency Program Act*).
- 3,641 confirmed cases, an increase of 50 since Friday, including one death.

Ontario

- Windsor-Essex will remain in Stage 2 of the province's reopening plan. ([News release](#))

- The Ontario government is providing Clean Works Medical and Pure Life Machinery with C\$2-million from the Ontario Together Fund to help manufacture a one-of-a-kind, sanitizing device called the Clean Flow Healthcare Mini that can decontaminate up to 800 N95 masks per hour along with other personal protective equipment. ([News release](#))
- 39,628 confirmed cases, an increase of 419 since Friday, including seven deaths.

Quebec

- [Ministerial Order 2020-053](#) of the Minister of Health and Social Services increasing the maximum number of persons that may gather in certain locations from 50 to 250.
- 59,845 confirmed cases, an increase of 533 since Friday, including three deaths.

July 2020

July 27 – July 31

July 31, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- Finance Minister Bill Morneau announced that the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance will be extended by one month to help eligible small businesses pay rent for August ([News Release](#)).
- Employment-insurance-like benefit for gig and contract workers will be available after CERB ends, Trudeau says ([CBC](#)). More details will be unveiled at a later date.
- The Government of Canada invests in measures to boost protections for temporary foreign workers and address COVID-19 outbreaks on farms ([News Release](#) and [Background](#)).
- [New mobile app](#) to help notify Canadians of potential COVID-19 exposure now available ([News Release](#)).
- The following orders were added this afternoon:
 - [PC Number 2020-549](#) – Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country other than the United States) (made under the *Quarantine Act*).
 - [PC Number 2020-548](#) – Order Lifting Suspensions of Time Limits in Relation to Proceedings Commenced Under Certain Acts for Which the Minister of Industry is Responsible (made under the *Time Limits and Other Periods Act (COVID-19)*).
- New prototype face mask using Canadian wood pulp to support Canada's COVID-19 response ([News Release](#)).
- Passport services in Canada resuming by mail and appointment for travel in less than 30 days ([News Release](#)).
- Government of Canada COVID-19 update for Indigenous Peoples and communities ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- U.S. House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi said talks with the White House on a new coronavirus aid bill were not yet on a path toward reaching a deal ([Reuters](#)).
 - Negotiations continued today although no timetable was given.
- The U.S. government to launch "overwhelming" COVID-19 vaccine campaign by November ([Reuters](#)).

- The White House opposes requirement for passengers to wear masks on planes, trains ([Reuters](#)).
- National Institutes of Health delivering new COVID-19 testing technologies to meet U.S. demand ([News Release](#)).
- Department of Defense announced US\$31-Million in Defense Production Act Title III COVID-19 Actions ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- Expanding COVID-19 testing at pharmacies; Alberta is expanding asymptomatic testing at community pharmacies, helping more people access timely COVID-19 testing close to home ([News Release](#)).
- Thousands of job creators access relaunch grant; Alberta's government has provided businesses with more than C\$25.7-million since the Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant was launched one month ago ([News Release](#)).
- 10,716 confirmed cases, an increase of 113 since yesterday, including five deaths.

British Columbia

- Liquor manufacturers benefit from temporary changes to direct delivery ([News Release](#) and [Policy Directive](#)).
 - The province is temporarily authorizing liquor manufacturers to deliver products directly to individual consumers from their registered off-site storage facilities, in addition to their on-site stores.
- Minister's [statement](#) on guidelines for post-secondary institutions.
 - COVID-19 Go-Forward [Guidelines](#) for B.C.'s Post-Secondary Sector.
- Minister's [statement](#) on federal extension of commercial rent assistance.
- [Bill 18](#), *Economic Stabilization (COVID-19) Act* received third reading and awaits Royal Assent.
- Province restricts travel to Haida Gwaii to protect communities ([News Release](#)).
- 3,591 confirmed cases, an increase of 29 since yesterday.

Ontario

- Ontario implementing additional measures at bars and restaurants to help limit the spread of COVID-19; measures to further protect the health of Ontarians as the province continues to reopen under Stage 3 ([News Release](#)).
- The following orders/regulations have been added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 426/20](#) – Stages of Reopening (made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act*).
 - [O.Reg. 427/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 2 (made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act*).
 - [O.Reg. 428/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 3 (made under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act*).
 - [O.Reg. 429/20](#) – General (made under the *Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004*).
 - [O.Reg. 430/20](#) – Fees (made under the *Notaries Act*).
 - [O.Reg. 431/20](#) – Administering Oath or Declaration Remotely (made under the *Commissioners For Taking Affidavits Act*).
- Ontario safely and gradually reopens DriveTest Centres ([News Release](#)).
- 39,209 confirmed cases, an increase of 134 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Quebec

- 59,312 confirmed cases, an increase of 164 since yesterday, including one death.

July 30, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Department of National Defence announced two contribution agreements with Canadian companies as part of the Government of Canada's coordinated response to COVID-19 ([News Release](#)). The contribution agreements, totalling C\$2-million, focus on diagnostics and testing and are being awarded to:
 - Diagnostics Biochem Canada Inc. (London, ON): C\$1.014-million for the development of kits for the detection of antibodies to SARS-CoV-2 that can be used separately or in combination to diagnose current or previous COVID-19 infection.
 - Custom Biologics, (Toronto, ON): C\$1-million for the development and qualification of a rapid Point-of-Care diagnostic test for the SARS-CoV-2 virus that causes COVID-19.
- Prime Minister Trudeau and Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland held their 16th call with Canada's provincial and territorial premiers to discuss their shared response to the COVID-19 pandemic ([Readout](#)).
- Information and resources on COVID-19 epidemiology and reducing your risks for infection and spreading the virus ([Public Health Agency of Canada Backgrounder](#)).
- Stricter rules for foreign nationals transiting through Canada to Alaska ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- COVID-19 outbreak picks up in Midwest as summer travel spreads virus ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- Premier Jason Kenney aims for "discrete approach" to regional COVID-19 outbreaks ([Edmonton Journal](#)).
 - If COVID-19 cases continue to climb, Alberta would look at working with local leaders in specific regions before considering a second province-wide shutdown, Premier Jason Kenney said.
- [Bill 32](#), *Restoring Balance in Alberta's Workplaces Act, 2020*, received royal assent yesterday. Coming-into-force information is set out at the end of each part. If there is no CIF information provided, the part comes into force on royal assent.
- [Bill 30](#), *Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2020*, received royal assent yesterday. Coming-into-force information is set out at the end of each part. If there is no CIF information provided, the part comes into force on royal assent.
- 10,603 confirmed cases, an increase of 133 since yesterday, including three deaths.

British Columbia

- [Order in Council No. 449](#) – Related to the regulation/amendment made under the *Emergency Program Act* and the *COVID-19 Related Measures Act*.
 - *COVID-19 (Residential Tenancy Act and Manufactured Home Park Tenancy Act) Regulation*
- [Order in Council No. 551](#) – Sections 3, 4 and 10 (1) (b) of item 2 in Schedule 2 of the *COVID-19 Related Measures Act*, are repealed.
- Emergency order enacted to provide medical-assured loading on ferries ([News Release](#)).

- 3,562 confirmed cases, an increase of 41 since yesterday.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford and Education Minister Stephen Lecce released the back-to-school plan this afternoon ([News Release](#)).
 - Elementary school children in kindergarten through to grade eight will return to school five days per week across Ontario for a full day, with no changes to class sizes.
 - Secondary schools in designated boards will open on an adapted model, with class cohorts of approximately 15 students; students will attend class on alternate days or alternate schedules.
 - Non-medical masks will be mandatory for students in grade four to grade 12. Students in kindergarten to grade three will be encouraged, but not required, to wear masks in common spaces.
 - Schools will implement additional hand hygiene, cohorting and distancing.
- Ontario's plan to allow licensed childcare centres across Ontario will open at full capacity starting September 1, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- The following orders/regulations were added to E-Laws today:
 - [O.Reg. 426/20](#) – Stages of Reopening. Made under the *Reopening Ontario (a Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*.
 - [O.Reg. 427/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 2. Made under the *Reopening Ontario (a Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*.
 - [O.Reg. 428/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 3. Made under the *Reopening Ontario (a Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*.
 - [O.Reg. 429/20](#) – General (*Personal Health Information Protection Act, 2004*).
- 39,075 confirmed cases, an increase of 89 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Quebec

- Early in the pandemic, Quebec didn't follow expert advice to expand quarantine order ([CBC](#)).
- 59,131 confirmed cases, an increase of 122 since yesterday, including one death.

July 29, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Masks mandatory in all Edmonton indoor public spaces starting August 1; City Council voted 10-3 to pass the mandatory mask bylaw ([CBC](#)).

- [Bill 32](#), *Restoring Balance in Alberta's Workplaces Act, 2020*, received third reading and awaits royal assent.
- The Legislative Assembly has adjourned until August 27, 2020.

British Columbia

- Most B.C. students to return to school for full-time in-class learning in September ([News Release](#)).
 - On the advice of the provincial health officer, students will be organized into learning groups, a consistent group of staff and students.
 - The ministry is developing operational guidelines that will further assist school districts and independent schools with their planning for September.
 - Public Health [Guidance](#) for K-12 School Settings.
- Bill 18, *Economic Stabilization (COVID-19) Act* – Committee reported the Bill [with amendments](#) (see s. 21).

Ontario

- Ontario government launched an independent commission into COVID-19 and long-term care ([News Release](#)).
 - Three commissioners will investigate how COVID-19 spread within long-term care homes, how residents, staff and families were impacted, and the adequacy of measures taken by the province and other parties to prevent, isolate and contain the virus.
- Toronto City Council has approved several new bylaws related to COVID-19 measures as the city prepares to enter Stage 3 ([CityNews](#)).
- 38,986 confirmed cases, an increase of 76 since yesterday.

Quebec

- [Order in Council No. 814-2020](#) – Renewal of public health emergency until August 5, 2020.
- 59,073 confirmed cases, an increase of 176 since yesterday, including one death.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Active discussions are taking place to potentially pre-order COVID-19 vaccine doses for Canadians, chief public health officer Dr. Theresa Tam said Tuesday ([CTV](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The White House and lawmakers tangle over scope of new coronavirus legislation ([Reuters](#)).
 - Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and White House chief of staff Mark Meadows were expected to resume negotiations today with the two senior Democrats in Congress House of Representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer.

Alberta

- [Bill 30](#), *Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2020*, received third reading yesterday afternoon and awaits royal assent.
- 10,470 confirmed cases, an increase of 80 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- 3,523 confirmed cases, an increase of 23 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Additional businesses and public spaces will be reopening as the Ontario government allows the City of Toronto and Peel Region to move into Stage 3 of reopening the province on Friday, July 31 at 12:01 a.m. (EDT). Windsor-Essex will now be the only region in Ontario remaining in Stage 2 ([News Release](#)).
 - [What can open in Stage 3](#)
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care, to make an announcement on the launch of an independent commission into COVID-19 and long-term care at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- No new updates.

July 28, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages, and Minister Responsible for Western Economic Diversification Canada (WD), announced C\$2.95-million in federal support to help businesses in B.C.'s technology sector address the impact of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- Over C\$95-million in relief and recovery funds flow to businesses in Western Canada ([News Release](#)).
- Health Canada authorizes drug remdesivir for severe COVID-19 cases ([CBC](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven T. Mnuchin issued a [statement](#) on the extension of emergency lending facilities authorized under section 13(3) of the *Federal Reserve Act*.

Alberta

- Alberta invests billions of dollars to help municipalities create jobs and cope with COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- The province is expected to announce whether the remaining three regions in Stage 2 — Toronto, Peel and Windsor-Essex — can move to Stage 3 on Wednesday ([CTV](#)).
- 38,910 confirmed cases, an increase of 111 since yesterday, including four deaths.

Quebec

- 58,897 confirmed cases, an increase of 169 since yesterday, including two deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- [Bill C-20](#), *An Act respecting further COVID-19 measures*, received royal assent yesterday evening. The bill comes into force on assent ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- Republicans unveil coronavirus plan and slash emergency unemployment benefit ([Reuters](#)).
 - Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell called the proposal a “tailored and targeted” plan focused on getting children back to school and employees back to work and protecting corporations from lawsuits, while slashing the expiring supplemental unemployment benefits of US\$600 a week by two-thirds.
- Majority of U.S. House backs new bailout for U.S. passenger airlines ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- [Bill 32](#), *Restoring Balance in Alberta’s Workplaces Act, 2020*, was referred to the Committee of the Whole yesterday.
- 10,390 confirmed cases, an increase of 304 since the weekend (110 on July 24, 103 on July 25 and 91 on July 26), including eight deaths.

British Columbia

- Dr. Bonnie Henry said she has [amended a provincial health order](#) to address short-term vacation rentals. B.C.’s Interior has seen an uptick in new cases following a series of exposures at private parties at the start of the month ([Global News](#)).
- 3,500 confirmed cases, an increase of 81 since the weekend, including two deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care; Shaun Collier, Mayor of Ajax; and Sharon Cochran, Chair of the Lakeridge Health Board of Trustees, to make an announcement on building long-term care capacity at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- No new updates.

July 27, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) announces an extension to the payment deadline and offers interest relief on outstanding tax debts during the COVID-19 pandemic. The CRA is extending the payment due date for current-year individual, corporate and trust income tax returns, including instalment payments, from September 1, 2020, to September 30, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- [Bill C-20](#), *An Act respecting further COVID-19 measures*, received first, second and third reading this afternoon. The Senate has suspended to await royal assent.

U.S. – Federal

- The Department of Health and Human Services reserves and rapidly expands manufacturing capacity for COVID-19 vaccines at Texas Center for Innovation in Advanced Development and Manufacturing ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- The Ontario government, in partnership with the federal government, is providing up to C\$4-billion in urgently needed one-time assistance to Ontario's 444 municipalities. A deal for public transit funding was also secured as part of the agreement ([News Release](#)).
- *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*, [S.O. 2020, c. 17](#) proclaimed in force July 24, 2020.
- 38,799 confirmed cases, an increase of 119 since the weekend, including one death.

Quebec

- 58,728 confirmed cases, an increase of 145 since the weekend.

Last updated at 9 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada will provide \$4.28-billion to further expand testing and contact tracing capacity and the associated data management and information sharing systems ([News Release](#)).
 - This funding will ensure a national capacity to conduct 200,000 tests per day to help manage COVID-19 outbreaks over the coming year. Canada will also provide \$7.5-billion towards personal protective equipment.
- The Senate is sitting today at 12 p.m. (EDT) to consider Bill C-20, *An Act respecting further COVID-19 measures*.
- Ministers responsible for immigration meet to jointly plan for the future of immigration in Canada amid COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The White House and Senate Republicans have reached “an agreement in principle” on the next coronavirus relief bill, a White House official said yesterday ([Reuters](#)).
- Trump administration backs partial extension of jobless benefits through year's end ([Reuters](#)).
 - Chief of Staff Mark Meadows suggested a deal on a standalone bill on unemployment benefits could be reached before the July 31 deadline.

Alberta

- 10,086 confirmed cases, an increase of 111 since Friday, including two deaths.

British Columbia

- 3,419 confirmed cases, an increase of 27 since Friday, including one death.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance; Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; and Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).
- 38,680 confirmed cases, an increase of 275 since Friday, including four deaths.

Quebec

- 58,583 confirmed cases, an increase of 340 since Friday, including three deaths.

July 20 – July 24

July 24, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Deena Hinshaw says masks in schools are still under review ([CBC](#)).

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- Ontario delays decision on whether Toronto, Peel and Windsor can move to Stage 3 ([CTV](#)).
- An update will be provided on July 29, 2020.
- Ontario looking into mandatory testing for agri-farm workers ([CTV](#)).
- 38,405 confirmed cases, an increase of 195 since yesterday, 3 deaths.

Quebec

- 58,243 confirmed cases, an increase of 163 since yesterday, 1 death.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- The Government of Canada is providing funding to support child care for returning workers ([News Release](#)).
 - This morning, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development Ahmed Hussen announced C\$625-million in federal support for Canada's childcare sector.
- National COVID-19 contact tracing app starts beta testing after three-week delay ([Globe and Mail](#)).

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Legislative developments:
 - [Bill 22](#) *Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2020* received Royal Assent yesterday. Coming into force information is set out at the end of each part. If there is no CIF information provided, the part comes into force on Royal Assent.
 - [Bill 23](#) *Commercial Tenancies Protection Act* received Royal Assent yesterday. This Act, except sections 11 and 12, has effect on March 17, 2020; sections 11 and 12 have effect on March 27, 2020.
 - [Bill 30](#) *Health Statutes Amendment Act, 2020* received second reading yesterday.
 - [Bill 32](#), Restoring Balance in Alberta's Workplaces Act, 2020 received second reading yesterday.
- 9,975 confirmed cases, an increase of 114 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

British Columbia

- Health [Order](#) from the Provincial Health Officer for food service establishments, liquor services and events.
- 3,392 confirmed cases, an increase of 30 since yesterday, 1 death.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Ross Romano, Minister of Colleges and Universities, Rhonda L. Lenton, President and Vice Chancellor of York University, Frank Scarpitti, Mayor of Markham, Wayne Emmerson, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer for the Regional Municipality of York, and Billy Pang, MPP for Markham—Unionville, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. EDT.

Quebec

- No new updates.

July 23, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- The Senate will sit on July 27, 2020 to consider Bill C-20, *An Act respecting further COVID-19 measures*, which passed in the House of Commons on July 21, 2020. ([News release](#))

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- The following regulations regarding remote execution of forms were posted on the Orders in Council website today:
 - [Alta. Reg. 114/2020](#), *Builders' Lien Forms Amendment Regulation*
 - [Alta. Reg. 115/2020](#), *Foreign Ownership of Land Amendment Regulation*
 - [Alta. Reg. 116/2020](#), *Forms Amendment Regulation (under the Dower Act)*
 - [Alta. Reg. 117/2020](#), *Forms Amendment Regulation (under the Land Titles Act)*
 - [Alta. Reg. 118/2020](#), *Personal Property Security Forms Amendment Regulation*

British Columbia

- A new provincial health order will limit the number of people allowed at vacation rentals and on houseboats as COVID-19 cases continue to climb in B.C. ([CBC](#))
- [O.I.C. 440/2020](#) amending the *Employment and Assistance Regulation* and the *Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Regulation*.
- [O.I.C. 441/2020](#) amending the *Employment and Assistance Regulation* and the *Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Regulation*.

Ontario

- Ontario announced five new health teams (Algoma, Niagara, Ottawa East, Western Ontario and Western York) and funding of up to C\$25.25-million to directly support the 29 approved Ontario Health Teams. ([News release](#))
- Plan for reopening Ontario's schools in September to be announced next week. ([Globe and Mail](#))
- The following regulations were added to e-Laws:
 - [O. Reg. 422/20](#), amending O. Reg. 114/20, *Enforcement of Orders* (under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*)
 - [O. Reg. 423/20](#), amending O. Reg. 106/20, *Order Made Under the Act – Extensions and Renewals of Orders* (under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*)
- 38,210 confirmed cases, an increase of 103 since yesterday, 0 deaths.

Quebec

- As of August 3, 2020, the maximum number of people allowed for indoor and outdoor events will increase from 50 to 250 people. This new rule applies to public places and not to indoor and outdoor gatherings at a private residence or chalet, which are set at 10 people. ([News release](#))
- 58,080 confirmed cases, an increase of 142 since yesterday, 0 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Minister of Infrastructure and Communities Catherine McKenna announced that up to C\$2-billion in federal funding will be made available to cities and towns across Canada. ([News release](#))
 - The funding will support front line workers and critical municipal services. Provincial and territorial governments will continue to support municipalities, and will cost-match federal supports with investments made this fiscal year.
 - Canada has also agreed to match approximately C\$1.8-billion of provincial and territorial funding to support local public transit. For Ontario this will mean an additional C\$1-billion in federal transit funding.

U.S. Federal

- U.S. Senate Republicans, White House cite early progress on coronavirus aid bill ([Reuters](#))
- Bill could be presented to Democrats as early as this week as lawmakers race to pass legislation by the end of July.

Alberta

- 9,861 confirmed cases, an increase of 133 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- B.C. puts new rules on restaurants, bars, nightclubs amid rising COVID-19 numbers ([CBC](#))
- 3,362 confirmed cases, an increase of 34 since yesterday, 0 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario is providing the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB) with C\$110,000 from the Ontario Together Fund to deliver online tools and resources that will support Indigenous businesses as the province implements its made-in-Ontario plan for renewal, growth, and economic recovery. ([News release](#))
- The following regulations were added to e-Laws this morning:
 - [O. Reg. 420/20](#) amending O. Reg. 363/20, *Stages of Reopening* (under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*). Adds the seven new areas to Schedule 3 – Stage 3 Areas. Amendments take effect at 12:01 a.m. on July 24, 2020.
 - [O. Reg. 421/20](#) amending R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 950, *Proceedings Commenced by Certificate of Offence*. In force on the day s. 10 of *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020* comes into force. Section 10 has not been proclaimed in force.
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Minister of Education Stephen Lecce and Mayor of Brampton Patrick Brown to make an announcement at 1 p.m. EDT.

Quebec

- The following regulations were published in the [July 23, 2020, Gazette officielle du Québec](#):
 - O.C. 811-2020, *Renewal of the public health emergency pursuant to section 119 of the Public Health Act* (renewed to July 29, 2020)
 - O.C. 813-2020, *Ordering of measures to protect the health of the population amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation* (regarding face masks)
 - M.O. 2020-52, *Ordering of measures to protect the health of the population amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation* (regarding evictions)
 - Order number 4282 of the Chief Justice of Québec and the Minister of Justice dated 6 July 2020 concerning the lifting of the suspension of certain time limits for extinctive prescription, forfeiture and civil proceedings (under the *Code of Civil Procedure*)

July 22, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- The following regulations and orders were published in the [July 22, 2020, Canada Gazette, Part II](#):
 - S.O.R./2002-160, *Regulations Amending the Income Tax Regulations* (COVID-19 — June 7 to July 4, 2020 Qualifying Period)
 - S.O.R./2020-164, *Regulations Amending the Interest and Administrative Charges Regulations* (under the *Financial Administration Act*)
 - S.O.R./2020-166, *Regulations Amending the Canada Labour Standards Regulations*
 - S.I./2020-50, *Fees Paid for the Provision of Services in Relation to an Assessment from the Department of Employment and Social Development Remission Order* (under the *Financial Administration Act*)

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- The province is earmarking up to C\$1-billion of additional spending targeted to address COVID-19 impacts and restart plans of local governments and public transit services, conditional on matching federal contributions under a 50/50 cost-sharing criteria. ([News Release](#))

Ontario

- The legislature has adjourned until September 14, 2020. ([News release](#))
- 38,107 confirmed cases, an increase of 165 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

Quebec

- Minister of Culture and Communications Nathalie Roy announced C\$33.5-million in support for the music industry. ([News release](#))

- 57,938 confirmed cases, an increase of 142 since yesterday, 4 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- [P.C. 2020-538](#), *Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States)* (under the *Quarantine Act*)

U.S. Federal

- The U.S. government will pay US\$1.95-billion to buy 100-million doses of Pfizer Inc and German biotech firm BioNTech SE's COVID-19 vaccine candidate, if they are able to successfully develop one. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Calgary council voted in favour of making masks mandatory in indoor public places and on transit when physical barriers are absent. The bylaw will take effect in August. ([Globe and Mail](#))
- 9,728 confirmed cases, an increase of 141 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

British Columbia

- The state of emergency has been extended to August 4, 2020. ([News Release](#))
 - [O.I.C. 436/2020](#), extending the state of emergency to August 4, 2020 (under the *Emergency Program Act*).
- [O.I.C. 435/2020](#), amending Schedule 2 of the *COVID-19 Related Measures Act*.
- 3,328 confirmed cases, an increase of 30 since yesterday, 0 deaths.

Ontario

- [Bill 195](#), *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*, received third reading and Royal Assent yesterday (S.O. 2020, c. 17). The Act comes into force on proclamation (not yet in force).
- [Bill 197](#), *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020*, received third reading and Royal Assent yesterday (S.O. 2020, c. 18). Coming into force information is found at the end of each schedule.
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Christine Elliott and Government House Leader Paul Calandra to make an announcement at 1 p.m. EDT.

Quebec

- Contrary to what was published in the media yesterday, the CNESST has not issued any new directive concerning the wearing of masks in shops. ([News release](#))
- The following regulations were published in the [July 22, 2020 Gazette officielle du Québec](#):
 - O.C. 764-2020, Adjustment of the allocation of greenhouse gas emission units without charge to be made in 2020
- New Brunswick Premier Blaine Higgs says his province is hoping to create a “mini bubble” with Quebec by August 1, 2020. ([Globe and Mail](#))

July 21, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- [Bill C-20](#), *An Act respecting further COVID-19 measures*, received second and third reading in the House of Commons and will now move to the Senate. The bill was not amended by the House of Commons.
- Minister of Public Services and Procurement Anita Anand announced that, as part of the *Safe Restart Agreement*, the Government of Canada is establishing the Essential Services Contingency Reserve, to which essential service organizations can apply for temporary, urgent access to personal protective equipment (PPE) and other critical supplies. ([News release](#))

U.S. Federal

- The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is now advising most people with active cases of COVID-19 to isolate for 10 days after symptoms begin and 24 hours after their fever has broken. For those with a positive test but no symptoms, the CDC recommends isolating 10 days from the testing date. ([Washington Post](#))
- The White House and Republican Party are in disarray over COVID-19 spending plan as deadline nears on expiring emergency aid. ([Washington Post](#))

Alberta

- Minister of Education Adriana LaGrange and Premier Jason Kenney announced that students will return to schools in the fall under scenario 1, which is near-normal daily operations with health measures. ([News release](#) and [2020-21 School Re-Entry Plan](#))

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- [Bill 197](#), *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020*, received second reading today.
- [Bill 195](#), *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*, received second reading today.
- 37,942 confirmed cases, an increase of 203 since yesterday, 1 death.
 - However, officials from Peel Region said the region's total of 57 on Tuesday reflected a backlog resulting from a switch over to a new reporting system, and that the actual total of new cases in the region was 22. ([CBC](#))

Quebec

- 57,796 confirmed cases, an increase of 180 since yesterday, 1 death.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. Federal

- Congress, White House talk coronavirus aid as infections and deaths surge across U.S. ([Globe and Mail](#))

Alberta

- [Bill 23](#), *Commercial Tenancies Protection Act* (and [amendments](#) made by Committee of the Whole) passed third reading last night. The bill is awaiting royal assent.
- Education Minister Adriana LaGrange is expected to announce today that schools will reopen full time this fall, with some health measures in place. ([Globe and Mail](#))
- 9,587 confirmed cases, an increase of 368 since yesterday (includes reported cases for July 17-19, 2020).

British Columbia

- [Bill 18](#), *Economic Stabilization (COVID-19) Act*, received second reading yesterday.
- [Bill 23](#), *Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2020*, received second reading yesterday.
- 3,300 confirmed cases, an increase of 102 since yesterday (includes reported cases for July 17-19, 2020).
- Dr. Bonnie Henry says B.C. is at a "tipping point" as province reports 102 new COVID-19 cases. ([Globe and Mail](#))

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Minister of Long-Term Care Merrilee Fullerton, President & CEO of Trillium Health Partners Michelle DiEmanuele and Mayor of Mississauga Bonnie Crombie to make an announcement at 1 p.m. EDT.

Quebec

- No new updates.

July 20, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- [Bill C-20](#), *An Act respecting further COVID-19 measures*, was introduced by Finance Minister Bill Morneau in the House of Commons today ([News release](#)). The bill:
 - Amends the *Income Tax Act* to revise the eligibility criteria for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) and extends the CEWS to November 21, 2020, with the ability to extend it by regulation no later than December 31, 2020.
 - Amends various Acts to authorize the disclosure of information for the purpose of the administration of a program to provide a onetime payment to persons with disabilities for reasons related to COVID-19.
 - Enacts the *Time Limits and Other Periods Act (COVID-19)*, which suspends certain time limits for court proceedings for a maximum of six months, and enables the suspension or extension of time limits under various Acts.
- Canada and Manitoba announced a new C\$3-million cost-shared program to support projects that will help agricultural processors mitigate the spread of COVID-19. ([News release](#))

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- Online tool speeds up temporary layoff application process. ([News release](#))
- [O.I.C. 425/2020](#), amending the *Employment Standards Regulation*.

Ontario

- The following regions will be allowed to move into Stage 3 on Friday, July 24, 2020, at 12:01 a.m.: Durham, Haldimand-Norfolk, Halton, Hamilton, Lambton, Niagara, and York. Toronto, Peel, and Windsor-Essex will remain in Stage 2. ([News Release](#))
- Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, announced that C\$2-million will be provided to Ontario Place to support on-site activities. ([News Release](#))
- 37,739 confirmed cases, an increase of 135 since yesterday, 1 death.

Quebec

- 57,616 confirmed cases, an increase of 150 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- The House of Commons will meet today at 12 p.m. to debate legislation on extending the emergency wage subsidy and providing one-time payments to Canadians with disabilities struggling during the pandemic. ([CBC](#))
- Procurement Minister Anita Anand said Ottawa intends to stockpile enough vaccine supplies to give at least two doses to every Canadian whenever a vaccine is available. ([CBC](#))
- The Toronto Blue Jays will not receive the National Interest Exemption that would have allowed them to play regular season home games in Toronto. ([Statement](#)).
- Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade Mary Ng announced that the government is investing C\$4-million through the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund (RRRF) to support more than 700 women-led small and medium-sized enterprises in southern Ontario. ([News Release](#))

U.S. Federal

- Congress resumes this week to negotiate another COVID-19 relief package. ([New York Times](#))
- The Department of Defense announced a US\$3.5-million contract award with Crosstex International, Inc. to increase domestic production of surgical masks. ([News Release](#))
- The Department of Health and Human Services announced US\$10-billion in a second round of high impact COVID-19 area funding to hospitals. ([News Release](#))

Alberta

- 9,219 confirmed cases, an increase of 105 since Friday.

British Columbia

- 3,198 confirmed cases, an increase of 28 since Friday, no deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Christine Elliott and Minister of Finance Rod Phillips to make an announcement at 1 p.m. EDT.
- 37,604 confirmed cases, an increase of 330 since Friday, 5 deaths.

Quebec

- [M.O. 2020-052](#) of the Minister of Health and Social Services under the *Public Health Act*, revoking M.O. 2020-005, which suspends the effects of any judgment by a tribunal or any decision by the Régie du logement authorizing the repossession of a dwelling or the eviction of the lessee of a dwelling, as well as the effects of any judgment or any decision ordering the eviction of the lessee or occupant of a dwelling, unless the lessor rented the dwelling again before the coming into effect of that Ministerial Order.
- 57,466 confirmed cases, an increase of 324 since Friday, 8 deaths.

July 13 – July 17

July 17, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- Today, Finance Minister Bill Morneau announced proposed changes to the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) that would broaden the reach of the program and provide better targeted support ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)). Today's proposed changes included in the government's [draft legislative proposals](#) would:
 - Allow the extension of the CEWS until December 19, 2020, including redesigned program details until November 21, 2020.
 - Make the subsidy accessible to a broader range of employers by including employers with a revenue decline of less than 30 per cent and providing a gradually decreasing base subsidy to all qualifying employers.
 - Introduce a top-up subsidy of up to an additional 25 per cent for employers that have been most adversely affected by the pandemic. This would be particularly helpful to employers in industries that are recovering more slowly.
 - Provide certainty to employers that have already made business decisions for July and August by ensuring they would not receive a subsidy rate lower than they would have had under the previous rules.
 - Address certain technical issues identified by stakeholders.
- Minister Qualtrough announces new details on proposed financial support for persons with disabilities during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- [Interim Order No. 3](#) Respecting Passenger Vessel Restrictions Due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) (made under the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001*).

U.S. Federal

- Senate Republicans seek liability protections for coronavirus bill ([Reuters](#)).
- Department Of Defense announces US\$36.9-Million in *Defense Production Act* Title III COVID-19 actions ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta Premier Jason Kenney welcomes C\$19-billion *Safe Restart Agreement*; Premier Jason Kenney issued the following [statement](#) welcoming the *Safe Restart Agreement*.
- Alberta has most active COVID-19 cases per capita, as some provinces see infections spike after reopening ([CTV](#)).

British Columbia

- Study showing more COVID-19 infections than test rates will guide B.C. response ([Globe and Mail](#)).

Ontario

- GO Transit makes masks mandatory as much of Ontario moves into Stage 3 of COVID-19 recovery ([CBC](#)).
- Province takes steps to ensure all Ontarians benefit from local research and innovation; government unveils Intellectual Property Action Plan, along with COVID-19 research projects ([News Release](#)).
- 37,274 confirmed cases, an increase of 111 since yesterday, 5 deaths.

Quebec

- Private gatherings, not bars, are driving rise in new cases, says Quebec premier ([CBC](#)).
- Active coronavirus cases in Canada plummet as Quebec changes recovery criteria ([CTV](#)).
- New Brunswick provincial government strongly considering twinning with Quebec regional county municipalities ([News Release](#)).
- 57,142 confirmed cases, an increase of 141 since yesterday, 1 death.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- The Liberal government is seeking to recall the House of Commons to pass another round of measures to deal with COVID-19 ([CTV](#)).
 - Opposition parties were notified yesterday of the new legislation and the potential for the Commons to deal with it early next week.
- More support for Canadians through the Safe Restart Agreement ([News Release](#)).
 - Canada's First Ministers issued the following [joint statement](#).
- [Update](#) on COVID-19 in Indigenous communities.

U.S. Federal

- Congress returns to Washington on Monday with Democratic and Republican leaders agreeing that they need to pass something to salve the heavy toll of the coronavirus pandemic ([Reuters](#)).
- U.S. shatters coronavirus record with over 77,000 cases in a day ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta has highest daily COVID-19 jump since May, but no return to shutdown planned ([Globe and Mail](#)).
- 9,114 confirmed cases, an increase of 120 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

British Columbia

- 3,170 confirmed cases, an increase of 21 since yesterday.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, and Ross Romano, Minister of Colleges and Universities, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. EDT.
- The following Orders / Regulations were added to e-laws yesterday evening:
 - [O.Reg. 411/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Work Deployment Measures in Retirement Homes.
 - [O.Reg. 412/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Streamlining Requirements for Long-Term Care Homes.
 - [O.Reg. 413/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Stage 1 Closures.
 - [O.Reg. 414/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Stage 2 Closures.
 - [O.Reg. 415/20](#): Rules for Areas in Stage 3.
 - [O.Reg. 416/20](#): Order Made Under the Act – Extensions and Renewals of Orders.
 - [O.Reg. 417/20](#): Order Made Under the Act – Extensions and Renewals of Orders.

Quebec

- No new updates.

July 16, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau announced that a C\$19-billion deal has been reached between the federal government and the provinces and territories to help economies rebound from the pandemic ([CBC](#)).
 - The money will help pay for enhanced COVID-19 testing and contact tracing, the purchase of personal protective equipment for front line workers and businesses, funding for municipalities for transit, a national sick leave plan and child care so that parents can get back to work.
 - Trudeau also confirmed that the agreement to restrict travel across the Canada-U.S. border will be extended to August 21, 2020.
- [S.O.R./2020-0166](#) *Regulations Amending the Canada Labour Standards Regulations*.
 - Regulations amending the *Canada Labour Standards Regulations* in order to ensure that employees in the federally regulated sector that are unable or unavailable to work as a result of COVID-19 are able to continue to take job-protected leave without risking loss of employment.

U.S. Federal

- Updated CDC [Contact Tracing Resources](#).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- Province outlines repayment framework to support tenants, landlords ([News Release](#)).
 - The province plans to lift the ban on issuing evictions for non-payment of rent ahead of September 1, 2020.
- [Ministerial Order No. M220](#) Health Care Labour Adjustment (COVID-19) Order No. 2.

Ontario

- The Ontario government has extended most emergency orders currently in force until July 29, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- The following Orders/Regulations were added to e-laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 376/20](#): General (under the *Liquor Licence Act*).
 - [O.Reg. 377/20](#): Licences to Sell Liquor.
 - [O.Reg. 378/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.1 (2) of the Act – Limitation Periods.
 - [O.Reg. 379/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act (related to work redeployment).
 - [O.Reg. 380/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Electronic Service.
 - [O.Reg. 381/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Work Deployment Measures in Long-Term Care Homes.
 - [O.Reg. 382/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Electricity Price for RPP Consumers.
 - [O.Reg. 383/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Traffic Management.
 - [O.Reg. 384/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Prohibition on Certain Persons Charging Unconscionable Prices for Sales of Necessary Goods.
 - [O.Reg. 385/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Enforcement Orders.
 - [O.Reg. 386/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Work Deployment Measures for Boards of Health.
 - [O.Reg. 387/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Service Agencies Providing Services and Supports to Adult with Development Disabilities and Service Providers Providing Intervenor Services.
 - [O.Reg. 388/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Pick Up and Delivery of Cannabis.
 - [O.Reg. 389/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Signatures in Will and Powers of Attorney.
 - [O.Reg. 390/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Use of Force and Firearms in Policing Services.
 - [O.Reg. 391/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Agreements Between Health Service Providers and Retirement Homes.
 - [O.Reg. 392/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Temporary Health or Residential Facilities.
 - [O.Reg. 393/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Work Deployment Measures for Service Agencies Providing Violence Against Women Residential Services and Crisis Line Services.
 - [O.Reg. 394/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Deployment of Employees of Service Provider Organizations.
 - [O.Reg. 395/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Work Deployment Measures For Municipalities.

- [O.Reg. 396/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Limiting Work to a Single Long-Term Care Home.
- [O.Reg. 397/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Work Deployment Measures for District Social Services Administration Boards.
- [O.Reg. 398/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Limiting Work to a Single Retirement Home.
- [O.Reg. 399/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Work Deployment Measures for Mental Health and Addictions Agencies.
- [O.Reg. 400/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Congregate Care Settings.
- [O.Reg. 401/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Access to Personal Health Information By Means of the Electronic Health Record.
- [O.Reg. 402/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Certain Persons Enabled to Issue Medical Certificates of Death.
- [O.Reg. 403/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Hospital Credentialing Processes.
- [O.Reg. 404/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Treatment of Temporary COVID-19 Related Payments to Employees.
- [O.Reg. 405/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Education Sector.
- [O.Reg. 406/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Management of Long-Term Care Home in Outbreak.
- [O.Reg. 407/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Management of Retirement Homes in Outbreak.
- [O.Reg. 408/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Special Rules Re Temporary Pandemic Pay.
- [O.Reg. 409/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Patios.
- [O.Reg. 410/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Drinking Water Systems and Sewage Works.
- 37,163 confirmed cases, an increase of 111 since yesterday, 5 deaths.

Quebec

- Quebec Premier says bars could close after recent spike in COVID-19 cases ([Globe and Mail](#)).
- M.O. 2020-51 (related to bars), Orders in council 807-2020 (related to the renewal of public health emergency) and 810-2020 (face masks) have now been added to the July 16 [Gazette officielle du Québec](#).
- 57,001 confirmed cases, an increase of 142 since yesterday, 9 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- [Bill 22](#), *Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2020* received third reading yesterday.
- 8,994 confirmed cases, an increase of 82 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- [Bill 21](#), *Wills, Estates and Succession Amendment Act, 2020* received third reading yesterday.
- 3,149 confirmed cases, an increase of 21 since yesterday.

Ontario

- The Ontario government is amending liquor laws (*Liquor Licence Act*) to provide consumers with more delivery options and allow boat operators with liquor sales licences to temporarily sell and serve alcohol while their boat is docked ([News Release](#)).
 - These changes (in effect as of yesterday) are designed to support the recovery of workers and businesses as Ontario's hospitality sector gradually reopens.
- Shorter days, higher costs: Toronto board details return-to-school scenarios ([Globe and Mail](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs Ernie Hardeman to make an announcement at 1 p.m. EDT.

Quebec

- The following Orders were issued:
 - [Order in Council No.807-2020](#) the public health emergency has been renewed until July 22, 2020.
 - [Order in Council No 810-2020](#) related to the wearing of a face covering/mask in public places/places accessible to the public.

July 15, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EST)

Canada – Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- As Ontario heads into Stage 3, pressure grows for full-time school plan amid COVID-19 ([CBC](#)).
- Ontario to loosen rules restricting visits to long-term care homes starting July 22 ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Up to two people will be allowed outdoor visits with long-term care residents and will no longer be required to take a COVID-19 test beforehand. Starting July 22, indoor visits can resume.
- Ontario accelerating the development of long-term care homes ([News Release](#)).

- The government announced a redesigned funding model that will lead to the building of additional, modern long-term care homes.
- [O.Reg. 368/20](#) – Amending *General Regulation* (under the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014*).
- 37,052 confirmed cases, an increase of 102 since yesterday, including nine deaths.

Quebec

- As of July 18, private employers, whose staff worked from home, will be able to authorize a return of their workforce with an occupancy rate of up to a maximum of 25 per cent per company. Note that this 25 per cent is a maximum, not a target to be achieved ([News Release](#)).
- 56,859 confirmed cases, an increase of 129 since yesterday, including one death.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- More Canadians will be working from home post-pandemic, [StatCan data](#) suggests ([CTV](#)).
 - The survey results also found that 25 per cent of Canadian business are "likely" or "very likely" to offer their employees the option to work remotely following the pandemic, while 14 per cent reported that they will make it a requirement.

U.S. – Federal

- CDC calls on Americans to wear masks to prevent COVID-19 spread ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- 8,912 confirmed cases, an increase of 86 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- [Bill 21](#), *Wills, Estates and Succession Amendment Act, 2020*, received second reading yesterday.
- 3,128 confirmed cases, an increase of 13 since yesterday.

Ontario

- Ontario researchers working to develop surface coating that kills COVID-19 virus ([CTV](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- [Draft Regulation](#) – Measures related to supplemental pension plans to reduce the consequences of the public-health emergency declared on March 13, 2020, due to the COVID-19 pandemic was published in the July 15 *Gazette officielle du Québec*.
- Montréal public health records 30 COVID-19 cases linked to bars ([CTV](#)).

July 14, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Senators call for changes to COVID-19 aid and more transparency on spending ([CTV](#) and [Senate Report](#)).
 - The federal government's key emergency benefit for workers with jobs hit by the pandemic is "not a permanent solution" to ongoing hardships, a Senate committee says in a report that makes an argument for a guaranteed minimum income.
- Minister Mendicino announces changes to facilitate online learning for international students ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The Trump administration has ordered hospitals to bypass the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and, beginning Wednesday, send all coronavirus patient information to a central database in Washington — a move that has alarmed public health experts who fear the data will be distorted for political gain (New York Times via [Seattle Times](#)).
- Alabama, Florida and North Carolina reported record daily increases in COVID-19 deaths today ([Reuters](#)).
- Facing eight federal lawsuits and opposition from hundreds of universities, the Trump administration rescinded a rule that would have required international students to transfer or leave the country if their schools held classes entirely online because of the pandemic ([CBC](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- [Bill 23](#), *Workers Compensation Amendment Act, 2020*, was introduced today. Proposed changes to the *Workers Compensation Act* will provide better support to injured workers and their families and enhance WorkSafeBC's ability to investigate workplace incidents, while keeping premiums low ([News Release](#)).
 - This legislation will fast-track the effective date of presumptions if established by WorkSafeBC's board of directors for occupational diseases caused by viral pathogens.
- The B.C. government has released an [economic and fiscal update for 2020-21](#) to provide a summary of COVID-19 investments to date, as well as a scenario of revenue and deficit projections ([News Release](#)).
- [Ministerial Order No. 214](#) – Related to laboratory medicine service (under the *Laboratory Services Act*).

Ontario

- The Ontario government is preparing to roll out a plan for a potential second wave of COVID-19 in the fall, Premier Ford confirmed today ([CTV](#)).
- The Ontario government is providing Cambridge-based Eclipse Innovations Inc. with C\$1,408,475 from the Ontario Together Fund to scale up its operations to manufacture made-in-Ontario N95 masks ([News Release](#)).
- 36,950 confirmed cases, an increase of 111 since yesterday, including one death.

Quebec

- With uptick in COVID-19 cases, Quebec could be forced to choose between schools and bars; province tightens restrictions in wake of outbreaks linked to Montréal-area bars and parties ([CBC](#)).
- 56,730 confirmed cases, an increase of 109 since yesterday, including five deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Canada and the U.S. agree to keep borders closed another 30 days – until August 21, CTV News has confirmed ([CTV](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- Yesterday, President Trump signed into law [S. 4091](#), the *Emergency Aid for Returning Americans Affected by Coronavirus Act*, which increases from US\$1-million to US\$10-million the amount that the Department of Health and Human Services may spend for the provision of assistance to repatriated U.S. citizens in fiscal year 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- Event planning and COVID-19: questions and answers (CDC [Update](#)).
- The Food and Drug Administration is announcing the issuance and reissuance of Emergency Use Authorizations for certain medical devices related to COVID-19 ([Notice](#)).
- The Department of Labor announced the launch of a public awareness campaign to remind workers that the Department's Wage and Hour Division is committed to ensuring their workplace rights during the coronavirus pandemic and to ensure that employers know their responsibilities ([News Release](#)).
- California shuts down businesses and schools as coronavirus outbreak grows ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta's chief medical officer of health is "strongly recommending" that people wear non-medical masks whenever they visit indoor public places where physical distancing may not be possible ([CBC](#)).
- [Bill 22](#), *Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2020*, was reported back from the Committee of the Whole without amendment yesterday evening.
- 8,826 confirmed cases, an increase of 230 in the last 72 hours (54 on July 10, 96 on July 11 and 80 on July 12).

British Columbia

- 3,115 confirmed cases, an increase of 62 in the last 72 hours (21 on July 10, 20 on July 11 and 21 on July 12), including two deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- As of Saturday, July 18, people 12 and over must wear a mask or face cover in several closed public spaces, including retail stores, throughout Quebec ([News Release](#)).

July 13, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau said today the federal government is extending the emergency wage subsidy program to December of this year. Further details will be announced this week ([CBC](#)).
 - Trudeau says discussions continue on extending the Canada-U.S. border closure.

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- The province is making 20-million free masks available provincewide; Albertans have another chance to pick up free non-medical face masks at the counter or drive-thru of their local A&W, McDonald's Canada or Tim Hortons ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- The government is extending the temporary authorization that permits food-primary and liquor-primary licensees to sell and deliver sealed, packaged liquor products alongside the purchase of a meal for off-site consumption until October 31, 2020 ([News Release](#) and [Order in Council No. 407](#) – Amending the *Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation*).
- [Ministerial Order No. M212](#) – Related to the *Provider Regulation* (under the *Pharmaceutical Services Act*).

Ontario

- The Ontario government announced nearly all businesses and public spaces will reopen in Stage 3 with public health and workplace safety measures and restrictions in place as of this Friday, July 17 at 12:01 a.m. (EDT) ([News Release](#)).
- The majority of Ontario's 34 local public-health-unit regions will move forward to Stage 3 except the following 10 regions: Durham Region, Haldimand-Norfolk, Halton Region, Hamilton, Lambton, Niagara Region, Peel, Toronto, Windsor-Essex County and York Region.
- Stage 3 highlights:
 - Indoor gathering limits will increase from 10 to a maximum of 50 people, while outdoor gathering limits will increase to a maximum of 100 people. Physical distancing is still required during any gathering with people from outside an individual's social circle.
 - Businesses and public spaces permitted to reopen:
 - Dine-in restaurants
 - Bars
 - Gyms and fitness studios
 - Live shows
 - Movie theatres
 - Casinos will be allowed to reopen, but table games are banned
 - Organized sports can also resume, with the exception of contact sports
 - Tour and guide services
 - Playgrounds, community centres and libraries will also reopen

- Personal support services that involve a customers' face
- The government is also banning a number of high-risk businesses and activities from resuming in Stage 3, including amusement parks, water parks, buffet-style food services, dancing in restaurants and bars, overnight stays at camps for children, private karaoke rooms, prolonged or deliberate contact while playing sports, saunas, steam rooms, bath houses and oxygen bars.
- Childcare centres and home childcare providers across Ontario will be able to continue to operate with strict safety and operational requirements in place. Beginning on July 27, 2020, childcare centres will be permitted to operate with cohorts of 15 children, which is an increase from the current cohort cap of 10. The return to school plan is still forthcoming.
- The following orders were added to E-Laws:
 - [O.Reg. 364/20](#) – Rules for Areas in Stage 3.
 - [O.Reg. 363/20](#) – Stages of Reopening.
- "We expect the province will remain in Stage 3 for the foreseeable future," Health Minister Christine Elliott said ([CBC](#)).
- 36,839 confirmed cases, an increase of 116 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Quebec

- The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Quebec and the Chief Justice of Quebec announced the lifting of the suspension of time limits in civil and criminal matters as of September 1. In addition, in civil matters, the deadlines for restoration provided for in the proceedings protocols in force on March 15, 2020, will be extended by 45 days from September 1 ([News Release](#)).
- 56,621 confirmed cases, an increase of 100 since yesterday, including one death.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Canada adds health officials at U.S. border crossings to screen for COVID-19 ([CBC](#)).
- Ottawa didn't enforce rules for employers of migrant farm workers during pandemic ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Prime Minister Trudeau expected to speak at 11:30 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- Congress needs compromise to extend COVID-19 unemployment payments, Pelosi says ([Reuters](#)).
- CDC updated its [Toolkit for Businesses and Workplaces](#).

Alberta

- The government is seeking proposals to review the province's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The third-party review will enhance Alberta's capacity to respond to a potential second wave of COVID-19 and any future pandemics ([News Release](#)).
- 8,596 confirmed cases, an increase of 77 since Friday, including one death.

British Columbia

- The following orders were issued:
 - [Order in Council No. 393](#) – *COVID-19 (Societies Act) Regulation*. The March 31 deadline set out in section 71(3) of the *Societies Act* is suspended and replaced with a deadline of November 1.

- [Order in Council No. 392](#) – The *Violation Ticket Administration and Fines Regulation* is amended.
- [Order in Council No. 391](#) – The *COVID-19 Related Measures Act*, S.B.C. 2020, c. 8, is brought into force and amended, effective on the dates as set out in the Schedule(s).
- 3,053 confirmed cases, an increase of 25 since Friday, including one death.

Ontario

- Premier Ford is expected to announce plans for Stage 3 of the province's reopening today ([CBC](#)).
 - Stage 3 could involve the reopening of businesses like movie theatres, gyms, fitness studios, casinos, amusement parks, indoor dining and bars.
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance; and Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).
- 36,723 confirmed cases, an increase of 259 since Friday, including nine deaths.

Quebec

- Several media outlets are reporting that Quebec plans to make masks mandatory in all public indoor spaces across the province this week ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Premier Francois Legault is expected to make the announcement at a 1 p.m. news conference.
- The New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island governments have announced new online registration procedures, in addition to the procedures already in force, for Quebec travellers wishing to visit the Îles-de-la-Madeleine or to travel back to Quebec from the Îles-de-la-Madeleine ([News Release](#)).
- 56,521 confirmed cases, an increase of 305 since Friday, including nine deaths.

July 6 – July 10

July 10, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Corporate executives at three grocery chains—Loblaws, Metro and Empire Company—faced tough questions during a virtual meeting of the House of Commons industry committee today over their decision to cancel a C\$2-an-hour pay bump they put in place in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic ([CBC](#)).
- The following have now been added to the July 11, 2020, *Canada Gazette* Part I:
 - [Ministerial Instructions](#) with respect to the submission of online applications for temporary resident visas and other documents due to reduced processing capacity during the COVID-19 pandemic (made under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*).
 - [Interim Order](#) Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19, No. 2 (made under the *Aeronautics Act*).
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Mandatory Isolation), No. 3 (made under the *Quarantine Act*).
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country other than the United States) (made under the *Quarantine Act*).
- Emergency Funding for COVID-19 Safety Measures in Forest Operations ([News Release](#)).

U.S. Federal

- U.S. reports more than 60,500 new COVID-19 cases—a new one-day worldwide record ([Globe and Mail](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- Ontario is starting down the road to growth, renewal and economic recovery; province supports Canadian manufacturers and exporters launch of “Ontario Made” program ([News Release](#)).
- Ottawa's mandatory mask bylaw calls for fines up to C\$400 ([CBC](#)).
- 36,464 confirmed cases, an increase of 116 since yesterday, 7 deaths.

Quebec

- [Ministerial Order 2020-051](#) related to measures to ensure that health instructions are followed in bars.
- The Quebec government announced the return to maximum reception capacity for the entire educational childcare network—as of July 13, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- Quebec town makes mask-wearing mandatory inside all commercial businesses after COVID-19 outbreak ([Globe and Mail](#)).
- 53,316 confirmed cases, an increase of 100 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Canada and Ontario Supporting Farmers through Enhanced Insurance Protection ([News Release](#)).

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 8,519 confirmed cases, an increase of 37 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- 3,028 confirmed cases, an increase of 20 since yesterday.

Ontario

- What Stage 3 of Ontario's COVID-19 reopening plan could look like; province has yet to say which pandemic restrictions will be removed or relaxed ([CBC](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, and Dennis Darby, President and CEO of the Canadian Manufacturers and Exporters, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. EDT.

Quebec

- No new updates.

July 9, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- FedDev Ontario is working with Franco-Ontarian businesses and organizations to reopen our economy ([News Release](#)).
 - Today, the Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages and Minister Responsible for FedDev Ontario announced a C\$4.5-million RRRF investment in three not-for-profit organizations to support small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and organizations across southern Ontario.
- Canada not ready for second wave of COVID-19, Senate committee says ([CTV](#)).
 - Seniors, in particular, are a focus of [the report from the Senate's social affairs committee](#), from those in long-term care homes to those with low incomes ([Senate News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- B.C. health officials looking into whether night clubs are operating within COVID-19 rules ([CBC](#)).

Ontario

- Canada and Ontario supporting farmers through enhanced insurance protection; governments increase support for eligible farmers experiencing labour challenges during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 36,348 confirmed cases, an increase of 170 since yesterday (86 people infected are from Windsor-Essex), including three deaths.

Quebec

- The Minister of Health and Social Services, Christian Dubé, announced, with the National Director of Public Health, Dr. Horacio Arruda, additional measures to ensure that health instructions are followed in bars. The measures are in effect from July 10 ([News Release](#)).
- 56,216 confirmed cases, an increase of 137 since yesterday, including two deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. – Federal

- A second shutdown might be the best move for states struggling with burgeoning coronavirus cases and hospitalizations, Fauci says ([CTV](#)).

Alberta

- [Bill 23](#), *Commercial Tenancies Protection Act*, was reported by the Committee [with amendments](#) yesterday.
- 8,482 confirmed cases, an increase of 46 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- [Bill 19](#), *COVID-19 Related Measures Act*, reported by the Committee [with amendments](#), received third reading and Royal Assent yesterday. The act comes into force on proclamation – not yet in force.
- 3,008 confirmed cases, an increase of 18 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Ontario

- All emergency orders currently in force have been extended to July 22, 2020 ([News Release](#) and [O. Reg. 359/20](#)).
- Ontario government tells school boards to maximize time children are in the classroom ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education; and Jamil Jivani, Ontario's Advocate for Community Opportunities, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- Quebec health authorities expected to announce new regulations for bars ([CBC](#)).
 - Health Minister Christian Dubé and Dr. Horacio Arruda, Quebec's public health director, will be announcing new regulations for the province's bars at a news conference at 1 p.m. today (EDT).
- The Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, as well as the Federal Minister of Agriculture and Agri-food, announced that the Government of Canada and the Government of Quebec will join forces to financially support Quebec fish farmers in the exceptional context created by COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- Ministerial Orders 2020-49 to 2020-50 have been added to the July 8 *Gazette officielle du Québec* as well as:
 - [O.C. 717-2020](#) – The public health emergency has been renewed until 15 July 2020.
 - [O.C. 788-2020](#) – The provisions of the act are mainly to establish the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales and Infrastructures technologiques Québec (2020, chapter 2), the coming into force of which was suspended by Order in Council 496-2020 dated April 29, 2020, come into force on September 1, 2020.

July 8, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Today, Finance Minister Bill Morneau presented an [Economic and Fiscal Snapshot](#).
 - Historic COVID-19 plan provides Canadians with the support they need to get through the economic crisis ([News Release](#)).
- The federal deficit is projected to hit C\$343.2-billion this fiscal year, due in large part to massive economic aid and stimulus plans ([CTV](#)).
- Canada's public health agency warns threat of COVID-19 resurgence in Canada "not just hypothetical" ([CBC](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention plans to issue new guidelines for reopening schools, Vice President Mike Pence said on Wednesday, after President Donald Trump criticized the agency's recommendations as too expensive and impractical ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- [Order in Council No. 389](#) – Related to the extending of the state of emergency was issued.

Ontario

- Today, the province introduced the *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act*, proposed legislation that lays the foundation to restart jobs and development, strengthen communities, and create opportunity for people in every region of the province ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
 - [Bill 197](#), *COVID-19 Economic Recovery Act, 2020*, makes proposed amendments to the following acts:
 - *Building Code Act*
 - *City of Toronto Act*
 - *Development Charges Act*
 - *Drainage Act*
 - *Education Act*
 - *Environmental Assessment Act*
 - *Farm Registration and Farm Organizations Funding Act*
 - *Justices of the Peace Act*
 - *Marriage Act*
 - *Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Act*
 - *Municipal Act*
 - *Ontario Educational Communications Authority Act*
 - *Ontario French-language Educational Communications Authority Act, 2008*
 - *Occupational Health and Safety Act*
 - *Payday Loans Act, 2008*
 - *Planning Act*

- *Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act*
- *Provincial Offences Act*
- And enacts two new acts:
 - *Modernizing Ontario for People and Businesses Act, 2020*
 - *Transit-Oriented Communities Act, 2020*
- [O. Reg. 357/20](#) – Invest Ontario, made under the *Development Corporations Act*.
- 36,178 confirmed cases, an increase of 118 since yesterday, including nine deaths.

Quebec

- 56,079 confirmed cases, an increase of 82 since yesterday, including six deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The following regulations/orders have now been added to the July 8 *Canada Gazette* Part II:
 - [S.O.R./2020-149](#) – Regulations Amending the *Cannabis Regulations* (Additional Period of Validity of a Medical Document)
 - [S.O.R./2020-144](#) – Regulations Amending the *Canada Student Financial Assistance Regulations*
 - [S.O.R./2020-138](#) – Regulations Amending the *Canada Labour Standards Regulations* (COVID-19)
 - [S.O.R./2020-61](#) – Interim Order Amending the *Employment Insurance Act* (Employment Insurance Emergency Response Benefit)
 - [S.O.R./2020-141](#) – Interim Order No. 5 Amending the *Employment Insurance Act* (Employment Insurance Emergency Response Benefit)
 - [S.O.R./2020-142](#) – *Income Support Payment (Number of Weeks) Regulations*
 - [S.O.R./2020-62](#) – *Income Support Payment Amount Regulations*
- Prime Minister Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- [Bill 22](#), *Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2020*, was referred to the Committee of the Whole yesterday.
- Updated COVID-19 resources:
 - [Worker deconditioning following an absence from the workplace.](#)
 - [OHS obligations and consent forms for COVID-19 relaunch.](#)
 - [COVID-19 incidents reporting to Alberta Occupational Health and Safety.](#)
- 8,436 confirmed cases, an increase of 47 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- The provincial state of emergency has been extended to July 21, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- [Bill 19](#), *COVID-19 Related Measures Act*, was referred to the Committee yesterday.
- 2,990 confirmed cases, an increase of 12 since yesterday.

Ontario

- Ontario makes it easier for truck drivers to get tested for COVID-19; pilot program designed to help stop the spread and protect public health ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance; Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing; and Prabmeet Sarkaria, Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction, to make an announcement at 2 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- The Government of Quebec invites citizens to express their opinion on the use of a mobile application for notification of exposure to coronavirus. The public consultation will be held online until August 2 ([News Release](#)).

July 7, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau's promise to provide a C\$600 payment to disabled Canadians to help with additional costs in the COVID-19 pandemic remains in limbo ([CTV](#)).
 - The measure was contained in a piece of legislation that failed to pass in June, and no replacement is on the agenda for a House of Commons sitting this week.
- Final Components of Phase 2 of the COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund for Cultural, Heritage and Sport Organizations Announced ([News Release](#) and [Background](#)).
- Service Canada begins the gradual and safe reopening of in-person locations across the country ([News Release](#)).
- Update on COVID-19 in Indigenous communities ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The Department of Labor issues guidance to employers to help protect oil and gas workers during the coronavirus pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- [Statement](#) from Secretary Steven T. Mnuchin on CARES Act Loans to Major Airlines.
- President Donald Trump said today he would pressure state governors to open schools in the fall ([Reuters](#)).
- The Department of Health and Human Services is announcing free COVID-19 testing in Jacksonville, Florida; Baton Rouge, Louisiana; and Edinburg, Texas. Surge testing efforts will temporarily increase federal support to communities where there has been a recent and intense level of new cases and hospitalizations related to the ongoing outbreak ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- [Bill 32](#), *Restoring Balance in Alberta's Workplaces Act, 2020* – To support economic recovery, restore balance in the workplace and get Albertans back to work ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- Ontario introduces [Bill 195](#), *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*, to protect public health as economy reopens; proposed bill would provide flexibility to address the ongoing threat of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario will not be expanding the size of allowable gatherings before regions enter Stage 3 of the province's reopening plan, the province's health minister confirmed today ([CTV](#)).
- 36,060 confirmed cases, an increase of 112 since yesterday, including two deaths.

Quebec

- [M.O. 2020-050](#) – Related to the suspension applicable to the effects of any judgment by a tribunal or any decision by the Régie du logement (see also the [News Release](#)).
- 55,997 confirmed cases, an increase of 60 since yesterday, including nine deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Health Canada warns of counterfeit N95 respirators ([CTV](#) and [Recalls & Alerts](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 8,389 confirmed cases, an increase of 73 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- 2,978 confirmed cases, an increase of 31 since yesterday, including six deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario is set to introduce new legislation to enable the extension of some pandemic emergency orders over the next year. Solicitor General Sylvia Jones says she will introduce the bill at the provincial legislature today ([CTV](#)).
 - The proposed law would allow the government to extend or amend some emergency orders a month at a time, with the law expiring a year after it's passed. Under current legislation, the province can only issue emergency orders while the state of emergency is in place.
 - If the bill passes, the government could move parts of the province back to earlier stages of the pandemic lockdown if required.
- Emergency orders that permit the pick-up and delivery of cannabis and prohibit price gouging on essential goods will not be included in the bill and will expire next week.
- The following were added to E-Laws:
 - [O. Reg. 351/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Stage 2 Closures
 - [O. Reg. 350/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Stage 1 Closures
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Solicitor General Sylvia Jones to make an announcement at 2 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- No new updates.

July 6, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada announces investment in women's organizations in the Bas-Saint-Laurent and in the Gaspésie-Les Îles regions. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- The Small Business Administration and Treasury announce release of Paycheck Protection Program loan data. ([News Release](#))
- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration issued an Emergency Use Authorization for a COVID-19 antigen diagnostic test, the BD (Becton Dickinson) Veritor System for Rapid Detection of SARS-CoV-2. ([News Release](#))

Alberta

- [Bill 30](#), *Health Statutes Amendment Act*, was introduced today. Among other things, the bill clarifies COVID-19 quarantine requirements under the *Public Health Act* to clearly articulate that all international travellers must quarantine for 14 days while the related chief medical officer of health orders are in effect. ([News Release](#))

British Columbia

- British Columbia is extending federal employment insurance exemptions and the provincial temporary crisis supplement. ([News Release](#))
- The exemption of all federal employment insurance benefits has been extended for the duration of the support programs. For those not eligible for the federal benefits, the temporary COVID-19 Crisis Supplement will be extended an additional two months.

Ontario

- The government proposes made-in-Ontario plan for growth, renewal and economic recovery. ([News Release](#))
- The plan includes measures that would make it easier and faster to build provincial highways, major transit infrastructure projects and quality, affordable housing, while ensuring there are meaningful opportunities for community consultation and input.
- Leamington and Kingsville can move to Stage 2 of Ontario's reopening plan as of 12:01 a.m. on Tuesday, July 7. ([CBC](#))
- Residents of eastern Ontario, including Ottawa, will be required to wear masks in indoor public places starting at 12:01 a.m. on Tuesday, July 7. ([CBC](#))
- 35,948 confirmed cases, an increase of 154 since yesterday, no deaths.

Quebec

- Health minister Christian Dubé said the province will shut down bars, nightclubs and other gathering places if they don't comply with COVID-19 regulations. ([CBC](#))

- Montréal mayor Valérie Plante says masks will soon be mandatory in enclosed public spaces. ([CBC](#))
- 55,937 confirmed cases, an increase of 74 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Canadian seniors to receive one time tax-free payment this week. ([News Release](#))

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump signed into law Bill S. 4116, which reauthorizes lending under the Paycheck Protection Program through August 8, 2020, and separates the authorized limits for commitments under the program from other Small Business Administration loan programs. ([News Release](#))

Alberta

- Another 20-million masks ready for distribution. ([News Release](#))
- Distribution of masks through A&W, McDonald's Canada and Tim Hortons will resume on July 13.
- The [program guidelines](#) for the Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant have been updated.
- 8,259 confirmed cases, an increase of 57 since Friday.

British Columbia

- 2,947 confirmed cases, an increase of seven since Friday, no deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario courts to resume some in-person proceedings today. ([CTV](#))
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation; and Kinga Surma, Associate Minister of Transportation (GTA), to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT)

Quebec

- Municipalities can now hold council meetings and other meetings in the presence of the public. ([News Release](#))
- [Ministerial Order 2020-49](#) of the Minister of Health and Social Services regarding salaries in the health and social services network (under the *Public Health Act*).
- 55,863 confirmed cases, an increase of 181 since Friday, including four deaths.

June 2020

June 29 – July 3

July 3, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Further to announcements made on April 15 and May 12, the Canada Border Services Agency is temporarily reducing service hours at additional land, air and marine ports of entry (POE) in addition to deferring seasonal opening hours at select POEs. ([News Release](#)).
- Canada's long-term care system failed elders, before and during COVID-19: report ([CTV](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- Although he wouldn't pinpoint an exact date, Premier Ford said Friday that he expected the province to start entering the third and final stage of reopening as early as the end of July ([Ottawa Citizen](#)).
- Ottawa and the surrounding regions will join a growing list of cities in Ontario to make masks mandatory in indoor public settings to control the spread of COVID-19, although it's not clear when the rule will come into effect ([CBC](#)). More details are expected at a news conference Monday.
- Ontario won't close packed beaches despite major overcrowding issues ([CTV](#)).
- Ontario deploys emergency management team to Windsor-Essex due to agri-farm COVID-19 outbreak ([CBC](#)).
- Ontario launches online training to promote safe workplaces; real-time courses make it easier for people to get essential qualifications ([News Release](#)).
- Canadian armed forces depart Ontario long-term care homes ([News Release](#)).
- 35,535 confirmed cases, an increase of 165 since yesterday, including two deaths.

Quebec

- 55,682 confirmed cases, an increase of 89 since yesterday, including seven deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- New key guidance for resumption of criminal jury trials ([News Release](#)).
- Prime Minister Trudeau expected to speak at 10:45 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- The Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has published frequently asked questions and answers to help protect workers from exposure to the coronavirus ([News Release](#)).

- Fauci decries "a very disturbing week" as 40 states see COVID-19 cases rise ([CTV](#)).
- COVID-19 testing supplies distributed by the federal government have failed quality checks and are arriving late, Washington state's top health official said in a letter to a senior administration official ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- 8,202 confirmed cases, an increase of 94 since yesterday, including one death.
 - Daily case numbers are now updated every weekday and paused on holidays and weekends.

British Columbia

- Three deaths from COVID-19 in B.C. since Tuesday, and all community outbreaks declared over ([CTV](#)).
- 2,940 confirmed cases, an increase of 24 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario supporting restaurants as province safely reopens; new and amended emergency orders will help establishments expand patios faster ([News Release](#)).
 - New emergency order will allow municipalities to quickly pass temporary bylaws for the creation and extension of patios and allow covered outdoor dining areas to serve customers.
 - [O.Reg. 345/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Patios.
 - [O.Reg. 344/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Stage 2 Closures.
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- No new updates.

July 2, 2020

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Finance Minister Bill Morneau announced the release of [draft regulations](#) that would help employers who sponsor a registered pension plan (RPP) or salary deferral leave plan for their employees to manage and maintain their benefit obligations through the crisis ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
 - It will also assure employees who participate in salary deferral leave plans that suspending their leave of absence (e.g., via a recall to essential-service work), or deferring their scheduled leave for up to one year, will not put their plan at risk.

U.S. – Federal

- Transportation Secretary Elaine L. Chao announces guidance for air travel in response to COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).

- Department of the Treasury announced that it intends to make a C\$700-million loan to YRC Worldwide Inc. and that it had reached an agreement with YRC on June 30, 2020, to receive a 29.6 per cent equity stake in the company in connection with the loan under Division A, Title IV, Subtitle A of the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act* ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- The Government of Alberta supported COVID-19 response efforts by offering to match donations up to C\$2-million to eight designated Alberta-based registered charities made between April 15 and May 31 ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- Stage 3 of Ontario's COVID-19 reopening plan looms nearer; public-health units in eastern, northern and much of southwestern Ontario have been at Stage 2 for nearly three weeks ([CBC](#)).
- Proposal for Toronto isolation centres approved by city's board of health ([National Post](#)).
- The Ontario government is providing municipalities and urban Indigenous community partners with an additional C\$150-million to continue to protect vulnerable people from COVID-19 by improving homeless shelters and creating opportunities for longer-term housing ([News Release](#)).
- 35,370 confirmed cases an increase of 153 since yesterday, including eight deaths (149 cases were reported July 1 but weren't posted until today due to the holiday).

Quebec

- The following regulation was added to the July 2 *Gazette officielle du Québec*:
 - [O.C. 704-2020](#) – Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting the collection of support (made under *An Act to facilitate the payment of support*).
- The Quebec government is investing nearly C\$4.3-million to stimulate tourism in the Outaouais ([News Release](#)).
- 55,593 confirmed cases, an increase of 69 since yesterday, including eight deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump said Wednesday that he supports a fresh round of government payments to individuals ([CTV](#)).
- U.S. Senate Republicans to push next coronavirus aid bill in late July ([Reuters](#)).
- New York expands coronavirus testing criteria to include everyone in state ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- 8,108 confirmed cases, an increase of 41 since Tuesday.

British Columbia

- The Minister of Finance has released the [following statement](#) on the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance program and eviction restrictions in British Columbia.
- 2,916 confirmed cases, an increase of 12 since Tuesday.

Ontario

- New mobile app meant to help track COVID-19 in Ontario delayed ([CTV](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- The following orders were issued:
 - [Order in Council no. 690-2020](#) – The public-health emergency to be renewed until 8 July 2020.
 - [Order in Council no. 708-2020](#) – Related to the suspension of certain educational and instructional services being lifted.
- 55,524 confirmed cases, an increase of 66 since Tuesday, including seven deaths.

June 30, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The following regulations/orders were issued:
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country other than the United States) (made under the *Quarantine Act*).
 - Extends the effective date of the previous order to July 31, 2020.
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Mandatory Isolation), No. 3 (made under the *Quarantine Act*).
 - Extends the effective date of the previous order until August 31, 2020.
 - [S.O.R./ 2020-0149](#) – Regulations Amending the *Cannabis Regulations* (Additional Period of Validity of a Medical Document) (made under the *Cannabis Act*).
 - To support the Government of Canada's efforts to reduce the risk of community spread of, and mortality rate due to, COVID-19, while helping to maintain reasonable access to cannabis for medical purposes for patients. This will be done by facilitating patients' ability to adhere to public-health guidance to practise physical distancing by reducing their need to leave their home to obtain a new medical document from their health-care practitioner for a certain period of time.
 - [S.O.R./2020-0144](#) – Regulations Amending the *Canada Student Financial Assistance Regulations* (made under the *Canada Student Financial Assistance Act*).
 - To support low- and middle-income students to better afford the cost of post-secondary education for the 2020-21 loan year (August 1, 2020 – July 31, 2021) given the immediate economic impacts they are facing from the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - To ensure that borrowers who are resuming their regular repayment arrangements at the end of the repayment moratorium will not be adversely impacted.

- The Canada Border Services Agency is reminding all travellers, ahead of the July 1 (Canada) and July 4 (U.S.) holidays, that travel restrictions are still in place at all Canadian international border crossings ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The government's top infectious diseases expert (Fauci) today warned that daily COVID-19 cases could more than double if Americans fail to take countermeasures and cautioned against pinning hopes on a vaccine ([Reuters](#)).
- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) concluded its 31st plenary meeting by calling on its members to tackle new threats and vulnerabilities posed by criminals during the COVID-19 crisis (including money laundering) ([News Release](#)).
- C.D.C. considerations for restaurants and bars ([Update](#)).

Alberta

- The outdoor gathering limit has been increased from 100 to 200 people ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- The province is investing in a suite of initiatives to protect long-term care and seniors' assisted-living residents from COVID-19, as facilities begin allowing visitors ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- Toronto city council approved a bylaw Tuesday that makes face coverings mandatory in indoor public spaces ([CBC](#)).
 - The new regulation goes into effect July 7 as a temporary bylaw.
- Ontario is having "serious discussions" about moving to the next stage of the reopening plan and needs another week of COVID-19 data before deciding if the province is ready to move into the next stage ([CTV](#)).
- Ontario courts will begin resuming in-person proceedings across the province on Monday, July 6, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- The Ontario government is helping to connect communities and create jobs by providing an additional C\$10-million in funding for the Connecting Links program ([News Release](#)).
 - The funding is part of Ontario's Action Plan: Responding to COVID-19 and will support road and highway projects in nine more municipalities across the province.
- 35,068 confirmed cases, an increase of 157 since yesterday, including seven deaths.

Quebec

- As of July 13, all people 12 and over will have to wear a mask or face cover in public transportation ([News Release](#)).
- 55,458 confirmed cases, an increase of 68 since yesterday, including seven deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The federal government plans to extend strict quarantine rules requiring travellers to isolate for 14 days upon their arrival in Canada ([CBC](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- California and Texas see record COVID-19 surges ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- 8,067 confirmed cases, an increase of 71 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- 2, 904 confirmed cases, an increase of 26 since yesterday.

Ontario

- Toronto and Peel to make face masks mandatory in indoor public spaces. The bylaw will take effect July 7, provided it is approved by council during their meeting today ([CTV](#)).
- Citing lack of COVID-19 safety measures, courthouse workers and lawyers push back against Ontario reopening of courts ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Jeff Yurek, Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks; and Lisa MacLeod, Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- The government is making adjustments to certain fiscal measures for individuals and businesses to take into account, among other things, the special context caused by the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- Quebec to make wearing of masks mandatory on public transit ([CTV](#)).

June 29, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Government provides update on sales tax and duty payment deferral. ([News Release](#))
- The GST/HST and customs duty payment deferral is ending as planned on June 30.
- Trudeau says new federal models show COVID-19 progress but with significant hot spots. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- Prime Minister Trudeau announced today that the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance program will be extended by one month, through July 2020. ([Betakit](#))
- Prime Minister Trudeau is ending his daily press briefing and will provide updates a few times a week. ([Global](#))

U.S. – Federal

- On Monday, the Department of Health and Human Services announced an agreement to secure large supplies of the drug remdesivir for the United States from Gilead Sciences through September. ([News Release](#))
- Gilead prices COVID-19 drug remdesivir at US\$2,340 per patient in developed nations. ([Reuters](#))
- COVID-19 liability shield heads to Georgia governor's desk. ([Bloomberg Law](#))

- At least five states have enacted similar liability shields: Louisiana, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Utah and Wyoming. Many more states have provided liability protections specific to health-care providers.
- Europe set to extend travel ban for U.S. residents on Tuesday. ([Bloomberg Law](#))

Alberta

- Alberta's Recovery Plan details the province's economic strategy, including a record C\$10-billion investment in infrastructure and a plan for 50,000 jobs this year. ([News Release](#))

British Columbia

- British Columbia is reducing the annual licence fee for the taxi industry as part of the province's ongoing work to support the industry during the COVID-19 pandemic. ([News Release](#))
- The following orders were announced:
 - [O.I.C. 364/20](#) – Amending the *Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation* (under the *Liquor Control and Licensing Act*).
 - [O.I.C. 371/20](#) – *Tax and Royalty Interest (COVID-19 Emergency) Remission Regulation* (under the *Financial Administration Act*).

Ontario

- The following regulations were added to E-Laws:
 - [O. Reg. 318/20](#) – Amending the *Reports Regulation* under the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*.
 - [O. Reg. 323/20](#) – Amending *Order Made Under the Act – Extensions and Renewals of Orders* (under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*)
 - [O. Reg. 324/20](#) – Amending *Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Stage 2 Closures* regarding indoor sports and recreational facilities (under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*).
- 34,911 confirmed cases, an increase of 257 since yesterday, including seven deaths.

Quebec

- New modelling shows a stabilization or decrease in hospitalizations and deaths with continued adherence to preventative measures. ([News Release](#))
- The Autorité des marchés financiers (AMF) announced today that exam sessions, which are currently on hold to limit the spread of COVID-19, will resume on July 6 in Montréal and July 7 in Quebec. ([News Release](#))
- Public drug insurance plan – Modification of the financial contribution of certain insured persons ([News Release](#))
- 55,390 confirmed cases, an increase of 72 in the past day, including seven deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Minister of International Development Karina Gould announced a commitment of C\$120-million in support of the activities of the Access to COVID-19 (ACT) Accelerator – with C\$20-million of that total for the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations. ([News Release](#))
- Prime Minister Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Relaunch Grant to help businesses recover. ([News Release](#))
 - The Small and Medium Enterprise Relaunch Grant offers financial assistance to Alberta businesses, cooperatives and non-profit organizations that faced restrictions or closures from public-health orders and experienced a revenue loss of at least 50 per cent due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Starting June 29, eligible small and medium-sized businesses, coops and non-profits can apply for funding.
- Protecting at-risk Albertans from COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
- Alberta announced \$C14.2-million a month – and more than C\$170-million total – in additional funding to help keep residents and staff safe in long-term care, designated supportive living facilities and seniors lodges. Funding will continue until the orders from Alberta's chief medical officer of health are lifted.
- 7,996 confirmed cases, an increase of 145 since Friday.

British Columbia

- [O.I.C. 352/20](#) – Amending the *Employment Standards Regulation* (under the *Employment Standards Act*).
- 2,878 confirmed cases, an increase of 10 since Friday, including one death.

Ontario

- Ontario extends emergency orders to July 10. ([News Release](#))
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation; and Sylvia Jones, Solicitor General, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).
- 34,654 confirmed cases, an increase of 338 since Friday, including 14 deaths.

Quebec

- Starting Monday June 29, 2020, childcare providers in Montréal, Joliette and L'Épiphanie can receive up to 75 per cent of the maximum number of children indicated on their permit.
- [M.O. 2020-48](#) under the *Public Health Act*, relating to childcare providers.
- Municipal by-elections postponed until August 7, 2020. ([News Release](#))

June 22 – June 26

June 26, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Ottawa working on national data standards after COVID-19 highlighted info gaps ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The following have been added to the June 27 [Canada Gazette](#), Part I:

- [Interim Order](#) Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19 (made under the *Aeronautics Act*).
- Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States) (made under the *Quarantine Act*).
- [Order](#) Amending the Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Mandatory Isolation), No. 2 (made under the *Quarantine Act*).
- The Government of Canada continues federal support to Quebec's COVID-19 response through partnership with the Canadian Red Cross ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. government will ship more of Gilead Sciences Inc.'s (GILD.O) antiviral treatment remdesivir to states experiencing an increase in COVID-19 cases, including California, Texas, Florida and Arizona ([Reuters](#)).
- Texas and Florida put strict limits on bars and are reversing coronavirus reopening ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

Alberta

- [Bill 24](#), *COVID-19 Pandemic Response Statutes Amendment Act, 2020* received royal assent. Coming-into-force information is set out at the end of each part/section; some sections took effect on earlier dates.
 - If there is no coming-into-force information provided, the part comes into force on royal assent (June 26, 2020).

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- Ontario provides stable electricity pricing for industrial and commercial companies; province provides predictable electricity rates for two years ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario providing additional support for seniors; provincewide grant program will promote safety, community engagement and financial security ([News Release](#)).
- 34,316 confirmed cases, an increase of 111 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Quebec

- New guidelines for the arrival of caregivers, carers or visitors to hospitals ([News Release](#)).
- After hearing the public outcry, Quebec's new health minister, Christian Dubé, says the province will resume publishing COVID-19 data every day. As of Monday, the publication of daily reports on the development of COVID-19 will resume ([CBC](#)).
- Ministerial Orders 2020-045 and 2020-047 and Orders in Council 667-2020 and 689-2020 have been added to the June 26 [Gazette officielle du Québec](#), which also includes:
 - [O.C. 672-2020](#) – Certain temporary measures relating to the leasing of low-rental housing (made under *An Act respecting the Société d'habitation du Québec*).
 - [O.C. 685-2020](#) – Basic prescription drug insurance plan (made under *An Act respecting prescription drug insurance*).

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Finance Minister Bill Morneau said the expanded Canada Emergency Business Account will be available through Canada's big banks starting today ([Bloomberg](#)).
- Prime Minister Trudeau says Canadian companies are now producing so much personal protective equipment needed in the fight against COVID-19 that Canada is almost at the point of being self-sufficient ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The CDC has added webpages for bank employers and employees with tips for protecting staff and slowing the spread of COVID-19 ([Update](#)).
- FDA [Notice of Availability](#) – Guidance Documents Related to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19).
 - The guidances identified in this notice address issues related to the COVID-19 PHE and have been issued in accordance with the process announced in the March 25, 2020, notice.

Alberta

- Expanding access to COVID-19 testing; Alberta will offer asymptomatic COVID-19 testing at community pharmacies, making it easier for Albertans to access testing and help stop the spread ([News Release](#)).
- Updated COVID-19 guidance issued for:
 - [Live music, dance and theatre](#)
 - [Restaurants, cafes, pubs and bars](#)
- [Bill 24](#), *COVID-19 Pandemic Response Statutes Amendment Act, 2020* received third reading yesterday.
- 7,851 confirmed cases, an increase of 26 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- 2,869 confirmed cases, an increase of 20 since yesterday, including two deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- [Order in Council No. 689-2020](#) – Related distancing measures (classrooms, restaurants, etc.) and the suspension/revoking of various orders.

June 25, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- [S.O.R./2020-0138](#) – Regulations Amending the Canada Labour Standards Regulations (COVID-19) (made under the *Canada Labour Code*).

- Regulations in order to avoid the termination of employment resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, by giving employers more time to recall employees whose employment would otherwise have been terminated due to the duration of the lay-off.
- Prime Minister Trudeau today announced the launch of the Canada Student Service Grant, which will support post-secondary students and recent graduates as they volunteer to serve in their communities' COVID-19 response ([News Release](#)).
 - The CSSG will provide these volunteers with a one-time payment of between C\$1,000 and C\$5,000 based on the number of hours they serve.
- Government of Canada and provincial partners invest more than C\$109-million in COVID-19 research ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- A U.S. government watchdog gave a blunt review of the shortcomings in the government's response to the pandemic today that included the sending of nearly C\$1.4-billion to deceased Americans, and the collection of incomplete and inconsistent virus-testing data ([Reuters](#) and [GAO Report](#)).
- CDC updates and expands list of people at risk of severe COVID-19 illness ([News Release](#)).
- The Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in consultation with the Food and Drug Administration have released joint coronavirus-related interim guidance for employers and workers performing seafood processing operations in onshore facilities and aboard vessels offshore ([News Release](#)).
- Coronavirus may have infected 10 times more Americans than reported, CDC says ([Reuters](#)).
- Joint Statement from USDA and FDA on Food Export Restrictions Pertaining to COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- New safety measures coming for seasonal domestic fruit pickers ([News Release](#)).
- Temporary layoff provisions for workers; employers extended to a maximum of 24 weeks expiring on August 30, 2020 ([News Release and Backgrounder](#)).
- June school restart sets the stage for September ([News Release](#)).
- Starting July 1, residents of British Columbia and Yukon will be allowed to travel back and forth without the need to self-isolate for 14 days ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- Premier Ford says July 21 seems too early to reopen border with United States ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- 34,205 confirmed cases, an increase of 189 since yesterday, including 10 deaths.

Quebec

- The public-health authorities announced the resumption of activities of sectors that were still confined as of today, with three exceptions – and under certain conditions ([News Release](#)).
 - Given the risk they represent of contributing to the spread of the virus, the following sectors or activities remain prohibited:
 - Festivals and major events
 - Regular vacation camps with stay

- Fighting in a sports context
- The Autorité des Marchés Financiers today unveils its annual 2020-2021 priority statement in the specific context of the COVID-19 pandemic and its repercussions on the Quebec economy and the service industry ([News Release](#)).
- Quebec will publish its final daily tally of COVID-19 cases Thursday, after which statistics will be published once a week for the foreseeable future, the health ministry said Wednesday. Weekly reports will be issued every Thursday, starting July 2, the ministry said ([Montreal Gazette](#)).
- 55,079 confirmed cases, an increase of 142 since yesterday, including six deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Long-awaited details of federal student service grant to be unveiled today; eligible students are to receive grants of C\$1,000 to C\$5,000 for post-secondary school ([CBC](#)).
- Prime Minister Trudeau expected to speak at 10:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- U.S. Northeast governors order quarantine of visitors from coronavirus hot-spot states ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- [Bill 24](#), *COVID-19 Pandemic Response Statutes Amendment Act, 2020* was referred to the Committee of the Whole yesterday and passed without amendment.
- 7,825 confirmed cases, an increase of 44 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- Update on residential tenancy laws: the province is maintaining the moratorium on rent increases and evictions for non-payment of rent. However, other notices to end tenancy may resume effectively immediately ([News Release](#)).
 - The Residential Tenancy (COVID-19) Order made by MO 89/2020 is repealed, and the Residential Tenancy (COVID-19) Order No. 2 is made ([Ministerial Order No. M195](#)).
- [Bill 19](#), *COVID-19 Related Measures Act* received second reading yesterday.
- 2,849 confirmed cases, an increase of 14 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Businesses and services to reopen in Windsor-Essex, with exceptions; Ontario holds back Leamington and Kingsville due to higher rates of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario is changing its approach in its efforts to contain outbreaks among migrant farm workers, releasing new public-health guidelines aimed at encouraging employers to cooperate with mass testing without fear of losing their workforce to self-isolation ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The following orders were added to E-Laws:
 - [O.Reg. 303/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Stage 1 Closures.
 - [O.Reg. 302/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Stage 2 Closures.
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Jill Dunlop, Associate Minister of Children and Women's Issues, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- [O.C. 639-2020](#) – Amended College Education Regulations owing to the COVID-19 pandemic (made under the *General and Vocational Colleges Act*).

June 24, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. – Federal

- U.S. agency prepares for massive staff cuts in blow to legal immigration system ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- [Order in Council 190/2020](#) – Related to amendments to the Employment Pensions Plans Regulation – see "Electronic communications."

British Columbia

- British Columbians are taking the next step in B.C.'s Restart Plan with a gradual transition to [phase 3](#) ([News Release](#)).
- New legislation confirms supports for people and businesses, while responding to the fiscal impacts of COVID-19 by allowing government to run deficit budgets ([News Release](#) / [Bill 18. Economic Stabilization \(COVID-19\) Act](#)).
- [Order in Council No. 351](#) – Extending the state of emergency until July 7, 2020.

Ontario

- Declaration of emergency has been extended to July 15, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- Parts of Windsor-Essex to open with exception of Leamington and Kingsville. Windsor-Essex will move to stage 2 effective 12:01 a.m. on June 25 ([News Release](#)).
 - Three-point plan will be implemented to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 on farms and throughout the community:
 - Ongoing and expanded on-site testing.
 - Access to employment benefits and supports.
 - New public health guidance for asymptomatic workers.
- The following orders were added to E-Laws:
 - [O.Reg. 301/20](#) – General Matters Under the Authority of the Minister (made under the *Child, Youth and Family Services Act, 2017*).
 - [O.Reg. 300/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Stage 1 Closures.
 - [O.Reg. 299/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Stage 2 Closures.
- 34,016 confirmed cases, an increase of 163 since yesterday, including 12 deaths.

Quebec

- 54,937 confirmed cases, an increase of 53 since yesterday, including 11 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The federal government will go back to using competitive bid processes for some COVID-19 medical supplies ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Procurement Minister Anita Anand says the process usually used to award contracts will only apply in situations where there is enough time to run a competition.
- The following orders were issued:
 - [P.C. 2020-469](#) – Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from United States) to:
 - Support Canada's continued focus on reducing the introduction and further spread of COVID-19 by decreasing the risk of importing cases from outside the country.
 - Extend the effective date of the previous order restricting entry into Canada of foreign nationals arriving from the United States.
 - [P.C. 2020-468](#) Order Amending the Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Mandatory Isolation), No. 2, to:
 - Support Canada's continued focus on reducing the introduction and further spread of COVID-19 by explicitly permitting the addition of public health conditions for persons entering the country under a national interest exemption.

U.S. – Federal

- Washington state makes face masks mandatory as some states see new coronavirus surge ([Reuters](#)).
- EU considers blocking travellers, including Americans, due to coronavirus ([CTV](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta is investing C\$10-million into targeted serology testing that will help track the spread of COVID-19 across the province ([News Release](#)).
- The following Bills received second reading yesterday:
 - [Bill 22](#), *Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2020*
 - [Bill 23](#), *Commercial Tenancies Protection Act*
 - [Bill 24](#), *COVID-19 Pandemic Response Statutes Amendment Act, 2020*
- The Alberta government has quietly halted the closings of 17 provincial parks and recreation sites this year because of COVID-19 ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - The province had initially planned to fully or partially close 20 provincial parks and hand off another 164 to third-party managers, but officials quietly updated the COVID-19 response page on the Alberta Parks website.
- 7,781 confirmed cases, an increase of 45 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- British Columbia is testing sewage samples for the genetic signature of COVID-19 and hopes to develop a program to monitor wastewater for new outbreaks of the virus — particularly in smaller communities — by this fall ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- 2,835 confirmed cases, an increase of 13 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- The Ontario government is paying nursing homes for empty beds while banning new residents from having more than one roommate, leading to concerns that long-term-care waiting lists will grow ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

Quebec

- [Order in Council no. 667-2020](#) – The public health emergency has been renewed until 30 June 2020.

June 23, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Mélanie Joly, Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages, announced over C\$30-million to support Quebec's tourism sector. ([News Release](#))
- Minister Joly also announced C\$16-million in federal investments to support the tourism industry across Atlantic Canada. The funding will be delivered by the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency. ([News Release](#))
- The Parliamentary Budget Office released a [report](#) that says extending the Canada Emergency Response Benefit for another eight weeks will cost C\$17.9-billion. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
- Parliamentary Budget Officer Yves Giroux said he's concerned many CERB recipients are likely unaware they will be required to pay tax on the benefits.

U.S. – Federal

- Federal and state regulatory agencies issue examiner guidance for assessing safety and soundness considering the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on financial institutions. ([News Release](#))

Alberta

- Environmental reporting temporarily paused by government during the provincial public health emergency will resume on July 15, four weeks earlier than planned. ([News Release](#))

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- 33,853 confirmed cases, an increase of 216 since yesterday, including 10 deaths.

Quebec

- 54,884 confirmed cases, an increase of 49 since yesterday, including five deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Canada temporarily extends time periods given to employers to recall employees laid off due to the COVID-19 pandemic. ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#))

- Applies to employers in the federally regulated private sector.
- Ottawa vows crackdown on employers violating health protection rules for migrant farm workers. ([The Globe and Mail](#))
 - Employment Minister Carla Qualtrough said in a letter to Mexican government officials that Canada will apply “strict sanctions” to employers in the agri-food sector and is considering additional steps to ensure workers health and safety, including outreach and inspections.
- The [Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety](#) published a series of public health fact sheets and resources on its website, including an [online portal](#) for businesses to share their COVID-19 best practices and resources.
- Prime Minister Trudeau will not be speaking today.

U.S. – Federal

- [Proclamation](#) Suspending Entry of Aliens Who Present a Risk to the U.S. Labor Market Following the Coronavirus Outbreak and White House [Fact Sheet](#).

Alberta

- Labour disputes holding back wage top-ups for health-care workers. ([CBC](#))
- 7,736 confirmed cases, an increase of 32 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- [Order](#) of the Provincial Health Officer regarding Food Service Establishments and Liquor Services (under the *Public Health Act*).
 - Amends the previous order to provide greater clarity around the size of barriers and require collection of contact information when events are held on the premises. ([News Release](#))
- Long-term care home visits may be possible in next few weeks, provincial health officer says. ([CBC](#))
- 2,822 confirmed cases, an increase of 32 since Friday, including one death.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- No new updates.

June 22, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- No new updates.

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump will sign an executive order temporarily suspending work visas and barring hundreds of thousands of foreigners from coming to work in the United States. ([New York Times](#))
- President Trump said on Monday that he supported a second round of financial aid to mitigate the effect of shutdowns to curb the spread of the novel coronavirus and that a bipartisan stimulus package would probably be introduced in the next couple of weeks. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- Alberta is pausing the distribution of free non-medical masks until July. More than 14 million masks were distributed through drive-thrus, and an additional six million were shared directly with municipalities, seniors organizations, Indigenous partners, places of worship and others. Another 20 million masks will be distributed in July. ([News Release](#))

British Columbia

- British Columbia introduced [Bill 19](#), *COVID-19 Related Measures Act*, which will allow for the provisions created for citizens and businesses in response to the pandemic to be formalized and unwound as appropriate after the provincial state of emergency ends. ([News Release](#))
 - Bill 19 also allows for the creation of regulations that provide protections from civil liability.
- British Columbia also introduced [Bill 21](#), *Wills, Estates and Succession Amendment Act, 2020*, to enable courts to accept electronic wills and to permit the remote witnessing of wills. With these amendments, the emergency order allowing remote witnessing of wills will not be needed going forward. ([News Release](#))
- British Columbia is extending interim measures, including a new round of funding and supports for children with special needs and youth aging out of care, to help children, youth and families through the ongoing pandemic. ([News Release](#))

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford announced that the City of Toronto and Peel Region will enter Stage 2 of the province's reopening plan on Wednesday, June 24, at 12:01 a.m. Windsor-Essex will remain in Stage 1 due to outbreaks among agri-food workers. ([News Release](#))
- 33,637 confirmed cases, an increase of 161 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Quebec

- Quebec announced financial support of C\$900,000 for the Family-Work Reconciliation Recognition Program implemented by the Réseau pour un Québec Famille. This new program, aimed at employers, aims to recognize the quality of their organizational practices in terms of family-work balance and promote them by displaying a distinctive seal. ([News Release](#))
- Danielle McCann has been replaced as Health Minister by Christian Dubé. ([CBC](#))
- 54,835 confirmed cases, an increase of 69 since yesterday, and no deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- New hazard allowance for Canadian Armed Forces members deployed on COVID-19 frontlines ([News Release](#)).
- Prime Minister Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- The Securities and Exchange Commission extends relief for virtual meetings of fund boards to December 31, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- White House trade adviser Peter Navarro said Sunday that the Trump administration is preparing for the possibility that a second wave of COVID-19 could hit the United States in the fall ([CNN](#)).

Alberta

- Premier Jason Kenney will not make wearing masks mandatory; instead, the province has issued a “very strong recommendation” that people wear masks ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- 7,704 confirmed cases, an increase of 125 since Friday.

British Columbia

- The province extends deferral of electricity costs for industries impacted by COVID-19 for three months ([News Release](#)).
- [O.I.C. 319/2020](#), amending the *Direction to the British Columbia Utilities Commission Respecting COVID-19 Relief* (under the *Utilities Commission Act*).
- British Columbia’s legislature returns today for a summer sitting with only 24 members present in the chamber ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- 2,790 confirmed cases, an increase of seven since Friday, and no deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance; and Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).
- 33,476 confirmed cases, an increase of 381 since Friday, including 42 deaths.

Quebec

- [M.O. 2020-047](#) under the *Public Health Act* lifting suspensions related to outdoor, recreational or sports activities, day camps, places of public worship, restaurants and food courts in Montréal, Joliette, and L’Épiphanie, and gatherings in private residences.
- Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity Jean Boulet announces C\$175,000 for a study on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on community organizations ([News Release](#)).
- Danielle McCann is expected to be replaced by Christian Dubé as health minister later today ([CBC](#)).
- 54,766 confirmed cases, an increase of 216 since Friday, including 24 deaths.

June 15 – June 19

June 19, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Chief Justice of Canada Richard Wagner said national guidelines would be released in the next few days on when jury trials and full court operations might resume, including how trials might be conducted during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. ([Canadian Lawyer](#))

- The following Notices and Orders are published in the [June 20, 2020 Canada Gazette, Part I](#):
 - *Ministerial Instructions with respect to the processing of certain new and existing applications for temporary residence to further support Government-wide measures to limit the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) (under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act)*
 - P.C. 2020-441, Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any Country other than the United States) (under the Quarantine Act)

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- British Columbia is extending the temporary rental supplement until the end of August 2020, and will also maintain the moratorium on rent increases and evictions for non-payment of rent, while enabling other notices to end tenancy to resume. ([News Release](#))
- British Columbia will transition its COVID-19 border screening to the federal government beginning June 20, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- [M.O. 193/2020](#), *Correctional Centre Measures (COVID-19) Order* (under the *Emergency Program Act*).

Ontario

- Ontario released its plan for the reopening of schools in September. ([News Release](#))
 - School boards are to present plans for three scenarios to the Ministry by August 4, 2020: normal school routines with enhanced health and safety protocols, remote learning, or a combination with students attending in-person on alternating days/weeks with a maximum 15 students per class.
 - Education Minister Stephen Lecce expects most students will begin in September with the combined approach (alternating days/weeks), with decisions on moving forward being made by each region after September.
 - Parents will not be required to send their children to school; school boards are to prepare remote learning for students who remain at home.
- Ontario is providing up to C\$10-million to Indigenous-owned small and medium-sized businesses. Loans of up to C\$50,000 will be available to businesses that are either ineligible for, or unable to access, existing federal and provincial COVID-19 response initiatives for small businesses. ([News Release](#))
- 33,095 confirmed cases, an increase of 178 since yesterday, 11 deaths.

Quebec

- Minister of Finance Eric Girard presented an update on Quebec's economic and financial situation. The government is projecting a record C\$14.9-billion deficit for the fiscal year. ([News Release](#))
- COVID-19 Pandemic - Deconfinement of several living, accommodation and rehabilitation environments for seniors and clientele with specific needs. ([News Release](#))
- 54,550 confirmed cases, an increase of 167 since yesterday, 5 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Finance Minister Bill Morneau announced on [Twitter](#) last night that the expansion of the Canada Emergency Business Account to include small owner-operated businesses will not launch today as scheduled. ([CTV](#))
- Ottawa plans to overhaul the country's temporary foreign worker program, including more surprise inspections of working and living conditions at farms that employ migrant workers. ([Globe and Mail](#))
- Health minister Patty Hajdu declared COVID-19 in Canada's agricultural sector a crisis during a private meeting with local officials. ([CBC](#))
- Prime Minister Trudeau will hold a media availability at approximately 10:30 a.m. EDT.

U.S. Federal

- The U.S. Department of Labour's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued [guidance](#) to assist employers reopening non-essential businesses and their employees returning to work during the evolving coronavirus pandemic. ([News Release](#))

Alberta

- 7,579 confirmed cases, an increase of 49 since yesterday, 1 death.

British Columbia

- 2,783 confirmed cases, an increase of 8 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario Education Minister Stephen Lecce is set to outline the province's plan for students' return to school in September today. ([CBC](#))
- Ontario is investing C\$736-million more in public education for the 2020-21 school year, increasing the total to more than C\$25.5-billion. ([News Release](#))
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. EDT.

Quebec

- Department of Health and Social Services announces the plan to deconfine residential and long-term care centers. ([News Release](#))
- Minister of Finance Eric Girard will hold a press conference today on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Quebec's economy and public finances. ([News Release](#))

June 18, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau announced a new mobile app to help notify Canadians of COVID-19 exposure. ([News Release](#))
- App was developed by the Canadian Digital Service, Ontario Digital Service, volunteers from Shopify and Blackberry.
- App is voluntary and will not disclose identity of users. It will be available for all Canadians to download in the coming weeks and Ontario will be the first to use it.
- Minister of Canadian Heritage Steven Guilbeault announced new measures to assist the museum sector as well as the first component of Phase 2 of the COVID-19 Emergency Support Fund for Cultural, Heritage and Sport Organizations. ([News Release](#))

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- [Bill 24](#), *COVID-19 Pandemic Response Statutes Amendment Act, 2020* was introduced this afternoon. ([News Release](#))
 - Bill proposes amendments to several Acts as a result of the state of emergency being lifted.
- Alberta is providing support to assist overnight camps for children and youth so they can be ready to open in 2021. ([News Release](#))
- The following provincial sites will reopen on June 20, 2020: Frank Slide Interpretive Centre, Oil Sands Discovery Centre, Remington Carriage Museum, Reynolds-Alberta Museum, Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village. The Provincial Archives of Alberta will reopen on June 23, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- [Alta. Reg. 95/2020](#), *Employment Standards (COVID-19 Leave) Amendment Regulation*.

British Columbia

- [O.I.C. 318/2020](#), amending the *Employment and Assistance Regulation* and the *Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Regulation*.
- Peace Arch Provincial Park is closed until further notice due to a significant increase in the number of park visitors from both sides of the border. ([News Release](#))

Ontario

- Ontario is enhancing its case and contact management to quickly test, trace, and isolate cases of COVID-19, including, in partnership with the federal government, a new made-in-Ontario national app called COVID Alert. ([News Release](#))
- Bill 192, *Protecting Small Business Act, 2020* received Royal Assent ([S.O. 2020, c. 10](#)).
- Ontario makes major investment in mental health and technology to support students. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario's driver testing services provider, DriveTest, will begin offering limited services across the province beginning Monday, June 22, 2020, with the expectation of restoring full services by September. ([News Release](#))
- 32,917 confirmed cases, an increase of 173 since yesterday, 3 deaths.

Quebec

- As of June 22, 2020, daycares outside Montréal, Joliette, and L'Épiphanie will be permitted to move back to full capacity, and distancing restrictions between children and between children and their educator will be abolished. ([News Release](#))

- Quebec is authorizing visitors to CHSLD residences with no cases of COVID-19. The directive from the Ministry was sent Thursday to the directors of all of Quebec's regional health agencies. ([Montreal Gazette](#))
- [M.O. 2020-45](#), *Ordering of measures to protect the health of the population amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation* (under the *Public Health Act*)
- The following Regulations and Orders were published in the [June 18, 2020, Gazette officielle du Québec](#):
 - O.C. 638-2020, *Regulation to amend the Amended basic school regulation for preschool, elementary and secondary education for the 2019-2020 school year*
 - O.C. 649-2020, *Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting the application of the Act to promote access to justice through the establishment of the Service administrative de rajustement des pensions alimentaires pour enfants*
 - O.C. 630-2020, *Renewal of the public health emergency pursuant to section 119 of the Public Health Act*
 - O.C. 651-2020, *Ordering of measures to protect the health of the population amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation*
 - M.O. 2020-44, *Ordering of measures to protect the health of the population amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation*
- 54,383 confirmed cases, an increase of 120 since yesterday, 11 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Canada signed an agreement with Montréal-based Galenvis to produce silica beads used for COVID-19 testing. ([Statement](#))
- Health Canada certified ventilators produced by two Canadian groups, CAE and the Ventilators for Canadians consortium, who will now be able to increase their production to manufacture the 20,000 ventilators ordered. ([Statement](#))
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is expected to give an update this morning on a COVID-19 contact tracing app. ([CBC](#))
- The parliamentary budget officer says in a new report that this year's federal deficit could hit C\$256-billion due to the COVID-19 pandemic. ([CBC](#))
- Export Development Canada predicts 20 per cent drop in exports this year before rebounding in 2021. ([CTV](#))
- Prime Minister Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. EDT.

U.S. Federal

- U.S. President Donald Trump said the United States would not close businesses again as several states reported rising numbers of new coronavirus infections. ([Globe and Mail](#))
- Equal Employment Opportunities Commission issued updated COVID-19 technical assistance publication addressing antibody testing ([News Release](#))
 - Guidance now states that employers cannot require employees to undergo antibody testing before allowing them to re-enter the workplace.

Alberta

- 7,530 confirmed cases, an increase of 48 since yesterday, no deaths.

British Columbia

- British Columbia could ease more COVID-19 restrictions next week. ([Globe and Mail](#))

- Premier John Horgan said he is waiting for modelling numbers next week before announcing whether the province is ready to move to the next phase of its restart plan.
- [M.O. M192/20](#), *Local Government Meetings and Bylaw Process (COVID-19) Order No. 3*.
- 2,775 confirmed cases, an increase of 19 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- [Bill 192](#), *Protecting Small Business Act, 2020*, passed in the Legislature yesterday. The bill is now waiting for Royal Assent. ([News Release](#))
 - Temporarily halts or reverses evictions of commercial tenants and protects them from being locked out or having their assets seized during COVID-19.
 - Applies to businesses that are eligible for federal/provincial rent assistance for evictions from May 1, 2020, until August 31, 2020.
- Ontario looking at 'good faith' immunity from COVID-19 lawsuits. ([Globe and Mail](#))
- Ontario pivots on testing strategy for migrant workers to contain COVID-19 outbreaks. ([Globe and Mail](#))
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. EDT.

Quebec

- The public health emergency declaration has been renewed until June 23, 2020. ([O.I.C. 630/2020](#))
- Order lifting various suspensions applicable to certain educational institutions and performance venues. ([O.I.C. 651/2020](#))
- The Quebec government announces C\$400-million in emergency assistance for public transit. ([News Release](#))
- Minister Delegate for Transport and Minister responsible for the Metropolis and the Montréal region Chantal Rouleau announces more than half a million dollars in financial assistance to support community awareness and prevention efforts in the context of the pandemic. ([News Release](#))

June 17, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Finance Minister Bill Morneau will present an Economic and Fiscal Snapshot on Wednesday, July 8, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- The snapshot will provide information on the current state of the economy and the Government of Canada's response to support Canadians during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Canadian Fish and Seafood Opportunities Fund was reopened today to support the industry in accessing new consumer markets. ([News Release](#))
- Applications for the Canadian Seafood Stabilization Fund will be accepted as of June 22, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- The C\$62.5-million initiative was announced on April 25, 2020, to help fish and seafood processors in Atlantic Canada, Quebec and Western Canada adapt to the challenges of COVID-19, such as market instability and compliance with new safety guidelines, and to effectively deal with inventory.
- Parks Canada will begin to offer some camping services at select national parks and historic sites across the country beginning June 22, 2020. ([News Release](#))

- Canada is buying 140,000 blood test kits from Abbott Laboratories to begin immunity testing of COVID-19 ([CTV](#))

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- British Columbians are invited to provide feedback on the province's economic recovery. ([News Release](#))

Ontario

- [Bill 192](#), *Protecting Small Business Act, 2020*, received first reading today. The Bill amends the *Commercial Tenancies Act* to prohibit certain actions by landlords if the landlord is or would be eligible to receive assistance from the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance for small businesses program; however, the rules cease to apply if the landlord is approved to receive the assistance.
- Canada and Ontario are investing up to C\$10-million in emergency assistance for beef and hog farmers. ([News Release](#))
- The funding will help cover the increased costs of feeding market ready cattle and hogs due to COVID-19 related processing delays, while redirecting surplus pork products to help those in need.
- Ontario is working to expand made-in-Ontario options at the LCBO, including increased marketing, converting available shelf space to profile Ontario products, and making more products available for sale, including bag-in-box wine and those made in the province. The supports are effective June 21 until October 2020. ([News Release](#))
- 32,744 confirmed cases, an increase of 190 since yesterday, 12 deaths.

Quebec

- Chief Coroner Pascale Descary has ordered a large public inquiry into COVID-19 deaths in long-term care homes. ([News Release](#))
- Indoor sports facilities, as well as public and private beaches, may open as of June 22, 2020. Team sports may also resume on June 22, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- 54,263 confirmed cases, an increase of 117 since yesterday, 9 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. EDT.

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- [Bill 23](#), the *Commercial Tenancies Protection Act*, was introduced yesterday. The bill would protect eligible commercial tenants from having their leases terminated due to non-payment of rent as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. ([News Release](#))
- 7,482 confirmed cases, an increase of 35 since yesterday, no deaths.

British Columbia

- 2,756 confirmed cases, an increase of 10 since yesterday, no deaths.

Ontario

- All emergency orders currently in force under s. 7.0.2(4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* have been extended to June 30, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- The following regulations were added to e-Laws this morning:
 - [O. Reg. 279/20](#), amending the *Order under subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Stage 2 Closures* (under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*).
 - [O. Reg. 280/20](#), amending the *Order under subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Stage 1 Closures* (under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*).
 - [O. Reg. 281/20](#), amending the *Order made under the Act – Extensions and Renewals of Orders* (under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Christine Elliott to hold a media availability at 1 p.m. EDT.

Quebec

- No new updates.

June 16, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau announced the extension of the Canada Emergency Response Benefit by eight weeks to October 3, 2020, making the benefit available to eligible workers for a total of 24 weeks. ([News Release](#))
- Changes will be made to the CERB attestation to encourage recipients to find employment.
- Over the next few weeks, the Government will monitor international best practices, the economy, and the progression of the virus and, if needed, make necessary changes to the program.
- Canada-U.S. border to remain closed to non-essential travel until July 21. ([CBC](#))

U.S. Federal

- U.S. narrowing support to seven COVID-19 vaccine candidates, expects them to be free for many. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- B.C. has approved a temporary wholesale pricing model that will allow liquor licensees to purchase beer, wine, and spirits at reduced cost. It will be in place from the end of July 2020 to March 31, 2021, when the program will be reviewed. ([News Release](#))

Ontario

- A new general workplace guide and downloadable toolkit is available to help employers develop their own workplace safety plans to protect workers, customers, and clients. ([News Release](#) and [Guide](#))
- Ontario will not make it mandatory to wear masks or face coverings. ([CTV](#))
- The following regulation was added to e-Laws: [O. Reg. 278/20](#), amending the *Special Rules Relating to Declared Emergency Regulation* under the *Planning Act*.
- 32,554 confirmed cases, an increase of 184 since yesterday, 11 deaths.

Quebec

- Minister of Education and Higher Education, Jean-François Roberge announced that all preschool, elementary and secondary students will return to class next September. Students will be divided into groups of no more than six students, with physical distancing requirements between groups, and between groups and teachers. ([News Release](#))
- CEGEP and University Students will have a hybrid of classroom and distance learning. ([News Release](#))
- 54,146 confirmed cases, an increase of 92 since yesterday, 21 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau is expected to announce today that the Canada Emergency Response Benefit program will be extended until the end of the summer. ([CTV](#))
- Government of Canada implements surplus food rescue program to help alleviate food concerns of vulnerable Canadians. ([News Release](#))
- Prime Minister Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. EDT.

U.S. Federal

- U.S. airlines threaten to ban passengers who refuse to wear face masks. ([Business Standard](#))
- Senator Ed Markey, who has been vocal along with about a dozen other Democratic senators on airline issues during the pandemic, praised the tougher enforcement policies, adding "but we still need federal action immediately."

Alberta

- Alberta lifts state of emergency as COVID-19 cases continue to flatten. ([Globe and Mail](#))
- 7,453 confirmed cases, an increase of 20 since yesterday, 1 death.

British Columbia

- Temporary emergency funding for licensed child care centres is being extended until August 31, 2020. ([News Release](#))

- 2,745 confirmed cases, an increase of 36 since Friday, 0 deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Christine Elliott and Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development Monte McNaughton to make an announcement at 12:30 p.m. EDT.

Quebec

- Performance halls, theaters and cinemas will be allowed to reopen effective June 22, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- CNESST has prepared a toolkit to support the sector as it reopens. ([News Release](#))
- Education Minister Jean-François Roberge will announce plans for the upcoming school year this morning. ([CBC](#))

June 15, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- The Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) will be extended; details will be released this week. ([CBC](#))
- More small businesses can access the Canada Emergency Business Account beginning June 19, 2020. ([News Release](#))
- Minister Ng concludes successful Canada-led Ottawa Group meeting on World Trade Organization reform and COVID-19. ([News Release](#))
 - Canada and the other 12 Ottawa Group members endorsed the steps contained in the [Joint Statement of the Ottawa Group: Focusing Action on COVID-19](#). Priorities include greater transparency on export restrictions, predictable and open trade in agriculture, and advancing negotiations on e-commerce.
- The Canadian Armed Forces will provide airlift support to transport urgently needed medical and humanitarian supplies to vulnerable countries. ([News Release](#))

U.S. Federal

- The Food and Drug Administration revoked its emergency use authorization for malaria drugs hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine to treat COVID-19. ([Reuters](#))

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- Reopening update:
 - Effective June 19, 2020, at 12:01 a.m. EDT, the following regions will move to Stage 2:

- Durham Region Health Department
- Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit
- Halton Region Health Department
- Hamilton Public Health Services
- Lambton Health Unit
- Niagara Region Public Health Department
- York Region Public Health Services
- Toronto, Peel, and Windsor-Essex remain in Stage 1. ([News Release](#))
- Ontario Helps Local Business Test and Certify Medical-Grade PPE ([News Release](#))
 - C\$526,200 from the Ontario Together Fund provided to CSA Group Testing & Certification Inc. to increase capacity for testing and certifying PPE
- Ontario expanding data collection to help stop spread of COVID-19 ([News Release](#) and [Proposed Regulation](#))
- The following Orders / Regulations were added to e-Laws:
 - [O. Reg. 276/20](#), amending the *Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Organized Public Events, Certain Gatherings* (under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*)
 - [O. Reg. 277/20](#), revoking O. Reg. 115/20, *Temporary Exemptions Related To Declared Emergency* (under the *Environmental Bill of Rights, 1993*)
- 32,370 confirmed cases, an increase of 181 since yesterday, eight deaths.

Quebec

- Relaxation of the instructions surrounding gatherings in public places and physical distancing ([News Release](#))
 - Beginning June 15, indoor gatherings of up to 50 people will be permitted. In locations where people are seated, such as classrooms and theatres, a physical distance of 1.5 metres will be required. Children 16 and under may be 1 metre from each other. In all other cases, a distance of 2 metres is required.
- 54,054 confirmed cases, an increase of 102 since yesterday, 11 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is expected to speak about the emergency loan program available to businesses, and update on the status of the promised program to address the food surplus farmers are experiencing due to the pandemic today ([CTV](#)).
- Prime Minister Trudeau is expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. EDT.

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 7,433 confirmed cases, an increase of 117 since Friday, one death.

British Columbia

- 2,709 confirmed cases, an increase of 16 since Friday, one death.

Ontario

- Ontario eases restrictions on wedding and funeral ceremonies; attendees will still be required to practice physical distancing ([News Release](#)).
 - The government is extending the number of people allowed to attend an indoor wedding or funeral ceremony to a maximum of 30 per cent capacity of the ceremony venue. Wedding and funeral ceremonies taking place outdoors will be limited to 50 attendees. The changes came into effect on Friday, June 12, 2020, at 12:01 a.m. EDT.
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Christine Elliott, Minister of Finance Rod Phillips, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade Vic Fedeli and, Minister of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries Lisa MacLeod to make an announcement at 1 p.m. EDT.
- 32,189 confirmed cases, an increase of 463 since Friday, 21 deaths.

Quebec

- Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Quebec Ms. Sonia LeBel launched the Quebec Digital Judicial Registry, intended for the activities of the Court of Quebec and the Superior Court ([News Release](#)).
- The Government of Quebec announces the resumption of high-level sport activities and racetracks ([News Release](#)).
- 53,952 confirmed cases, an increase of 286 since Friday, 74 deaths.

June 8 – June 12

June 12, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The following orders/notices were published in the June 13 [Canada Gazette](#), Part I:
 - [Notice of intent](#) to consult on Health Canada's proposal to provide the cannabis industry with financial relief amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - As a result of the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the cannabis industry, Health Canada is considering the making of an order to potentially defer the 2020–2021 payment due date. The potential deferral would apply to the annual fee for cannabis licence holders in their first or subsequent fiscal years (those issued a licence prior to April 1, 2020).
 - Various Interim Orders to Prevent Certain Persons from Boarding Flights in Canada due to COVID-19 (made under the *Aeronautics Act*). Related to health checks, exceptions, passenger screenings, etc.
 - [Interim Order](#) Restricting Pleasure Craft Navigation Due to COVID-19.
- Supporting Canada's food processing and production sectors ([News Release](#) and [Background](#)). The Emergency Processing Fund will offer:
 - Emergency COVID Response – Funding to help companies implement changes to safeguard the health and safety of workers, their families and communities.
 - Strategic Investments – Funding to help companies improve, automate and modernize facilities to increase Canada's food supply capacity.
- Eligible applicants include for-profit organizations, cooperatives and indigenous groups. Activities can be retroactive to March 15, 2020, and must be completed by September 30, 2020.

- Temperature screening to be required for travellers at Canadian airports ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
 - Temperature screening will be introduced through a phased approach. The first three phases are aimed at arriving international travellers and departures from Canadian airports that serve the vast majority of air travellers in Canada.
- Travel advisory – COVID-19 border measures for Campobello Island ([News Release](#)).
- The government has extended the deployment of military personnel inside seniors' homes as a further push to keep up COVID-19 containment efforts ([CTV](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The federal government announced nearly 100-million cloth facial coverings will be sent to the aviation, transit and passenger rail transportation sectors for passenger use. Approximately 86.8-million coverings will be distributed to airports, and 9.6-million coverings will be distributed to 458 transit agencies and Amtrak for passenger use ([News Release](#)).
- CDC guidance on [Gatherings and Community Events](#) and [Deciding to Go Out](#).
- White House eyes travel from Mexico, not states reopening, as source of new coronavirus spike ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- More support for [Northern](#), [Lower Mainland](#), [Island](#) and [Interior](#) arts and culture during COVID-19.
- Better access to gaming grants help communities during pandemic ([News Release](#)).
 - The province is making changes to the Community Gaming Grants (CGG) program to make it easier for non-profit organizations to adapt and continue to provide vital services to British Columbians.

Ontario

- Ontario protecting agri-food workers during COVID-19; government investing C\$15-million into health and safety measures for farm operations ([News Release](#)).
 - The Enhanced Agri-food Workplace Protection Program provides cost-share funding for farmers to purchase personal protective equipment and implement workplace modifications and other measures.
- The following orders/regulations were added to E-Laws:
 - [O.Reg. 275/20](#) – Compliance with Manager's Protocol Respecting the Coronavirus (COVID-19) (made under the *Ontario Food Terminal Act*).
 - [O.Reg. 274/20](#) – Records of Site Condition – Part XV.1 of the Act (made under the *Environmental Protection Act*).
 - [O.Reg. 273/20](#) – Registrations Under Part II.2 of the Act – Waste Management Systems (made under the *Environmental Protection Act*).
 - [O.Reg. 272/20](#) – General – Waste Management (made under the *Environmental Protection Act*).
 - [O.Reg. 271/20](#) – Records of Site Condition – Part XV.1 of the Act (made under the *Environmental Protection Act*).
 - [O.Reg. 270/20](#) – On-Site and Excess Soil Management (made under the *Environmental Protection Act*).
 - [O.Reg. 269/20](#) – Manager's Protocol Respecting the Coronavirus (COVID-19) (made under the *Ontario Food Terminal Act*).

- Ontarians encouraged to establish social circles; creating a close group of up to 10 people will help reduce social isolation ([News Release](#)).
 - The province has developed a practical [step-by-step guide](#) to help Ontarians as they safely develop and join a social circle.
- Ontario supports children and youth during COVID-19; additional funding will provide food and snacks while schools are closed ([News Release](#)).
- 31,726 confirmed cases, an increase of 182 since yesterday, including 11 deaths.

Quebec

- [Report from the Committee on Public Finance](#) – Special consultations on Bill 61, *An Act to restart Québec's economy and to mitigate the consequences of the public health emergency declared on 13 March 2020 because of the COVID-19* was tabled.
- 53,666 confirmed cases, an increase of 181 since yesterday, including 21 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau speaks with premiers on continued efforts to address the impacts of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 7,316 confirmed cases, an increase of 40 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- Minister's [statement](#) on food service establishments and liquor services (provincial health officer's [order](#) for owners and operators of premises, including licensed premises in which food or drink is served).
- 2,694 confirmed cases, an increase of 14 since yesterday,

Ontario

- The following orders/regulations were added to E-Laws:
 - [O.Reg. 265/20](#) – Emergency Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Closure of Outdoor Recreational Amenities.
 - [O.Reg. 264/20](#) – Order Made Under the Act – Extensions and Renewals of Orders.
 - [O.Reg. 263/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act - Stage 2 Closures.
 - [O.Reg. 262/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act - Closure of Places of Non-Essential Businesses.
 - [O.Reg. 261/20](#) – General (made under the Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014).
- Ontario lifting 30-day supply limit on prescriptions – effective June 15, 2020, program recipients can return to filling up to 100-day supply at a time from their pharmacy or dispensing physician, when appropriate ([News Release](#)).

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- No new updates.

June 11, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau rejected Conservative calls for a return to normal House of Commons sittings Thursday ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The Government of Canada announces additional support for Indigenous businesses and the Indigenous tourism industry ([News Release](#)).

U.S. Federal

- Alarming rise in U.S. coronavirus cases as states roll back lockdowns ([The Globe and Mail](#)). Cases are rising in nearly half the states, according to an Associated Press analysis.

Alberta

- [Bill 22](#), *Red Tape Reduction Implementation Act, 2020* was tabled this afternoon.
 - The bill proposes 14 legislative changes across six different ministries. Several of these changes work to promote job creation and support economic growth by removing unnecessary burdens imposed on Albertans and businesses. The remaining changes focus on expediting government approvals, enhancing government transparency, eliminating outdated requirements and reducing the administrative burden on municipalities ([News Release](#)).
- Highlights of the bill include:
 - Making it easier and more affordable for non-profits to operate in Alberta.
 - Improving the efficiency of changes to surface rights agreements.
 - Reducing trade barriers for grazing leases.
 - Eliminating unnecessary delays in the oil sands approval process.
 - Providing more effective and timely online access to statistical government information and reports.
 - Infrastructure and Communities Minister Catherine McKenna announced that Alberta has received C\$244-million through the federal Gas Tax Fund (GTF) for the 2020–21 fiscal year to fund its most pressing infrastructure needs ([News Release](#) and [Background](#)).

British Columbia

- Infrastructure and Communities Minister Catherine McKenna announced that British Columbia has received C\$280.4-million through the federal Gas Tax Fund (GTF) for the 2020–21 fiscal year to fund its most pressing infrastructure needs ([News Release](#) and [Background](#)).

Ontario

- The Ontario government is giving the legal community 10 days to say why civil juries should be allowed to exist ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - In a letter dated June 5, Attorney-General Doug Downey makes two arguments for eliminating most or all civil-jury trials from the province: that the justice system's needs have changed during the COVID-19 outbreak and that Ontario is "one of the last Canadian jurisdictions" to maintain a right to a jury trial for most civil matters.
- Toronto plans to make face masks mandatory on public transit ([The Globe and Mail](#) and [TTC News Release](#)).
 - Mayor John Tory announced today the proposed measure, which must be debated by the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC) board at its meeting next week. If approved, it would take effect July 2 and one-million masks would be distributed.
- Ontario to resume family visits in long-term care homes, retirement homes and other residential care settings; strict health and safety guidelines will be required to protect residents, visitors and staff ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario and Canada helping small businesses go digital ([News Release](#)).
 - Through the C\$57-million contribution to the [Digital Main Street](#) platform, businesses will be able to take advantage of three new programs to support their digital transformation.
 - In addition, the Recovery Activation Program, operated through the Toronto Region Board of Trade, will help businesses grow and digitize their operations with custom consulting sessions, online resource sharing, learning webcasts and business planning. As a result of the investment announced today, the program will be offered province-wide and at no cost to businesses.
- Infrastructure and Communities Minister Catherine McKenna announced that Ontario has received more than C\$816-million through the federal Gas Tax Fund (GTF) for the 2020–21 fiscal year to fund its most pressing infrastructure needs ([News Release](#) and [Background](#)).
- 31,544 confirmed cases, an increase of 203 since yesterday, including 12 deaths.

Quebec

- The Minister of Tourism announced a second phase of resumption of tourism activities in all regions of Quebec ([News Release](#)).
 - As of June 19, 2020, Quebecers will be able to visit:
 - Zoos
 - The gardens
 - Processing artisans and agro-tourism farms
 - Places of reception and tourist information
 - In addition, maritime excursions can resume their activities from July 1, 2020.
- The Minister of Tourism, the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Economy and Innovation unveil the Tourism Recovery Plan, representing nearly C\$75- million to help the tourism sector get through the crisis and prepare for the revival of its activities ([News Release](#)).
 - The plan acts on several fronts at once to:
 - Support companies during the crisis
 - Support the development of supply and stimulate demand
 - Generate economic spinoffs in all regions of Quebec
- [Bill 61](#), *An Act to restart Québec's economy and to mitigate the consequences of the public health emergency declared on 13 March 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic* has been referred to the Committee on Public Finance: [Special consultations and public hearings on Bill 61](#).
- Ministerial Orders 2020-042 to 2020-043 and Orders in Council 593-2020 and 615-2020 have now been added to the June 11 [Gazette Officielle du Québec](#).
- Infrastructure and Communities Minister Catherine McKenna announced that Quebec has received C\$495.7 million through the federal Gas Tax Fund (GTF) for the 2020–21 fiscal year to fund its most pressing infrastructure needs ([News Release](#) and [Background](#)).
- 53,485 confirmed cases, an increase of 144 since yesterday, including 10 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- FedDev Ontario and partners to assist nearly 23,000 Ontario businesses in embracing online commerce ([News Release](#) and [Background](#)).
- The Government of Canada invests C\$50-million towards helping businesses across the region adopt digital technologies to recover from the pandemic.

U.S. – Federal

- The White House wants a plan in place by September 1 for airlines to collect contact-tracing information from U.S.-bound international passengers ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- A comprehensive re-entry plan for the upcoming school year allows schools and parents to prepare for learning ([News Release](#)).
- The plan offers guidance on a wide range of operational issues, including hygiene and health requirements, student learning, transportation and diploma exams.
- 7,276 confirmed cases, an increase of 47 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- Province takes action to support return to sport ([News Release](#) and [Ministerial Order No. M183 – Protection Against Liability for Sports \(COVID-19\)](#)).
- The ministerial order protects amateur sport organizations and their representatives from damages resulting, directly or indirectly, from COVID-19 for amateur sports.
- 2,680 confirmed cases, an increase of 12 since yesterday.

Ontario

- Ontario introduces public transit safety guidance; measures designed to keep passengers and employees safe as more people go back to work during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- [The guidance document](#) provides transit agencies with best practices and tips to help stop the spread of COVID-19.
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care; and Todd Smith, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- The Government of Quebec announces that there will be resumption of training activities leading to a qualification as of June 15. This includes training to exercise a particular function, such as courses offered by driving schools and training courses offered at the École nationale de police du Québec (ENPQ) ([News release](#)).
- The following orders were issued:
 - [Order in Council No. 593-2020](#) – The public health emergency has been renewed until 17 June 2020.
 - [Order in Council No. 615-2020](#) – Related to the lifting of more restrictions (training activities, restaurants, government services, administrative body, persons assembled, etc.)

June 10, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- [Bill C-17](#), *An Act respecting additional COVID-19 measures* was tabled in the House this afternoon.
 - Proposed amendments to the *Income Tax Act*, the *Canada Emergency Response Benefit Act* and the *Children's Special Allowances Act*.
 - Part 2 enacts the *Time Limits and Other Periods Act (COVID-19)*.
- The federal government is working on a special program that would grant permanent residency to asylum seekers who have worked in health-care roles during the COVID-19 pandemic ([CBC](#)).
- Wednesday's emergency sitting of the House of Commons came to an abrupt halt within minutes after the government couldn't secure the opposition support it needed to move forward on the debate on its latest emergency piece of COVID-19 legislation ([CTV](#)).
- Minister Ng announces government partnership with the private-sector campaign to help businesses reopen safely amid COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- Health Canada is recalling five types of hand sanitizers sold in Canadian stores that are made with industrial-grade ethanol ([CTV](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Alberta is relaxing the 30-day limit for prescription drugs. As of June 15, pharmacists in the province can begin to give out larger quantities again, up to a 100-day supply ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- [Order in Council No. 310](#) – The state of emergency has been extended to June 23, 2020.

Ontario

- Ontario unveils a plan to reopen post-secondary education ([News Release](#)).
 - Starting in July 2020, limited in-person education and training may restart for students who were not able to graduate due to COVID-19 closures.
- More facilities and services will be available at provincial parks in certain regions beginning on June 12, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
 - June 12, beaches at Ontario Parks will begin opening to the public.
 - June 15, campers enrolled in this year's Ontario Parks' Seasonal Campsite Program will now have access to their campsites at the majority of participating provincial parks.
 - June 22, all other campgrounds in regions entering Stage 2 will gradually open at provincial parks, along with washrooms, water taps and trailer sanitation stations.
 - Roofed accommodations (e.g., yurts, cabins and lodges, where available), park store and rental operations, visitor centres, and sports fields will be phased in over the next several weeks.
- 31,341 confirmed cases, an increase of 251 since yesterday, including 11 deaths.

Quebec

- 53,341 confirmed cases, an increase of 156 since yesterday, including 25 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Parliamentary Budget Officer will be reporting on the cost of the revamped CERB as MPs meet to debate changes later today ([CTV](#)).
- Canada and the U.S. are set to extend the border closure to late July, sources say ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Minister Fortier highlights Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan at the OECD roundtable ([News Release](#)).
- Canada Economic Development for Quebec regions: The following information complements the news release on the distribution of CED financial support to the province's 67 SADCs and CAEs ([Backgrounder](#)).
- The following orders/regulations have now been added to the June 10 *Canada Gazette*, Part II:
 - [S.O.R./2020-125](#) – Accessible Transportation for Persons with Disabilities Regulations Application Exemption Order (made under the *Canada Transportation Act*).
 - [S.O.R./2020-11](#) – *Regulations Amending the Employment Insurance Regulations* (includes the accompanying Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement).
 - [S.I./2020-41](#) – Remission Order in Respect of Non-residential Leases and Licences of Occupation Under the Administration of the Parks Canada Agency (includes the accompanying Explanatory Note).
 - [S.O.R./2020-114](#) – *Regulations Amending the Output-Based Pricing System Regulations* (made under the *Greenhouse Gas Pollution Pricing Act* - includes the accompanying Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement).
 - [S.O.R./2020-126](#) – *Regulations Amending the Regulations Amending the Patented Medicines Regulations* (Additional Factors and Information Reporting Requirements) – (includes the accompanying Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement).
 - [S.O.R./2020-113](#) – *Solvency Special Payments Relief Regulations, 2020* (made under the Pension Benefits Standards Act, 1985) - (includes the accompanying Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement).

U.S. – Federal

- The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) said it would distribute about US\$25-billion to hospitals that have not previously received relief funds ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- 7,229 confirmed cases, an increase of 27 since yesterday, including two deaths.

British Columbia

- B.C. marks fourth straight day with no deaths from COVID-19 ([CBC](#)).
- 2,669 confirmed cases, an increase of nine since yesterday.

Ontario

- No new updates.

Quebec

- To afford individuals and businesses greater financial flexibility during the COVID-19 pandemic, the government is moving ahead to July 1, 2020, the reduction of the single school-tax rate ([News Release](#)).

June 9, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada [creates a hub](#) for organizations looking to find resources on buying and supplying personal protective equipment (PPE) ([News Release](#)).
 - Buyers will find PPE supplier lists, in addition to guidance to help plan their PPE purchases.

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Strong testing data shows active COVID-19 cases in Alberta are lower than expected, meaning stage two of the relaunch strategy can safely begin on June 12, a week sooner than expected. Events and gatherings can be larger in stage two: a maximum of 50 people for indoor social gatherings and a maximum of 100 people for outdoor events or indoor seated/audience events ([News Release](#) and [Alberta's Relaunch Strategy](#)).
 - What can open with restrictions:
 - K-12 schools, for requested diploma exams and summer school, following guidance
 - Libraries
 - More surgeries
 - Wellness services such as massage, acupuncture and reflexology
 - Personal services (esthetics, cosmetic skin and body treatments, manicures, pedicures, waxing, facial treatment, artificial tanning)
 - Indoor recreation, fitness and sports, including gyms and arenas
 - Movie theatres and theatres
 - Community halls, team sports and pools for leisure swimming
 - VLTs in restaurants and bars
 - Casinos and bingo halls (but not table games)
 - Instrumental concerts
 - The 50 per cent capacity limit for provincial campgrounds is also being lifted. Over the coming days, the online reservation system will be updated and sites will come online in phases. By July 1, all camping sites will be open for reservations.

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- The Ontario government announced its plan to reopen childcare centres/home-care providers across the province on Friday, June 12 ([News Release](#)).
 - Providers will be able to reopen with strict safety and operational requirements in place, similar to the safety guidelines required for emergency childcare centres. Centres will be required to adopt specific rules.
 - If families are not offered access to their previous childcare arrangement, operators will continue to be prevented from charging fees for these spaces.
- Summer day camps also given the green light. Along with the announcement of childcare centres reopening on Friday, the premier added that summer day camps will go ahead as well – with the same public health restrictions in effect ([CTV](#)).
- 31,090 confirmed cases, an increase of 230 since yesterday, including 14 deaths.

Quebec

- The Government of Quebec injects an additional C\$100-million into the Emergency Assistance Program for Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises under the Local Investment Funds (FLI), in order to meet the high demand from businesses across Quebec. Of this amount, C\$20-million will be spent on businesses in the Montréal region ([News Release](#)).
- Regions and Rurality Fund – The Government of Quebec grants C\$400,000 in Outaouais to reduce the impact of the pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- 53,185 confirmed cases, an increase of 138 since yesterday, including 45 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The House of Commons is being recalled and will sit this afternoon at 2:30 p.m. (EDT) or at the conclusion of the Special Committee on the COVID-19 Pandemic ([HOC Tweet](#)).
- The following orders were issued:
 - [PC 2020-442](#) – Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from United States) (made under the *Quarantine Act*).
 - [PC 2020-441](#) – Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from any country other than the United States) (made under the *Quarantine Act*).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- [Executive Order](#) – Accelerating the Nation's Economic Recovery from the COVID-19 Emergency by Expediting Infrastructure Investments and Other Activities.

Alberta

- 7,202 confirmed cases, an increase of 64 since yesterday, including three deaths.

British Columbia

- 2,659 confirmed cases, an increase of 29 since yesterday.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- The public health authorities of Quebec announce that it will soon be possible to meet in private indoor places, provided that the maximum number of 10 people is not exceeded (two-metre distancing still applies) ([News Release](#)).
 - Starting June 22, indoor gatherings will be allowed in the Metropolitan Community of Montréal, the regional county municipality of Joliette and the city of L'Épiphanie. Outside these territories, gatherings will be allowed from June 15.

June 8, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The federal government is planning to legislate fines and jail time for individuals who submit fraudulent claims under the Canada Emergency Response Benefit, as well as adjusting the eligibility rules of the C\$60-billion program ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - The draft legislation outlines a series of offences, including making false or misleading statements, failing to fully disclose all relevant income or receiving an income support payment for which a person is not eligible.
 - Another section of the draft bill changes the eligibility rules by stating that a worker is not eligible for income support if they “fail to return to work when it is reasonable to do so and the employer makes a request for their return; fail to resume self-employment when it is reasonable to do so or decline a reasonable job offer when they are able to work.”
 - Another section changes the eligibility criteria for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy.
 - The changes are contained in a draft bill obtained by *The Globe and Mail* that has not yet been introduced in Parliament.
- The Canada Border Services Agency is announcing that as of June 8, 2020, foreign nationals who are immediate family members of Canadian citizens and permanent residents, and who do not have COVID-19 or exhibit any signs or symptoms of COVID-19, or who do not have reason to believe they have COVID-19, will be exempt from the prohibition on entry to Canada if entering to be with an immediate family member for a period of at least 15 days ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Albertans can now access 20 million free, non-medical face masks to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - Masks have also been provided to many municipalities, First Nations communities, Métis settlements and local agencies. This includes rural and remote communities that do not have access to a partner restaurant drive-thru and are developing their own distribution plans.

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- Reopening update:
 - Effective Friday, June 12, 2020, at 12:01 a.m., the province will increase the limit on social gatherings from five to 10 people across the province. People must still practise physical distancing by keeping at least two metres away from others outside their direct household.
 - All [regions](#) are allowed to move into Stage 2 except:
 - Toronto, Peel, Halton, York and border areas like Niagara Falls and Windsor – These regions will be monitored until they meet the criteria for Stage 2, and every Monday, the government will provide an update on the ongoing assessment of these regions and whether they are ready to move into Stage 2 at the end of the week.
 - More details will be released soon on summer camps, post-secondary education pilots to help people graduate, training centres and Public transit. Childcare details will be released tomorrow.
 - Travel is not restricted within the province.
 - Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development, reiterated at [Ontario.ca/covidsafety](https://ontario.ca/covidsafety) the availability of resources such as safety guidelines, posters, videos, etc. as businesses reopen. By end of week, every business allowed to reopen will have a guidance document.
 - [Full news release](#) and [Stage 2 Framework Details](#).
- The Ontario government announced today that it intends to take action to protect commercial tenants from being locked out or having their assets seized by their landlords due to the negative impacts of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- The proposed changes to the *Commercial Tenancies Act* would, if passed, temporarily halt evictions of businesses that are eligible for federal/provincial rent assistance. If passed, the legislation would reverse evictions that occurred on or after June 3, 2020.
- If passed, the proposed legislation would make it illegal to evict a commercial tenant until August 31, 2020. The government intends to bring this legislation forward as soon as possible.
- The following orders/regulations have been added to E-Laws:
 - [O.Reg. 257/20](#) – Order Made Under the Act – Extensions and Renewals of Orders (to June 19, 2020).
 - [O.Reg. 258/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.1.(2) of the Act – Limitation Periods.
 - [O.Reg. 259/20](#) – Order Made Under the Act – Extensions and Renewals of Orders (to September 11, 2020).
 - [O.Reg. 260/20](#) – Licences to Sell Liquor (made under the *Liquor Licence Act*)
- 30,860 confirmed cases, an increase of 243 since yesterday, including 24 deaths.

Quebec

- André Lamontagne, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and Jean Boulet, Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity, announced, together with Dr. Richard Massé, the strategic medical advisor from the Directorate General of Public Health, the resumption of activities in the restaurant sector from June 15 outside the Metropolitan Community of Montréal, the regional county municipality of Joliette and of the city of L'Épiphanie ([News Release](#)).
 - In these latter territories, activities may resume from June 22.
- Quebec enhances Canada's emergency assistance program for commercial rent by C\$140-million ([News Release](#)).
- Quebec temporarily improves the salary of attendants to beneficiaries in private non-contracted CHSLDs and announces the maintenance of certain salary bonuses ([News Release](#)).

- CNESST is launching a guide intended for the catering sector, for a resumption of its activities safely ([News Release](#)).
- 53,047 confirmed cases, an increase of 198 since yesterday, including six deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The federal government is breaking with tradition and using regional development agencies to help the downtown cores of Canada's biggest cities to recover from the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 7,131 confirmed cases, an increase of 40 since Friday.

British Columbia

- 2,632 confirmed cases, an increase of 1 since Friday, including one death.

Ontario

- Premier Ford will announce details on the next stage of the province's reopening plan today at 1 p.m. (EDT) ([CTV](#)).
- Ontario extends emergency orders to support its reopening efforts until June 19, 2020, and also extends the suspension of limitation periods and time periods for legal proceedings until September 11, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- 30,617 confirmed cases, an increase of 870 since Friday, including 54 deaths.

Quebec

- Mélanie Joly, Minister of Economic Development and Official Languages; Pierre Fitzgibbon, Minister of Economy and Innovation; and Montréal Mayor Valérie Plante announced the injection of new funding worth C\$50-million to support businesses ([News Release](#)).
 - The funds will be administered by PME MTL, the Ville de Montréal's business support network.
- [Ministerial Order 2020-043](#) – Related to work environments that offer the public outdoor, recreational or sports activities conducted outside.
- 52,849 confirmed cases, an increase of 451 since Friday, including 43 deaths.

June 1 – June 5

June 5, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau said this afternoon he has offered provinces and territories up to C\$14-billion in new federal transfers ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Trudeau said the “substantial offer,” will include 10 days of paid sick leave for workers. It will also include protective gear for front-line health workers and businesses that need help keeping their employees safe, and money for childcare facilities to be able to reopen safely and municipal governments to help keep city services like transit running.
 - The C\$14-billion is intended to roll out over the next six to eight months, but the fine print has to be negotiated with the provinces. He has not yet specified how the money will be divided.
- Prime Minister Trudeau today announced support to help Canadians with disabilities deal with extra expenses during the pandemic. This support includes a special one-time, tax-free payment to individuals who are certificate holders of the Disability Tax Credit as of June 1, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- [Order](#) Approving the Interim Order Respecting Clinical Trials for Medical Devices and Drugs Relating to COVID-19 (made under the *Food and Drugs Act*) has been added to the June 6 *Canada Gazette*, Part I.
- The Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry announced a six-month postponement of the 3,500 MHz spectrum auction process and its associated key dates to allow the telecommunications industry to maintain its focus on providing essential services to Canadians during the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).

U.S. Federal

- President Trump this afternoon signed into law [H.R. 7010](#), the *Paycheck Protection Program Flexibility Act of 2020*, which modifies certain provisions related to forgiveness of loans under the Paycheck Protection Program and allows loan forgiveness recipients to defer their payroll taxes.
- President Trump said this afternoon he wanted to focus on battling the coronavirus in high-risk populations as he pushes to open the U.S. economy further ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- New relaunch supports and commercial tenancy measures to help Alberta’s small- and medium-sized businesses during economic relaunch ([News Release](#)).
 - The government is committing up to C\$200-million in funding for eligible businesses and non-profits to access up to C\$5,000 to offset a portion of their relaunch costs. These funds can be used for implementing measures to minimize the risk of virus transmission (such as physical barriers, personal protective equipment and disinfecting supplies), rent, employee wages or replacement of inventory.
- The program’s online application is expected to be available in the coming weeks. Program details, including eligibility, are being confirmed.
- Also, the government is planning further measures, including legislation, to ensure commercial tenants will not face rent increases or be evicted for non-payment of rent due to the pandemic.
- In response to the recent challenges faced by Alberta’s beekeepers, Agriculture and Forestry is introducing a new Canadian Agricultural Partnership program ([News Release](#)).
 - The program will include up to C\$1-million to help beekeepers offset the costs of increased colony replacements due to COVID-19. The program, available this summer, will be retroactive to cover issues faced in spring 2020.
- Local businesses have joined forces to donate 200 high-tech ventilators to Alberta Health Services; Calgary advanced-technology firm Exergy Solutions designed and built the ventilators. Suncor Energy provided financial support ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- Closed hospitality businesses permitted to sell liquor stock during pandemic ([News Release](#) and [Policy Directive](#)).
 - The temporary authorization from the Liquor Distribution Branch (LDB) was requested by the Business and Technical Advisory Panel, a group of liquor industry leaders, as a way of supporting the industry during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- This authorization is set to expire on July 15, 2020. However, as the pandemic is an evolving situation, LDB will review this and other temporary authorizations as necessary.
- Due to high demand from B.C. farmers and food companies, additional funding has been added to support more of the Buy BC e-commerce applications that were received after the initial funding was committed ([News Release](#)).
- [Ministerial Order No. M180](#) – Effective June 5, 2020, Ministerial Order No. M085 (related to the sharing of COVID-19 information), issued under section 33.1(3) of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, is extended to remain in effect until December 31, 2020.

Ontario

- Premier Ford said that his government will soon release information (early next week) about what Stage 2 of the “restart phase” will look like ([CTV](#)).
- 23,583 confirmed cases, an increase of 344 since yesterday, including 15 deaths.

Quebec

- [Proposed amendments](#) to Bill 61, *An Act to restart Québec’s economy and to mitigate the consequences of the public health emergency declared on 13 March 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic* were tabled (currently only available in French).
- [M.O. 2020-042](#) was issued, related to working conditions applicable to non-unionized salaried staff, home childcare, and media and communications.
- 52,398 confirmed cases, an increase of 255 since yesterday, including 33 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau is to offer premiers billions in federal funding to help them safely reopen provincial and territorial economies; Trudeau is expected to present the offer to premiers during their weekly conference call today ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Precise details, including how to allocate each province’s share of the cash, are to be negotiated in the coming days.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 7,091 confirmed cases, an increase of 15 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- New data puts B.C. on track to reduce more COVID-19 restrictions ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- 2,632 confirmed cases, an increase of five since yesterday.

Ontario

- Ontario considering Stage 2 of reopening despite steady stream of new COVID-19 cases ([CBC](#)).
 - Ford said the question of moving to Ontario's Stage 2 of reopening is now being considered by the senior officials who form the COVID-19 command table. Stage 2 would allow a wider number of office-based businesses to reopen and expand the maximum size of social gatherings that's currently limited to five.
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance; and Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (ET).

Quebec

- The Government of Quebec has heard the appeal of the restaurant industry and tabled amendments to Bill 61 with concrete measures to lighten and modernize the regulations ([News Release](#)).
 - These measures will allow entrepreneurs, in particular, to adopt new practices in the sale and service of alcohol.
- The Minister of Economy and Innovation and Minister Responsible for the Lanaudière Region, Pierre Fitzgibbon, announces the addition of a measure relating to the protection of commercial tenants, in the form of an amendment in the framework of Bill 61, *An Act to revive the Quebec economy and mitigate the consequences of the state of health emergency* ([News Release](#)).

June 4, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau today announced that seniors eligible for the Old Age Security pension and the Guaranteed Income Supplement will receive their special one-time, tax-free payment during the week of July 6 ([News Release](#)).
 - Through this measure and others, the government is providing nearly C\$900 more for single seniors and more than C\$1,500 for senior couples, on top of their existing benefits, to help with extra costs during the pandemic.

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump is expected today to sign an executive order that would give federal agencies emergency powers to fast-track major energy and other infrastructure projects by overriding environmental permitting requirements, two sources familiar with the proposal said ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- Permanent changes for expanded care in nursing homes – changes to Alberta's nursing homes regulations mean residents can access direct primary care from nurse practitioners beyond the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#) and [O.C.175/2020](#)).

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- [O.Reg. 255/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) – Closure of Places of Non-Essential Businesses (related to the reopening of shared rental accommodation).
 - Minister of Economic Development Victor Fedeli made the announcement on Twitter this afternoon – “Short term rentals including lodges, cabins, cottages, homes, condominiums and B&Bs will be allowed to resume operations in Ontario starting June 5 at 12:01 a.m.,” the minister tweeted ([CTV](#)).
- Toronto restaurants and bars will be allowed to expand their patios onto sidewalks and into curb lanes as part of a new city program that is being rolled out in anticipation of their eventual reopening ([CTV](#)).
- 29,403 confirmed cases, an increase of 356 since yesterday, including 45 deaths.

Quebec

- The Government of Quebec is announcing a new phase in the resumption of outdoor sports, leisure and outdoor activities. As of June 8, team sports such as soccer, baseball or hockey may resume in the form of outside training if they comply with the directives of the *Direction générale de la santé publique* ([News Release](#)).
- Regional economic development – Relaunching the Quebec economy: a prioritization mandate entrusted to the regions ([News Release](#))
 - Various regional stakeholders, such as economic development organizations as well as chambers of commerce and industry, will also be invited to take part in the exercise.
- 52,143 confirmed cases, an increase of 259 since yesterday, including 26 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- 7,076 confirmed cases, an increase of 19 since yesterday, including two deaths.

British Columbia

- 2,623 confirmed cases, an increase of 22 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Ontario appoints special advisor to develop health data platform; new tool will help researchers detect, plan and respond to COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Todd Smith, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; and Jamil Jivani, Ontario's Advocate for Community Opportunities, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- The following orders have now been added to the June 4 *Gazette Officielle du Québec*:
 - [M.O. 2020-041](#) – Related to the activities of outdoor public spaces, such as outdoor pools and restriction on the Côte-Nord region be lifted.
 - [O.C. 572-2020](#) – Related to the extension of the public health emergency until June 10, 2020.
 - [O.C. 588-2020](#) – Related to educational support services.

June 3, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The following orders/regulations were added to the Orders in Council database this afternoon:
 - [S.O.R./2020-0126](#) – *Regulations Amending the Regulations Amending the Patented Medicines Regulations (Additional Factors and Information Reporting Requirements)* – full text is forthcoming:
 - In order to delay the coming-into-force of the amending regulations until January 1, 2021:
 - To minimize the imposition of new administrative burden on industry as patented drug manufacturers face increased demands related to supply chains and shortages of existing products and, potentially, new treatments and vaccines in response to COVID-19.
 - To provide stakeholders a longer period in which to provide feedback to the Patented Medicine Prices Review Board's Guidelines consultation process that has been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - [S.I./ 2020-0041](#) – Remission Order in Respect of Non-residential Leases and Licences of Occupation Under the Administration of the Parks Canada Agency (in order to provide all Parks Canada Agency's commercial tenants the opportunity to apply for financial relief, on a portion of the annual rent, fees and interest during the COVID-19 outbreak period) – full text is forthcoming.
 - [S.O.R./2020-0125](#) – Accessible Transportation for Persons with Disabilities Regulations Applications Exemption Order (in order to provide additional time for transportation service providers to come into compliance with certain requirements of the ATPDR in light of the severe financial and operational disruptions they have experienced as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic) – full text is forthcoming.
 - [Interim Order](#) – Respecting Clinical Trials for Medical Devices and Drugs Relating to COVID-19.
- Minister Garneau announced new measures for the use of face coverings in the Canadian transportation sector ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)). The measures will be implemented through a combination of mandatory orders and guidance.
- Prime Minister Trudeau continued today to make the case for a coordinated global response to cushion the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the world's poorest countries ([CTV](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The Trump administration has selected five companies, including Moderna, Inc., AstraZeneca PLC and Pfizer Inc., as the most likely candidates to produce a vaccine for the novel coronavirus ([National Post](#)).
- Agriculture Workers and Employers [Interim Guidance](#) from CDC and the Department of Labor.
- The Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has issued an alert listing safety tips employers can follow to protect stockroom and loading dock workers in the retail industry from exposure to the coronavirus ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- Ontario is improving broadband and cell service for rural communities; connecting residents and businesses to the 21st century digital economy is essential for recovery after COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 29,047 confirmed cases, an increase of 338 since yesterday, including 19 deaths.

Quebec

- [Bill 61](#), *An Act to restart Quebec's economy and to mitigate the consequences of the public health emergency declared on 13 March 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic* was tabled this afternoon ([News Release](#)).
 - The main object of this bill is to restart Quebec's economy. It establishes a list of projects that may benefit from the acceleration measures it provides for. The bill is part of the advancement of investments planned in the Quebec Infrastructure Plan for the current year, of the order of C\$3-billion.
 - Some 200 infrastructure projects will be the subject of acceleration measures and which are designated for their potential to contribute to the recovery of the economy, in all regions of Quebec.
 - For example, the construction of seniors' homes and new schools, the modernization of health facilities and public transit initiatives are among the designated projects that would benefit from these measures.
 - Also, any private project that would contribute to the revival of the Quebec economy or that would aim to increase medical self-sufficiency or food autonomy in Quebec could also benefit from acceleration measures.
- 51,884 confirmed cases, an increase of 291 since yesterday, including 59 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The government tabled C\$87-billion in spending estimates to cover pandemic expenses ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- House of Commons Speaker Anthony Rota says he is now comfortable with the technology that could allow MPs to vote remotely during the hybrid Parliament sittings ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - The committee will report back to the House on June 23 with its recommendation, and then the parties would have to agree to resume a full sitting of Parliament in order to vote on an option to allow electronic remote voting.
- The federal government has begun procuring the supplies that will be essential for “mass vaccinations” in the event that a vaccine is found for COVID-19, starting with signing a contract for 37-million syringes ([CTV](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Enhanced border-screening measures are in place at the Alberta/U.S. border crossing at Coutts, the busiest in the province ([Update](#)).
 - Travellers entering Alberta must stop at a provincial checkpoint, complete an isolation questionnaire and undergo a temperature check. Essential economic travel will not be disrupted.
- 7,057 confirmed cases, an increase of 13 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- 2,601 confirmed cases, an increase of four since yesterday.

Ontario

- The declaration of emergency was extended to June 30 yesterday ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Laurie Scott, Minister of Infrastructure; and Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- The following regulations have been added to the June 3 *Gazette officielle du Québec*:
 - [O.C. 547-2020](#) – Amended basic school regulation for preschool, elementary and secondary education for the 2019-2020 school year (made under the *Education Act*).
 - [O.C. 548-2020](#) – Amended basic vocational training regulation owing to the COVID-19 pandemic (made under the *Education Act*).
 - [O.C. 549-2020](#) – Amended basic adult general education regulation owing to the COVID-19 pandemic (made under the *Education Act*).
 - [O.C. 567-2020](#) – Regulation to amend the *Regulation respecting the amounts payable by municipalities for the services provided by the Sûreté du Québec* in order to defer the payment of the amount payable for the 2020 fiscal year (made under the *Police Act*).

June 2, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion announced the launch of a call for proposals under the newly modernized Enabling Accessibility Fund (EAF) – small projects component ([News Release](#)).
- The Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry announced the names of nine business leaders who will join Monique Leroux on the new and recently announced [Industry Strategy Council](#) ([News Release](#)).
 - The Council provides a forum for the government to hear from and collaborate with industry leaders to assess the scope and depth of COVID-19's impact on industries and to understand specific sectoral pressures.

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- The Government of British Columbia reopened in-class instruction to all students on Monday, June 1, 2020, with about 30 per cent of expected enrolment in attendance ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- Ontario helps manufacturers ramp up production of personal protective equipment; initiatives will benefit frontline workers during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - The three new companies receiving financial support are: Southmedic, Sterling Industries and SRB Technologies.
- All Service Ontario locations to open "in the next couple of weeks," says Ford in today's press conference ([CBC](#)).
- New management appointed at Kitchener long-term-care home ([News Release](#)).
- 28,709 confirmed cases, an increase of 446 since yesterday, including 17 deaths.

Quebec

- To allow the opening of private and municipal day camps this summer in accordance with Public Health instructions, the Government of Quebec confirms that it will provide them with substantial financial assistance ([News Release](#)).
 - Certified day camps can count on assistance of up to C\$11-million, the terms of which will be defined later.
- New accelerated training and generous compensation for attendants who will work in CHSLDs ([News Release](#)).
- 51,593 confirmed cases, an increase of 239 since yesterday, including 52 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau's update today is expected to include new information about the ongoing procurement efforts to secure enough adequate personal protective equipment ([CTV](#)).
- The federal funding, announced yesterday, delivered through the Gas Tax Fund will help communities quickly move forward with infrastructure projects that will improve our quality of life and help restart local economies ([News Release](#)).
 - Communities have flexibility to use the funding to meet their local needs. Projects could include access to high-speed broadband, improvements to water and road systems, and the building of cycling and walking paths.
 - [Speaking Points](#) by Catherine McKenna, Minister of Infrastructure and Communities, for the Federal Gas Tax Fund advanced payment announcement.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- [O.C. 169/2020](#) – Amending the Condominium Property Regulation (related to use of reserve fund during emergency).
- 7,044 confirmed cases, an increase of 34 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- [Ministerial Order No. M179](#) – Commercial Tenancy (COVID-19) Order was issued.
- 2,597 confirmed cases, an increase of 15 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- Cultural sector economic recovery plan: Measures to help artists and organizations weather the crisis ([News Release](#) and [Resource Page](#)).

June 1, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The federal government is moving up its gas-tax payment transfers to Canadian municipalities as an interim measure to help cities with budget shortfalls created by the COVID-19 pandemic ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - The government said it will provide this year's full payment of C\$2.2-billion in gas-tax transfers in the coming weeks, rather than the usual practice of spreading the transfers over two payments.
- The following orders/regulations have now been added to the Orders in Council Database:
 - [S.O.R./2020-0113](#) – *Solvency Special Payments Relief Regulations, 2020* (in order to (1) provide temporary, short-term solvency funding relief for federally regulated defined benefit pension plan sponsors and (2) ensure that these pension plan sponsors have the financial resources needed to maintain their operations and their pension plans that will support the retirement security of their workers and retirees) ([Full text published by the Department of Finance](#)).
 - [S.O.R./2020-0114](#) – *Regulations Amending the Output-Based Pricing System Regulations* (in order to provide regulated parties with additional time to meet their regulatory requirements relating to the 2019 compliance period, given the constraints on business operations imposed by the COVID-19 measures).
- The federal government's plans to "strongly" recommend Canadians download a to-be-determined COVID-19 contact-tracing app may not happen as initially billed, Health Minister Patty Hajdu said on Monday, indicating there's been pushback from some regions of the country to the idea ([CTV](#)).
- The Government of Canada announces funding for the social and economic inclusion of persons with disabilities ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The CDC published an interactive [COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Country](#) map. Click on a country to get country-specific travel information about COVID-19.

Alberta

- Strengthening agriculture, agri-food and forestry sectors; the government is funding Emissions Reduction Alberta's Food, Farming and Forestry Challenge through the Technology Innovation and Emissions Reduction (TIER) Fund ([News Release](#)).
 - The C\$40-million will help farmers, ranchers, industry and innovators navigate the economic repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing market implications.
- Effective June 1, the government's Residential Tenancy Dispute Resolution Service (RTDRS) will accept applications from mobile home site tenants and landlords for urgent issues related to site possession and termination of tenancy ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- B.C. strengthens federal commercial rent program; businesses eligible for rent support from the federal government will be protected from evictions as the B.C. government issues a new order under the *Emergency Program Act* ([News Release](#)).
- Eligible businesses whose landlords choose not to apply for the federal CECRA program will be protected from evictions due to unpaid rent payments through to the end of June 2020, as determined by the federal program timelines.
- To help people in B.C.'s music industry continue to create and operate during the pandemic, the B.C. government is investing C\$7.5-million through Creative BC for Amplify BC ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- Ontario supports those struggling with electricity bills during COVID-19; new initiatives help keep rates stable and affordable ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Ford wants the province's state of emergency to be extended another 28 days – the state of emergency that was set to expire on June 2 will be extended until June 30 if the motion is passed on Tuesday at Queen's Park ([CTV](#)).
- The following orders/regulations have been added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 238/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Closure of Places of Non-Essential Businesses (related to batting cages and drive-in cinemas).
 - Also: [O.Reg. 246/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Closure of Establishments.
 - [O.Reg. 239/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Organized Public Events, Certain Gatherings (related to a service, rite or ceremony).
 - [O.Reg. 240/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Management of Retirement Homes in Outbreak.
 - [O.Reg. 241/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Special Rules Re Temporary Pandemic Pay.
 - [O.Reg. 242/20](#) – General (under the *Retirement Homes Act, 2010*).
 - [O.Reg. 243/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Electricity Price for RPP Consumers.
 - [O.Reg. 244/20](#) – Order Made Under the Act – Extensions and Renewals of Orders.
 - [O.Reg. 245/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Global Adjustment for Market Participants and Consumers.
 - [O.Reg. 247/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Extensions and Renewals of Orders (shortening of previous extensions – recreational camping).
- 28,263 confirmed case, an increase of 404 since yesterday, including 10 deaths.

Quebec

- Premier Legault and the Minister of Culture and Communications today presented an ambitious recovery plan for the cultural environment. The sums invested to help the sector get through the current difficulties since the start of the crisis have increased to almost C\$400-million ([News Release](#)).
- Commission for Standards, Equity, Health and Safety at Work (CNESST) has made available tools to specifically support the audiovisual production sector in their management of occupational health and safety in the context of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 51,354 confirmed cases, an increase of 295 since yesterday, including 20 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau is set to announce this morning that the federal government will be offering cities an advanced transfer of infrastructure funding to help cover COVID-19-prompted budget shortfalls ([CTV](#)).
- FedNor is working with the tourism sector to help them in recovery efforts. The Government of Canada is investing C\$7.6-million to support communities, businesses and organizations in northern Ontario to help create jobs, spur growth and support the tourism industry ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
 - Western Economic Diversification Canada working with tourism businesses to bolster the industry's recovery efforts in Western Canada; C\$3.45-million will be invested to bolster recovery efforts for Western Canada's tourism areas ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
- Ottawa hopes to "save the summer" with big cash injection to boost domestic travel ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The Government of Canada will provide rent relief for eligible business tenants in all national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas ([News Release](#)).
- Blood kits to be sent to 10,000 Canadians to survey extent of COVID-19 in Canada ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Dr. Jha, director of the Centre for Global Health Research at St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto, is leading one of the first large-scale surveys in the country that will examine participants' blood for antibodies that are specific to the virus that causes COVID-19.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. government awards new US\$628-million contract to boost output of potential COVID-19 vaccine ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- The Minister of Justice and Solicitor General issued a ministerial order on March 30 suspending limitation periods and periods of time within which any step must be taken in any proceeding or intended proceeding. The order expires today, at which time the limitation periods and time periods affected by the order will resume ([News Release](#)).
- Testing is now available to all Albertans, whether they have COVID-19 symptoms or not ([News Release](#)).
- While many sports activities remain prohibited during stage one of relaunch, some are being allowed with appropriate safety measures; information has been posted online to offer guidance on which sports are permitted, along with ways to limit risks ([Guidance](#)).

- A C\$21.6-million investment is expanding online resources and virtual supports for Albertans who are seeking help for mental health and addiction challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- 7,010 confirmed cases, an increase of 55 since Friday.

British Columbia

- 2,573 confirmed cases, an increase of 15 since Friday.

Ontario

- Ontario extending infectious disease emergency leave for workers during COVID-19. The new regulation (included in Friday's digest) will protect employees from permanent layoffs and businesses from potential closures ([News Release](#)).
- Greg Rickford, Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines, issued a [statement](#) on electricity rate relief measures during the COVID-19 outbreak. The suspension of time-of-use price has been extended (to October 31, 2020) to provide consumers with greater stability and predictability with their electricity bills.
- The Ontario government made amendments to the *Retirement Homes Act, 2010* regulation, enabling the Retirement Homes Regulatory Authority (RHRA) to better support seniors living in retirement homes during the COVID-19 outbreak. The regulation change increases the emergency payment the RHRA can pay to eligible retirement home residents from C\$2,000 to C\$3,500 ([News Release](#)).
- Backcountry camping available at Ontario parks and on Crown lands starting June 1 ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Greg Rickford, Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines and Minister of Indigenous Affairs; and Bill Walker, Associate Minister of Energy, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).
- 27,859 confirmed cases, an increase of 649 since Friday, including 36 deaths.

Quebec

- The Government of Quebec is launching a vast offensive to acquire digital equipment for schools ([News Release](#)).
- The Minister of Health and Social Services and the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing authorize the opening of outdoor public spaces, such as outdoor pools and park game modules, including water games, for the entire summer period in all regions of Quebec ([News Release](#)).
- [Ministerial Order 2020-041](#) – related to the suspension on the activities of municipal outdoor pools, wading pools and playground equipment and restrictions on access to certain regions be lifted.
- 51,059 confirmed cases, an increase of 827 since Friday, including 278 deaths.

May 2020

May 25 – May 29

May 29, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- To provide temporary relief to sponsors of federally regulated defined benefit pension plans, on April 15, 2020, the government announced a moratorium on solvency special payments. Today, Finance Minister Bill Morneau announced the coming into force, on May 27, 2020, of the government's *Solvency Special Payment Relief Regulations, 2020*, which establish the moratorium ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
- The following have now been added to the May 30, 2020, *Canada Gazette* Part 1:
 - [Ministerial Instructions](#) with respect to the processing of certain new and existing applications for temporary residence to further support government-wide measures to limit the spread of COVID-19, made under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*
 - [Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order \(Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States\)](#), made under the *Quarantine Act*, includes accompanying Explanatory Note.
- Liberal MPs call for national standards for long-term care homes ([CBC](#)).
- Prime Minister Trudeau announces additional funding for health, economic and social support for Indigenous peoples and communities ([News Release](#)).
- Four-hour limit on MPs to review pandemic spending "unfortunate, to say the least," PBO says ([Globe and Mail](#)).
- The Minister of Transport, the Honourable Marc Garneau, announced updated measures pertaining to cruise ships and passenger vessels in Canadian waters ([News Release](#)).
- Cruise ships with overnight accommodations allowed to carry more than 100 persons are prohibited from operating in Canadian waters until October 31, 2020.
- As of July 1, 2020, all other passenger vessels must follow provincial, territorial, local and regional health authority requirements for timelines and processes to resume operations.
- Ottawa exploring ways to reunite families divided by temporary travel restrictions at Canada-U.S. border ([Globe and Mail](#)).

U.S. Federal

- President Trump today said he is terminating the U.S. relationship with the World Health Organization ([Globe and Mail](#)).

Alberta

- 20-million masks to be distributed to Albertans; government's relaunch strategy includes providing free non-medical masks to Albertans who need them ([News Release](#)).
 - A&W, McDonald's Restaurants of Canada Ltd. and Tim Hortons are partnering with the Alberta government to distribute non-medical masks at no cost through their drive-thru locations across the province, to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Distribution will start in early June.

British Columbia

- The following Regulations were issued:
 - [Order in Council No. 270](#) amending the Strata Property Regulation, under the *Strata Property Act*, related to general meetings during a state of emergency.
 - [Order in Council No. 271](#) amending the Residential Tenancy Regulation, under the *Residential Tenancy Act*, related to emergency shelter in relation to COVID-19.

Ontario

- Premier Ford says Ontario is considering regional reopenings; Ford said the increased testing will allow the province to get a better handle on COVID-19 hot spots and make it possible to consider

reopening some regions before others. Ford stopped short of committing to a region-by-region approach ([Globe and Mail](#)).

- The following Orders/Regs were added to e-laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 227/20](#): Adjustments Under Section 25.33 of the Act (under the *Electricity Act*) related to special allocation rules, 2020.
 - [O.Reg. 228/20](#): Infectious Disease Emergency Leave (under the *Employment Standards Act, 2000*).
 - [O.Reg. 229/20](#): General (under the *Ontario Works Act, 1997*) related to treatment of emergency payments respecting COVID-19 made by Canada.
 - [O.Reg. 230/20](#): General (under the *Ontario Disability Support Program Act, 1997*) related to treatment of emergency payments respecting COVID-19 made by Canada.
 - [O.Reg. 232/20](#): Electronic Meetings and Meeting Attendance (under the *Education Act*).
- Premier Ford released the next phase of the province's COVID-19 testing plan, [Protecting Ontarians Through Enhanced Testing](#), which includes three branches of testing: Assessment Centre Testing, Targeted Campaigns and Outbreak Management ([News Release](#))
 - The province expects that private-sector workplace testing will leverage private and public resources as the government works with private-sector employers to develop the appropriate models for each sector and workplace.
 - Ontario will also soon release a renewed strategy to support public health units with case management and contact tracing, including launching a new exposure notification app.
- 27,210 confirmed cases, an increase of 344 since yesterday, 41 deaths.

Quebec

- Given that holding general meetings in person during the COVID-19 pandemic would go against public health requirements, the Ministère des Finances presents options to companies and NPOs allowing them to meet their legal obligations ([News Release](#)).
- The government is extending a support measure for businesses and modifying certain tax deadlines affecting trusts and corporations ([News Release](#)).
 - The conditions related to these measures can be found in [the information bulletin](#) published by the Ministère des Finances.
- The Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity and Minister responsible for the Mauricie region announces that residents of the Metropolitan Community of Montréal and the MRC de Joliette will again be able to receive personal and aesthetic care from June 1, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- Temporary exemption from certain regulatory deposits granted to registrants and participants in capital markets not registered due to COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- The Quebec government announces that the road checkpoints for the Côte-Nord will be removed as of June 1, 2020, as recommended by public health authorities ([News Release](#)).
- The checkpoints for the territory of Jamésie and Terres-Cries-de-la-Baie-James (Eeyou Istchee) will be lifted from June 9, 2020.
- A reopening plan will be presented later for the regions and territories that continue to be targeted by the checkpoints, namely the Golfe-du-Saint-Laurent MRC (Basse-Côte-Nord), as well as Nunavik.
- 50,232 confirmed cases, an increase of 530 since yesterday, 61 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau is expected to announce today significant new funding for First Nations, Inuit and Metis communities ([CTV](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 10:30 a.m. EDT.

U.S. Federal

- CDC recommends sweeping changes to American offices ([NYT](#)).
 - [COVID-19 Employer Information for Office Buildings](#).
 - [Businesses and Workplaces](#)

Alberta

- Alberta preschools are now allowed to reopen as of June 1, 2020, but facilities should first meet heightened safety standards ([Update](#)).
- 6,955 confirmed cases, an increase of 29 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

British Columbia

- 2,558 confirmed cases, an increase of 9 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario commercial landlords can now apply for urgent rent assistance through Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance for small businesses ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. EDT.

Quebec

- No new updates.

May 28, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- The sharp rise in projected federal spending due to COVID-19 took a pause over the past two weeks and is starting to level off at just above the \$150-billion mark, according to the latest report from the federal Finance Department ([Globe and Mail](#)).
 - On May 15, Mr. Trudeau said the duration of the wage subsidy will be extended by three months until the end of August. Thursday's report said the cost of this extension is "to be determined" based on consultations with employers.

U.S. Federal

- The Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued an alert listing steps employers can follow to implement social distancing in the workplace and to help protect workers from exposure to the coronavirus ([News Release](#)).
- Small Business Administration, in consultation with the Treasury Department, announced that it is setting aside \$10 billion of Round 2 funding for the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) to be lent exclusively by Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- The Government is working to support in-person court appearances; the ministry is in the process of meeting with stakeholders, including judges, counsel, court managers and others, to make recommendations and implement changes necessary to keep the public safe when attending court ([News Release](#)).
- [Order in Council No. 265](#) amending the Petroleum and Natural Gas Drilling Licence and Lease Regulation was issued (related to Continuations in relation to COVID-19 emergency).

Ontario

- To further protect seniors and staff in long-term care homes, the Ontario government announced that it is extending the mandate of the Incident Management System Long-Term Care Table ([News Release](#)).
 - This table is composed of health care professionals who make immediate decisions to deal with issues related to staffing levels, infection management and resources during the COVID-19 outbreak.
- 26,866 confirmed cases, an increase of 383 since yesterday, 34 deaths.

Quebec

- The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Quebec, Ms. Sonia LeBel, confirms that from June 1, 2020, judicial activities will gradually resume in Quebec courthouses. This recovery will be done in compliance with the sanitary rules of the Department of Public Health and by making room for information technology ([News Release](#)).
- Ministerial Order no. 2020-039 and Orders in Council No. 543-2020, 544- 2020 and 566-2020 have now been added to the May 28th [Gazette Officielle du Québec](#), also:
 - [Ministerial Order no. 2020-4273](#) related to format of pleadings filed in technological media (*Code of Civil Procedure*).
 - [O.C. 551-2020](#) Rules of procedure of the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement applying temporarily for the period during which a public health emergency is declared to protect the health of the population (made under the *Environmental Quality and Natural Heritage Conservation Act*).
- 49,702 confirmed cases, an increase of 563 since yesterday, 74 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- High-level event on financing solutions related to COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - Convened by the Prime Minister of Canada, H.E. Mr. Justin Trudeau, the Prime Minister of Jamaica, H.E. Mr. Andrew Holness and UN Secretary-General António Guterres, the virtual event aims to advance concrete solutions to the development emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

U.S. Federal

- The NCUA Board is temporarily modifying certain regulatory requirements to help ensure that federally insured credit unions (FICUs) remain operational and liquid during the COVID-19 crisis ([Rule](#)).

Alberta

- 6,926 confirmed cases, an increase of 25 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

British Columbia

- 2,144 confirmed cases, an increase of 9 since yesterday, 1 death.

Ontario

- More health providers can reopen including dentists, optometrists and massage therapists ([iheartradio](#) – source includes the full list of services affected; Order is forthcoming).
 - A spokeswoman for Health Minister Christine Elliott said while the order takes effect immediately, that does not mean that all health services will be available on May 27, 2020.
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Christine Elliott and Minister of Long-Term Care Merrilee Fullerton to make an announcement at 1 p.m. EDT.

Quebec

- Premier Legault announced Quebec will launch a major recruitment campaign to fill CHSLD positions ([News Release](#)).
- The following Orders were issued:
 - [Order in Council no. 544-2020](#) renewal of the public health emergency until June 3, 2020.
 - [Order in Council no. 566-2020](#) related to providing educational support services and the previously announced restrictions being lifted.

May 27, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Health Canada announces another step to accelerate access to health products for COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - To accelerate efforts the Minister of Health has authorized changes for a more flexible process for clinical trials.

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Premier Jason Kenney says targeted approach needed to prevent COVID-19 resurgence ([Globe and Mail](#)).

British Columbia

- The state of emergency has been extended to June 9, 2020 ([News Release](#) and [Ministerial Order No. M073](#)).
- B.C.'s elected officials will return to the provincial legislature June 22, 2020 ([CBC](#)).

Ontario

- The Ontario government is taking additional immediate action at high-risk long-term care homes, following the disturbing allegations outlined by the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) ([News Release](#)).
- The Ministry of Long-Term Care has started the process of appointing temporary management at Eatonville Care Centre, Hawthorne Place Care Centre, Altamont Care Community, Orchard Villa and Camilla Care Community; it has also deployed long-term care inspection teams to conduct comprehensive, detailed inspections at high-risk long-term care homes over the next 21 days.
- The recently announced independent commission into Ontario's long-term care system will now begin its work in July 2020.
- 26,483 confirmed cases, an increase of 292 since yesterday, 32 deaths.

Quebec

- As of June 1, 2020, Quebecers will have access to campsites, marinas and certain types of tourist accommodation, subject to the application of the principles of physical distancing and all the recommendations of the public health authorities ([News Release](#)).
- With the upcoming reopening of accommodation and campgrounds, the Commission for Standards, Equity, Health and Safety at Work (CNESST) is making tools available to specifically support these sectors in their management of occupational health and safety in the context of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- The Gouvernement du Québec has made public the report from the Canadian Armed Forces, resulting from their presence in the long-term care facilities (CHSLD's). To read it, please consult the document [Observations sur les centres d'hébergement de soins longue durée](#) (in French only).
- 49,139 confirmed cases, an increase of 541 since yesterday, 89 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Action Committee on Court Operations in Response to COVID-19 Approves Initial Guidance Documents ([News Release](#)).
 - The Action Committee has approved and released the Committee's [terms of reference, core principles and perspectives](#) to be considered for court operations in response to COVID-19 and initial [orienting principles on safe and accessible courts](#).
- Parliamentary budget officer estimates COVID-19 rent aid for businesses and landlords could cost C\$520-million this fiscal year ([Globe and Mail](#) and [PBO Report](#)).
- The following Orders / Regulations have now been added to the May 27, 2020, *Canada Gazette* Part II.
 - [S.O.R./2020-105](#) Canada Emergency Student Benefit Regulations (made under the *Canada Emergency Student Benefit Act*).
 - [S.O.R./2020-101](#) Certain Goods Remission Order (COVID-19) (made under the *Customs Tariff*).
 - [S.O.R./2020-106](#) Regulations Amending the Income Tax Regulations (COVID-19 — Deemed Remittance) (made under the *Income Tax Act*).
 - [S.O.R./2020-107](#) Regulations Amending the Income Tax Regulations (COVID-19 — Eligible Entities) (made under the *Income Tax Act*).
- More than half of Canada's national parks to reopen to day-use visitors on June 1, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. EDT.

U.S. Federal

- The Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has launched a [webpage](#) with coronavirus-related guidance for construction employers and workers. The guidance includes recommended actions to reduce the risk of exposure to the coronavirus ([News Release](#)).
- New York Governor Andrew Cuomo will press President Trump to invest in the nation's roads, bridges and rails during a White House meeting today ([Reuters](#)).
- Antibody tests used to determine if people have been infected in the past with COVID-19 might be wrong up to half the time, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said ([CTV](#)).

Alberta

- 6,901 confirmed cases, an increase of 22 since yesterday, 1 death.

British Columbia

- 2,122 confirmed cases, an increase of 11 since yesterday.

Ontario

- The government is extending emergency orders that have been put in place to-date under s.7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until June 9, 2020 ([News Release](#) and Order: [O.Reg. 226/20](#)).
- COVID-19 in Ontario is now primarily a Toronto-area problem, figures show; More than 76 per cent of province's new infections are in the GTA, CBC News analysis finds ([CBC](#)).
- Financial Services Regulatory Authority of Ontario (FSRA) Announced New Measures to Support Pension Plans during Current Period of Disruption — [guidance](#) was issued May 22, 2020 ([News Release](#)).

Quebec

- Quebec to release Canadian military report into conditions at long-term care facilities today ([CTV](#)).

May 26, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- On May 22, 2020, the Canada Revenue Agency released guidance on residency, permanent establishment, cross-border employment income and other international issues arising during the COVID-19 ([Guidance](#)).
- Federal deficit likely now at C\$260-billion due to COVID-19, parliamentary budget officer says ([Toronto Star](#)).
- The Department of National Defence announced the first of a series of calls for innovations aimed at addressing some of the key challenges Canada is facing ([News Release](#)). With an initial commitment of C\$15-million, the first three challenges focus on:
 - Viable and effective processes and methods for safely and rapidly decontaminating enclosed work environments (e.g., buildings and modes of transportation) containing sensitive equipment

- Innovative material and designs to aid in decontamination of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), operational clothing and equipment for personnel responding to events involving biological hazards
- Data gathering solutions to support the early detection and community-based monitoring of outbreaks of contagious diseases
- The Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, announced an investment of up to C\$9.2-million to enhance the Youth Employment and Skills Program (YESP) and fund up to 700 new positions for youth in the agriculture industry ([News Release](#)).

U.S. Federal

- U.S. legislation introduced today would create a taxpayer-backed insurance program to protect businesses from revenue losses during future pandemics and require insurers to pay a slice of the claims ([Reuters](#)).
 - [H.R.6983](#) – To establish a Pandemic Risk Reinsurance Program, and for other purposes.
- White House economic adviser Larry Kudlow said that President Donald Trump’s administration is looking carefully at a potential “back to work bonus” to encourage Americans who had been laid off as the coronavirus pandemic spread to return to work ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta members of the legislative assembly will return to the legislature May 27, 2020 ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- The Ontario government outlined key findings from the Canadian Armed Forces report on the five long-term care homes at which the military has been assisting ([News Release](#)).
 - The report details serious concerns around infection prevention, safety, staffing and level of care. The report also indicates that these five homes are beginning to stabilize with the support of the armed forces.
- 26,191 confirmed cases, an increase of 287 since yesterday, 21 deaths.

Quebec

- [Reopening and maintaining economic activities \(COVID-19\) Resource](#) – The sectors of activity subject to reopening are presented on this page. The businesses that will be added during subsequent phases will be announced in the coming weeks.
- The reopening of shopping centers—outside the metropolitan community of Montreal—will occur in two phases; merchants who operate establishments inside shopping centers will be able to reopen their doors in accordance with the Act respecting hours and days of admission to commercial establishments. However, restaurant counters will be open for take-out only, since the restaurant areas cannot be used by customers. ([News Release](#)).
 - In addition, shopping centers and businesses will have to implement the prevention measures recommended by public health and occupational health and safety specialists.
- The COVID-19 crisis and seniors' residences: the Québec Ombudsman will investigate ([News Release](#)).

- The purpose of the Québec Ombudsman's systemic investigation is to shed light on the government's and the health network's response to the COVID-19 crisis in residences for seniors. The investigation will make it possible to identify:
 - The required improvements in residences for seniors based on the events of the crisis and known pre-pandemic shortcomings;
 - The measures to put in place to better handle future pandemics or any other similar crisis.
- 48,598 confirmed cases, an increase of 614 since yesterday, 70 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- The federal government will update Canadians today on the results of procuring personal protective equipment (PPE) ([Globe and Mail](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. ET.

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- As of July 1, 2020, businesses and non-Alberta Health Service organizations will be required to access PPE directly through suppliers ([Update](#)).
 - [Alberta Biz Connect](#) can help organizations and businesses source their own PPE supply.
- 6,879 confirmed cases, an increase of 19 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- B.C. ferries to resume service between Nanaimo and Vancouver with four round-trip sailings every day starting June 3, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- 2,530 confirmed cases, an increase of 12 since yesterday, 4 deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Deputy Premier and Minister of Health Christine Elliott, Minister of Long-Term Care Merrilee Fullerton and Solicitor General Sylvia Jones to make an announcement at 1:30 p.m. EDT.

Quebec

- Premier Legault announced that shopping centers will be able to reopen outside the Montréal Metropolitan Community (CMM) on June 1, 2020 ([News Release](#) and updated [Deconfinement Plan](#)).
 - Several other sectors will be the subject of a reopening announcements in the coming weeks. The deployment of the deconfinement plan is conditional on transmission rates.
 - Legault gave examples of sectors that will soon reopen: campsites, places of worship, restaurants, bars, gyms, professional sports and hotels.

May 25, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says the federal government is talking to the provinces about bringing in 10 days of paid sick leave for workers ([CBC](#)).
- The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) is extending some of the tax return filing deadlines (to September 1, 2020) for corporations and trusts ([News Release](#)).
- Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance now open for applications ([News Release](#)).
- Minister Ng of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade, announced that the Government of Canada will support the launch of a four-week hotline service called the Business Resilience Service ([News Release](#)).
 - This service will help entrepreneurs and small business owners in need of financial planning advice, particularly those who may not have access to an accountant. The service will also be open to not-for-profit organizations and charities.

U.S. Federal

- No new updates.

Alberta

- Premier Jason Kenney said the government has ordered 40-million masks and will soon announce a distribution plan for them ([CBC](#)).
- New tool available for commercial rent feedback ([News Release](#)).
 - Survey results will give government further insight into the types of issues businesses and landlords are experiencing and whether they have been able to access available supports.
- The government is providing C\$26-million to support 82 new capital maintenance and renewal projects for seniors housing facilities ([News Release](#)).
 - These projects, taking place in communities across the province, will focus on the health and safety of residents, help keep units open and contribute to the government's ring of defence around seniors.

British Columbia

- 59 B.C. community destination marketing organizations (DMOs) severely impacted by COVID-19 travel restrictions will be supported with a C\$10-million grant from the Province ([News Release](#)).
- [Ministerial Order No. M168](#) Electronic Attendance at UBCM Convention (COVID-19) Order was issued.
- As of May 25, 2020, the Discover Camping reservation system is back online to accept new reservations. On June 1, 2020, additional parks will reopen for day-use activities. Playgrounds, halls and picnic shelters remain closed in all provincial parks. The remaining parks that attract the largest crowds will only reopen when it is safe to do so ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- Health Minister Christine Elliott said the province had been considering allowing groups of more than five people to gather in the near future, but those plans have temporarily been put aside ([CBC](#)).

- Premier Ford remarked that companies have the right to ask you to slip on a face covering or seek products and services elsewhere—"any business has the right to refuse anyone" ([Toronto Star](#)).
- The Ministry of Long-Term Care has issued Mandatory Management Orders appointing local hospitals to temporarily manage two long-term care homes for 90 days ([News Release](#)).
- Volunteers and Small Businesses Step Up to Help Those in Need; More than 6,500 Ontarians offer to deliver food, run errands and connect with seniors and people with disabilities during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 25,904 confirmed cases, an increase of 404 since yesterday, 29 deaths.

Quebec

- 47,984 confirmed cases, an increase of 573 since yesterday, 85 deaths.

Nunavut

- Nunavut has released its [reopening plan](#).

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau is expected to talk about the commercial rent relief program today as well as how the rest of the House of Commons spring session will be structured ([CTV](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. EDT.

U.S. Federal

- [Proclamation](#) on Suspension of Entry as Immigrants and Nonimmigrants of Certain Additional Persons Who Pose a Risk of Transmitting Novel Coronavirus (related to the Federative Republic of Brazil being added).

Alberta

- 6,860 confirmed cases, an increase of 92 since Friday, 3 deaths.

British Columbia

- Dr. Bonnie Henry says she strongly encourages the federal government to use its resources to monitor international travellers entering the province instead of providing any help with contact tracing ([Globe and Mail](#)).
- 2,517 confirmed cases, an increase of 38 since Friday, 5 deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Ford made a public plea yesterday, asking people to "please go get a test" — even if they are asymptomatic — after the province fell short of its testing target for the seventh day in a row ([CBC](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Prabmeet Sarkaria, Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction, and Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. EDT.
- 25,500 confirmed cases, an increase of 872 since Friday, 48 deaths.

Quebec

- The Minister of Labor, Employment and Social Solidarity and Minister responsible for the Mauricie region, in collaboration with the Standards, Equity, Health and Safety Commission Work (CNESST), announces the immediate establishment of more than 1,000 prevention officers ([News Release](#)).
- Teams will be deployed throughout Quebec, particularly in Montreal. They will aim to inform and educate employers and workers on the health standards in the workplace to be implemented to reduce and control the spread of COVID-19.
- [Ministerial Order No. 2020-039](#) related to expanded authorizations given to midwives; for example, to perform the COVID-19 screening test.
- 47,411 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,270 since Friday, 119 deaths.

May 18 - May 22

May 22, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau urges provinces to seek federal help with COVID-19 testing, tracing and data-sharing ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Trudeau offered few specifics when announcing measures to support national testing and contact-tracing efforts but said such measures would be essential to control the pandemic now and in the future.
 - The government hopes to recommend a smartphone app next month that could play a part in the contact-tracing efforts.
- Conservatives proposing motion to declare Parliament an essential service, Scheer says ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The Government of Canada announces online tool, [Find financial help during COVID-19](#), to assist Canadians in accessing financial support ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. plans to have the massive coronavirus vaccine-testing effort meet the year-end deadline ([Reuters](#)).
- The USDA delivers relief to America's farmers and ranchers impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- Calgary and Brooks to relaunch more businesses; a significant decline in the number of active cases of COVID-19 in Calgary and Brooks means both cities can reopen more businesses starting May 25 ([News Release](#)).
 - Starting May 25, hairstyling and barbershops will be permitted to reopen in Calgary and Brooks, and cafés, restaurants, pubs and bars can reopen for table service at 50 per cent capacity. This is in addition to the reopening of limited businesses and activities in these cities on May 14.

- Starting May 25, voluntary testing will be available in long-term-care and level-four designated supportive living facilities, and Calgarians will be able to book COVID-19 tests online ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- The government has taken action to support the province's hospitality sector by temporarily authorizing the expansion of service areas, such as patios, to support physical distancing requirements and industry recovery during the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#) and [Order in Council No. 256](#) amending the Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation).

Ontario

- 24,628 confirmed cases, an increase of 441 since yesterday, including 28 deaths.

Quebec

- The Minister of Culture and Communications, Nathalie Roy, announced that museum institutions, public libraries and movie theatres will be able to reopen to the public everywhere in Quebec as of May 29 ([News Release](#)).
 - The Commission for Standards, Equity, Health and Safety at Work (CNESST) is making specific tools available to specifically support employers, workers in museums and libraries in their management of occupational health and safety in the context of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- The Grande Bibliothèque, the 10 national archives centres and BAnQ Rosemont-La Petite-Patrie will reopen by July 2 ([News Release](#)).
- [Order in Council no. 543-2020](#) – Related to changes to persons allowed to assemble (now a maximum of 10).
- 46,141 confirmed cases, an increase of 646 since yesterday, including 65 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The following orders/regulations were issued:
 - [P.C. 2020-0352](#) – Order authorizing the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food to enter into an agreement with each province and provide federal contributions to assist livestock producers with the extraordinary costs arising from the impacts of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) (made under the *Farm Income Protection Act*).
 - [S.I./2020-037](#) – Order remitting the Part I licence fees paid or payable by all licensees under paragraph 3(a) of the Broadcasting License Fee Regulations, 1997, in respect of the fiscal year 2020-2021 so that they are better positioned to deal with the COVID-19 emergency (made under the *Financial Administration Act*).
 - [S.O.R./2020-0111](#) – *Regulations Amending the Employment Insurance Regulations* (related to expanding the time period in which the extra weeks are made available to eligible seasonal claimants under the Pilot Project No. 21).
 - [P.C. 2020-0370](#) – Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States) to continue restricting entry into Canada from the United States and extend the effective period until June 21, 2020, to continue to protect Canadians from the introduction of COVID-19 from other countries (made under the *Quarantine Act*).
- Prime Minister Trudeau to update on COVID-19 measures after talking testing with premiers yesterday evening ([CTV](#)).

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 10:30 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. demands that a review of the WHO's handling of the pandemic start now and seeks reforms ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- 6,768 confirmed cases, an increase of 33 since yesterday, including four deaths.

British Columbia

- B.C. closes provincial campsites to non-residents this summer ([CBC](#)).
- 2,479 confirmed cases, an increase of 12 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- No new updates.

May 21, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau offering provinces and territories help to "scale up" testing and contact tracing ([CBC](#)).
- The Prime Minister suggested Ottawa is willing to step up with financial support to get things going.
- The Government of Canada announced C\$305-million for a new, distinctions-based Indigenous Community Support Fund to address immediate needs in Indigenous communities and help them respond to COVID-19. The fund included C\$15-million in support for Indigenous organizations that provide services to Indigenous Peoples living in urban centres and off reserve ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump says he may support another coronavirus stimulus bill ([News Release](#)).
- The USDA to provide US\$1-billion in loan guarantees for rural businesses and agricultural producers ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- The Alberta Energy Regulator suspends environmental monitoring for the oil patch due to the COVID-19 pandemic ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - [Conditions regarding monitoring in response to COVID-19](#).

British Columbia

- The following orders were issued:
 - [Ministerial Order No. 166](#) – Encampment Health and Safety (COVID-19) Victoria Enforcement Order.
 - [Ministerial Order No. 167](#) – Electronic Attendance at Statutory Meetings (COVID-19) Order.

Ontario

- The government announces first phase of research projects to fight COVID-19 ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
 - These projects, part of the government's C\$20-million Ontario COVID-19 Rapid Research Fund, focus on areas of research such as vaccine development, diagnostics, drug trials and development, and social sciences.
- 24,187 confirmed cases, an increase of 413 since yesterday, including 31 deaths.

Quebec

- The Government of Quebec announces the opening of day camps in all regions starting June 22 ([News Release](#)).
 - With the view of reopening day camps from June 22, the Commission for Standards, Equity, Health and Safety at Work (CNESST) is making tools available to specifically support actors in this sector in their management of occupational health and safety in the context of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- Ministerial Orders 2020-037 to 2020-038; Orders in Council 530-2020 to 531-2020 and Orders in Council 539-2020 to 540-2020 have now been added to the May 21 [Gazette Officielle du Québec](#).
- 44,197 confirmed cases, an increase of 578 since yesterday, including 71 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) published two blanket orders that provide investment funds and non-investment fund issuers with temporary relief from certain regulatory filings and delivery obligations, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- Ottawa to announce funding for off-reserve Indigenous People ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- The Trump administration's Operation Warp Speed accelerates AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine to be available beginning in October ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- 6,735 confirmed cases, an increase of 19 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- 2,467 confirmed cases, an increase of 21 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Ross Romano, Minister of Colleges and Universities, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- The following orders were issued:
 - [Order in Council No. 531-2020](#) – The public health emergency has been renewed until May 27, 2020.
 - [Order in Council No. 539-2020](#) – Related to the limit applicable to the number of employees on the sites of manufacturing enterprises and activities carried on in work environments (retail businesses in Montreal).
 - [Order in Council No. 540-2020](#) – Related to measures being lifted for applicable to students.

May 20, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau announced that application documents and updated criteria for Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) for small businesses are now available; applications will be accepted through the [Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation website](#) beginning on May 25 ([News Release](#) and the [Order](#) that was included in this morning's digest).
 - This program will provide forgivable loans to eligible commercial property owners who, in turn, will give a rent reduction of at least 75 per cent for April and May (retroactive) and June to their small business tenants.
- Ottawa to seek equity or cash from companies applying for new COVID-19 loan program ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The following regulations were issued this afternoon (made under the *Income Tax Act*):
 - [S.O.R./2020-0107](#) – Regulations Amending the Income Tax Regulations (COVID-19 – Eligible Entities)
 - [S.O.R./2020-0106](#) – Regulations Amending the Income Tax Regulations (COVID-19 – Deemed Remittance)
- The Public Health Agency of Canada now recommends wearing [non-medical masks and face coverings](#) ([CBC](#)).
- Government of Canada announces funding to support organizations accelerating action on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Canada ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The USDA and FDA strengthen the U.S. food supply chain protections during the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- The U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division (WHD) today announced a [final rule](#) that allows employers to offer bonuses or other incentive-based pay to employees whose hours vary from week to week ([News Release](#)).

- President Trump expresses opposition to extending unemployment benefits enacted in response to the pandemic ([The Washington Post](#)).
- The federal financial institution regulatory agencies today issued [principles](#) for offering small-dollar loans in a responsible manner to meet the short-term credit needs of financial institutions' customers ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- Starting today, the government is enacting the strongest public health measures in the country for international travellers to prevent the spread of travel-related COVID-19 cases ([News Release](#)).
 - During the first phase, travellers arriving at the Calgary and Edmonton international airports from outside Canada will be required to pass through a provincial checkpoint where they will need to complete an [Alberta isolation plan](#).
 - Travellers will also undergo a thermal scan to check for elevated body temperature.
- Stimulus plan boosts school upkeep and renewal; an unprecedented investment in school maintenance and renewal projects will create jobs and support Alberta's economic recovery ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- Remote execution of legal documents allowed during pandemic ([Information Bulletin](#) related to the orders in this morning's digest).

Ontario

- [Bill 191](#), *Workplace Safety and Insurance Amendment Act (Presumption Respecting COVID-19)*, 2020 was tabled yesterday; amendments proposed to the *Workplace Safety and Insurance Act*, 1997.
- Face coverings now recommended when physical distancing is a challenge; the Ministry of Health released specific recommendations on how to choose, wear and care for appropriate face coverings used in public where physical distancing is not possible ([News Release](#) and [face mask guidance](#)).
 - To assist provincial transit agencies, the Ministry of Health is also recommending the following measures be put in place:
 - Physical distancing of at least two metres by admitting fewer passengers and using physical markers between seats
 - The use of face coverings, particularly when physical distancing is not feasible
 - Ensuring the availability of alcohol-based hand rub upon entering and exiting the vehicle
 - Implementing engineering controls like plexiglass windows between drivers and passengers
 - Enhanced cleaning, particularly of high-touch surfaces
- Ontario reduces financial barriers to post-secondary education; student Assistance applications open for 2020-21 school year ([News Release](#)).
- 23,774 confirmed cases, an increase of 390 since yesterday, including 43 deaths.

Quebec

- Outdoor gatherings of 10 people or fewer now allowed, under certain conditions ([News Release](#)).
- The Minister of Health and Social Services and the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity announced that private health care as well as personal care and esthetic services will be allowed to open as of June 1 ([News Release](#)).

- This includes dental care, optometry, physiotherapy, osteopathy, and hairdressing and aesthetic services.
- With a view to the gradual reopening of the workplaces of personal care and aesthetic, therapeutic and oral health businesses, the Commission des normes, de l'assurance, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail (CNESST) is making available specific tools to support these sectors in their management of occupational health and safety ([News Release](#)).
- 44,775 confirmed cases, an increase of 578 since yesterday, including 71 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- A new government support program for large employers (Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility) is open for applications ([News Release](#)).
 - Additional information on the application process is available on the [CDEV website](#).
- [PC Number: 2020-0310](#) – Order authorizing the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation to exercise or perform certain duties, powers and functions (made under the *Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation Act*).
- Farmers to directly benefit from changes to the Canada Emergency Business Account ([Statement](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- The CDC releases more [guidelines](#) for reopening schools and businesses ([New York Times](#)).
- The states step up reopenings, hoping to limit economic damage ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
- The U.S. Treasury is ready to back fed-lending programs, Mnuchin says ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
- [Executive Order](#) on Regulatory Relief to Support Economic Recovery.

Alberta

- A provincial investment of more than C\$170-million will help keep residents and staff in long-term care, designated supportive living facilities and seniors lodges safe from COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 6,716 confirmed cases, an increase of 33 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- The following orders were issued:
- [Ministerial Order No. M161](#) – Electronic Witnessing of Wills (COVID-19) Order.
- [Ministerial Order No. M162](#) – Electronic Witnessing of Enduring Powers of Attorney and Representation Agreements (COVID-19) Order.
- 2,446 confirmed cases, an increase of two since yesterday, including three deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- [Draft regulations](#) on childcare services provided at school were published in the May 20 [Gazette Officielle du Québec](#) as well as:
 - [T.B. 222423](#) – Regulation to amend the *Regulation respecting the designation of classes of employees and the determination of special provisions applicable to employees of the Institut Philippe-Pinel*.
- [Order in Council no. 530-2020](#) – Related to restrictions lifted for work environments that offer outdoor, recreational or individual sports activities to the public, contact-free, conducted outside and in an unstructured manner.

May 19, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Canada-U.S. border will stay closed to non-essential travel until June 21, Trudeau says ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The Government of Canada shares [draft legislative proposals](#) to address issues relating to legislative time limits and deadlines ([News Release](#)).
 - [Explanatory Note](#) – The draft legislative proposals would suspend certain time limits and enable federal ministers to extend or suspend other time limits included in federal legislation to:
 - Ensure that Canadians/Canadian businesses are able to meet regulatory time limits and deadlines found in federal legislation, such as some key deadlines found in the *Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act* and in regulations made under the *Canada Labour Code*.
 - Protect Canadians' rights and access to justice in the context of civil legal proceedings before the courts, by ensuring that individuals are not prevented from asserting their rights for having missed a time limit or deadline during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Prime Minister Trudeau announced an expansion to the eligibility criteria for the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) to include many owner-operated small businesses ([News Release](#)).
 - The program will now be available to a greater number of businesses that are sole proprietors receiving income directly from their businesses, businesses that rely on contractors, and family-owned corporations that pay employees through dividends rather than payroll.
 - To qualify under the expanded eligibility criteria, applicants with payroll lower than C\$20,000 would need:
 - A business operating account at a participating financial institution.
 - A Canada Revenue Agency business number and to have filed a 2018 or 2019 tax return.
 - Eligible non-deferrable expenses between C\$40,000 and C\$1.5-million. Eligible non-deferrable expenses could include costs such as rent, property taxes, utilities and insurance.
 - More details, including the launch date for applications under the new criteria, will follow in the days to come.

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump said the U.S. should consider “terminating” trade deals that obligate the country to import cattle; he didn’t specify which trade deals he’s eyeing ([Bloomberg](#)).

- The Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has adopted revised policies for enforcing OSHA's requirements with respect to coronavirus as economies reopen in states throughout the country ([News Release](#)).
- The Department of Labor released updated resources for employers, employees and states to prevent fraud or misuse in the unemployment insurance system, including the new unemployment insurance programs under the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act* ([News Release](#)).
- The Department of Labor today announced a [final rule](#) to provide greater simplicity and flexibility to retail industry employers ([News Release](#)).
 - *Provisions in the Fair Labor Standards Act* allow employers in retail and service industries to exempt certain employees paid primarily on a commission basis from overtime.
- Provisions in the *Fair Labor Standards Act* allow employers in retail and service industries to exempt certain employees paid primarily on a commission basis from overtime.
- The Department of Labor's OSHA announced the availability of US\$11.5-million in Susan Harwood Training Grants for non-profit organizations, including community and faith-based organizations, employer associations, labour unions, joint labour/management associations, Indian tribes, and colleges and universities ([News Release](#)).
- The U.S. Department of Agriculture announces details of direct assistance to farmers through the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program ([News Release](#)).
- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and industry partners expand U.S.-based pharmaceutical manufacturing for COVID-19 response ([News Release](#)).
- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has authorized an at-home sample collection kit that can then be sent to specified laboratories for COVID-19 diagnostic testing ([News Release](#)).
- The Trump administration announced framework and leadership for "Operation Warp Speed" on Friday ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- The government is providing new supports for hotels and other lodging providers that allow them to keep tourism levy amounts collected between March 1 and December 31, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
 - This measure will free up between C\$16-million and C\$27-million in additional cash flow for the hospitality sector

British Columbia

- Health and social service workers delivering in-person, front-line care to some of B.C.'s most vulnerable people will receive a financial boost through temporary COVID-19 pandemic pay ([News Release](#) – Backgrounder is included just below the news release).
 - Eligible front-line workers will receive temporary pandemic pay, a lump-sum payment of about C\$4 per hour for a 16-week period, starting on March 15, 2020. Eligible workers will receive the payment directly through their employer and do not need to apply.

Ontario

- All emergency orders currently in force have been extended until May 29, 2020 ([News Release](#) and Order [O.Reg. 220/20](#)).
- Premier Ford announced schools will not be reopening; online learning will continue for the rest of the 2019-2020 school year, and in-person classes will not resume until after the summer break ([News Release](#)).
- Day camps will require local health officer approval, possibility of opening in July/August.

- Childcare to be maintained for essential workers; reopening is being considered with very strict guidelines, but no date was given (possibly when we move into Phase 2).
- Full plan on how schools will reopen will be unveiled by the end of June.
- The following orders/regulations were added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 221/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Closure of Establishments (related to public libraries curb side pick-up/delivery).
 - [O.Reg. 222/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Organized Public Events, Certain Gatherings (related to religious ceremonies).
 - [O.Reg. 223/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Closure of Places of Non-Essential Businesses (related to the reopening of businesses that was announced last week).
 - [O.Reg. 224/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Closure of Outdoor Recreational Amenities.
- The Ontario government is working with Medical Innovation Xchange (MIX), Canada's first industry-led hub for med-tech start-ups, to provide non-medical manufacturing companies free support as they retool to provide essential supplies and equipment to health-care facilities during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 23,384 confirmed cases, an increase of 427 since yesterday, including 15 deaths.

Quebec

- Premier Legault reaffirmed his desire to collaborate with the various union centres in order to improve the working conditions of employees in the health network and ensure that vacant positions are filled with qualified personnel ([News Release](#)).
- 44,197 confirmed cases, an increase of 570 since yesterday, including 51 deaths

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- [Bill C-16](#), *An Act to amend the Canadian Dairy Commission Act* received royal assent Friday evening ([News Release](#)).
- The Honourable Mary Ng, Minister of Small Business, Export Promotion and International Trade, announces more support for women entrepreneurs amid COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - The Government of Canada will provide C\$15-million in additional funding to support women entrepreneurs through the Women Entrepreneurship Strategy (WES). This money will go directly to select organizations that are currently WES Ecosystem Fund recipients and will help women entrepreneurs through the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The federal government has been quietly probing how to provide provinces with more money annually for childcare ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Prime Minister Trudeau announced that the Canada Child Benefit (CCB) will be increased once again in July to help families keep up with the costs of living and raising their children ([News Release](#)).
- The Government of Canada supports over 500 women's shelters and sexual assault centres during the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- Steven Mnuchin and Jerome Powell will face the Senate over emergency lending programs ([New York Times](#)).
 - Yesterday, a [report](#) from the congressional commission overseeing the Federal Reserve and Treasury's efforts pointed out that most of the US\$500-billion that Congress

allocated in March to the Treasury to support businesses and local governments had yet to be used and raised questions about how the rescue programs would work.

- Delegating Authority Under the Defense Production Act to the Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation to Respond to the COVID-19 Outbreak ([Executive Order](#)).
 - Authority delegated under Title III of the act to make loans, make provision for purchases and commitments to purchase and take additional actions to create, maintain, protect, expand and restore the domestic industrial base capabilities, including supply chains within the United States and its territories needed to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak.
- Trump threatens to leave WHO and permanently end funding ([New York Times](#)).

Alberta

- Businesses and locations that are reopening can access a template on alberta.ca/BizConnect to publicly post how employees and patrons are protected from the spread of infection. The timeline to complete this template has been extended from seven to 14 days; completion of this template is voluntary ([News Release](#)).
- The Court of Queen's Bench will extend its limitation of hearings to emergency and urgent matters only to June 26 and the adjournment of criminal jury trials and jury selections to September 8 ([News Release](#)).
- Alberta Transportation is developing a plan to safely resume all road tests while preventing the spread of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 6,683 confirmed cases, an increase of 226 since Friday, including seven deaths.

British Columbia

- [Ministerial Order No. M159](#) – Local Government Finance (COVID-19) Order was issued (related to reserve fund borrowing, extensions of borrowing, deferral of tax and annual reporting).
- 2,444 confirmed cases, an increase of 52 since Friday, including eight deaths.

Ontario

- Ontario's education minister is set to give an update today on the status of schools and childcare services ([CBC](#)).
- Ontario announces independent commission into long-term care; government commits to improving system following COVID-19 outbreak ([News Release](#)).
- [Notice](#) Regarding Media and Public Access to Ontario Court of Justice Proceedings during the COVID-19 Pandemic (revised May 15, 2020).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).
- 22,957 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,035 since Friday, including 79 deaths.

Quebec

- Businesses to reopen on May 25 (retail businesses with an external door) and educational childcare services on June 1 in the greater Montréal area ([News Release](#)).
- Hours and days of admission to commercial establishments: return to normal ([News Release](#)).
- The Commission for Standards, Equity, Health and Safety at Work (CNESST) makes tools available to specifically support workers in this sector in their management of occupational health and safety ([News Release](#)).
 - Measures are also planned for temporary foreign workers (TFW) regarding accommodation and work.
- 43,627 confirmed cases, an increase of 2,207 since Friday, including 195 deaths.

May 11 – May 15

May 15, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Finance Minister Bill Morneau today announced that the Government of Canada will extend the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy by an additional 12 weeks to August 29, 2020. Minister Morneau also announced the approval of regulations to extend eligibility for the CEWS ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
 - The government also intends to propose legislative amendments to ensure that the CEWS continues to meet its objectives. These proposed amendments would:
 - Provide flexibility for employers of existing employees who were not regularly employed in early 2020, such as seasonal employees.
 - Ensure that the CEWS applies appropriately to corporations formed on the amalgamation of two predecessor corporations.
 - Better align the treatment of trusts and corporations for the purpose of determining CEWS eligibility.
- The Minister of National Revenue announced that benefit payments will continue for an additional three months for those who are not able to file their 2019 returns on time ([News Release](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced C\$450-million in funding to help Canada's academic research community during the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- [Bill C-16](#), *An Act to amend the Canadian Dairy Commission Act* received third reading in the Senate today and is awaiting royal assent.
- Canada Summer Jobs start rolling out to keep young people working during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) has announced the publication of updated guidance, including FAQs, regarding the Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation (PEUC) program authorized by the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act* ([News Release](#)).
- The Federal Reserve published its [Financial Stability Report](#) (this report summarizes the Federal Reserve Board's framework for assessing the resilience of the U.S. financial system and presents the Board's current assessment).
- In patchwork restart, parts of New York and other U.S. states reopen ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- Guidance available on public mask use; details on non-medical masks, including when and how to use them and what to consider when making or buying them is available [here](#).

British Columbia

- WorkSafeBC has released industry-specific guidelines and resources for the following sectors ([News Release](#); industry-specific guidance and resources are [available here](#)):
 - Restaurants, cafes and pubs

- Salons and personal services
- Museums, art galleries and libraries, real estate
- Education
- Health services
- Retail
- In-person counselling
- Parks and outdoor spaces
- Office space ([protocols for returning to operation](#))
- The latest intake of the B.C. Agri-Business Planning Program is now open to applications and expanded to include aquaculture and seafood companies to develop COVID-19 business recovery plans ([News Release](#)).
 - Information and application details for B.C. Agri-Business Planning Program is [available here](#).
- K-12 students to have optional in-class instruction on June 1 ([News Release](#)).
 - School districts will determine scheduling for classes and transportation arrangements.

Ontario

- 21,922 confirmed cases, an increase of 341 since yesterday, including 27 deaths.

Quebec

- Premier Legault announced the allocation of a budget of C\$6-million to the various transportation companies of the Metropolitan Community of Montréal for the purchase of masks, intended for users who would not be able to obtain them on their own ([News Release](#)).
- Revenu Québec announces that citizens who will not be able to file their 2019 tax year return before the June 1 deadline will continue to receive payments of certain benefits and certain tax credits to which they are entitled ([News Release](#)).
- Certain highway checkpoints for three regions of Quebec will be removed as of Monday, May 18, as recommended by public health authorities ([News Release](#)).
- 41,420 confirmed cases, an increase of 696 since yesterday, including 50 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is expected to provide details today about extending the federal government's emergency wage subsidy ([CBC](#)).
- The Prime Minister announced new support for Canada's fish harvesters; up to C\$469.4-million in new measures to support Canada's fish harvesters who are economically impacted by the pandemic but cannot access existing federal measures ([News Release](#)). The Government of Canada will:
 - Launch the Fish Harvester Benefit, a program worth up to C\$267.6-million, to help provide income support for this year's fishing seasons to eligible self-employed fish harvesters and sharepersons crew who cannot access the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy.
 - Launch the Fish Harvester Grant, a program worth up to C\$201.8-million, to provide grants to help fish harvesters impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and who are ineligible for the Canada Emergency Business Account or equivalent measures.
 - Propose measures or changes to Employment Insurance (EI) that would allow self-employed fish harvesters and sharepersons to access EI benefits on the basis of insurable earnings from previous seasons (winter and summer claims).

- Ottawa is expected today to announce financial support to prevent the threatened layoffs of up to 15,000 researchers at hospital-based research institutes who, due to a technicality, don't qualify for the wage subsidy ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- The CDC released guidelines for reopening parts of the economy yesterday. Called "decision trees," the one-page flow charts — for workplaces, bars, restaurants, mass transit, childcare centres, summer camps and schools — pose a series of questions about meeting safety measures, having social distancing in place and ongoing monitoring ([Wall Street Journal](#) and [Workplace Guide](#)).
- The FDA probes accuracy issue with rapid COVID-19 test used at thousands of U.S. hospitals and clinics and at the White House ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The Federal Reserve Board issues a [Report](#) on the Economic Well-Being of U.S. Households ([News Release](#)).
- The U.S. House aims to pass US\$3-trillion Democratic coronavirus bill rejected by Republicans ([Reuters](#)).
- President Donald Trump signalled a further deterioration of his relationship with China over the coronavirus outbreak, saying he has no interest in speaking to President Xi Jinping ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

Alberta

- Within a week, Alberta will likely know whether reopening triggers COVID-19 surge ([CBC](#)).
- All workplaces are expected to develop and implement policies and procedures to address COVID-19, including a plan to reduce the risk of transmission among staff and customers ([News Release](#)).
- The completed plan must be posted in places of business or online within seven days of the public being able to attend the business.
- 6,457 confirmed cases, an increase of 50 since yesterday, including one death.

British Columbia

- 2,392 confirmed cases, an increase of 15 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Ontario

- [O.Reg. 219/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) – Closure of Places of Non-Essential Businesses (related to yesterday's announcement on the May 16 reopening of golf courses, kennels, stables, marinas etc.).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Prabmeet Sarkaria, Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- Ministerial Orders 2020-033 to 2020-035 and the Order in Council renewal of public health emergency have now been added to the May 14 [Gazette Officielle du Québec](#) as well as:
 - [O.C. 522-2020](#) – *Regulation respecting the postponement of the designation and taking office of members of school service centres' boards of directors* (made under the *Education Act*).

May 14, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, on behalf of Farm Credit Canada, announced the launch of a C\$100-million Agriculture and Food Business Solutions Fund to support proven, viable companies through unexpected business disruptions ([News Release](#)).
 - The fund is set up to support a wide range of enterprises in the agribusiness and agri-food sector, including companies involved in primary production, agri-tech, manufacturing, packaging and distribution.
- Starting June 1, 2020, Parks Canada and Environment and Climate Change Canada will gradually resume some operations at selected national parks, national historic sites, national marine conservation areas and national wildlife areas ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
- The Minister of Transport, the Honourable Marc Garneau, introduced new measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission in remote and vulnerable Arctic communities ([News Release](#)).
- As of June 1, 2020, pleasure craft will be prohibited from operating within Canada's Arctic coastal waters (north of the 60th parallel), as well as in the coastal areas of northern Quebec and Labrador.
- These measures will remain in place until at least October 31, 2020.

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump is open to more coronavirus stimulus, but not Democrats' plan ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- Impacts of COVID-19 on ICBC report released ([News Release](#) and [Report](#)).
- [Order in Council No. 242](#) – related to an amendment to the Child Care Subsidy Regulation.

Ontario

- As of this Saturday, private parks, campgrounds, marinas, boat clubs, golf courses and businesses that board animals are allowed to open. As of Tuesday, May 19, Ontario will enter into Stage 1 – the following will be allowed to open ([Detailed List of Stage 1 Openings](#) and [News Release](#)):
 - Retail stores with a street entrance, not in malls; vehicle dealerships and retailers
 - Lift construction limits – all construction to resume
 - Media operations
 - Seasonal venues
 - Individual recreational sports (tennis courts, gun clubs, cycling tracks, horse-riding facilities)
 - Individual sports competitions without spectators
 - Veterinary and animal services (grooming, etc.)
 - Scheduled surgeries, certain health services and counselling services
 - Professional services related to research and development
 - Emissions inspection facilities

- Indoor and outdoor household services
- Maintenance
- Community services (libraries for pick-up or delivery)
 - Additional adjustments/announcements will be made early next week which includes childcare.
 - [Workplace PPE supplier directory](#) launched today to help employers/businesses find PPE suppliers.
 - [Resources to prevent COVID-19 in the workplace](#); sector-specific guidelines and posters to help protect workers, customers and the general public from coronavirus (COVID-19) in Ontario.
- The following orders/regs were added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 216/20](#) – Livestock and Livestock Products Act (related to extension periods).
 - [O.Reg. 218/20](#) – Greenhouse Gas Emissions: Quantification, Reporting and Verification (made under the *Environmental Protection Act*).
- Canada and Ontario take steps to further protect farm workers; funding will help enhance health and safety measures during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - Today's announcement is in addition to the C\$2.25-million investment announced last week to help provincially licensed meat processors implement COVID-19 health and safety measures.
- 21,494 confirmed cases, an increase of 258 since yesterday, including 33 deaths.

Quebec

- Quebec will not reopen schools in Montréal before the end of August and postpones the opening of daycare centres to June 1 ([News Release](#)).
- 2020-2030 Quebec Infrastructure Plan – Nearly C\$3-billion in infrastructure investment outpaced to accelerate the recovery of the economy ([News Release](#)).
- 40,724 confirmed cases, an increase of 793 since yesterday, including 131 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The following orders were issued under the *Financial Administration Act*:
 - [PC 2020-0308](#) – Order declaring that subsections 89(1), (4), and (6) and section 89.1 of the *Financial Administration Act*, which apply only to parent Crown corporations, apply to Canada Enterprise Emergency Funding Corporation as if it were a parent Crown corporation, effective on the day on which Canada Enterprise Emergency Funding Corporation is incorporated.
 - [PC 2020-0307](#) – Order directing Canada Enterprise Emergency Funding Corporation to administer, approve and fund transactions, in accordance with terms and conditions approved by the Minister of Finance, in relation to a credit support program for large Canadian companies in response to the COVID-19 emergency, effective on the day on which Canada Enterprise Emergency Funding Corporation is incorporated.
 - [PC 2020-0306](#) – Order authorizing:
 - Canada Development Investment Corporation to procure the incorporation of Canada Enterprise Emergency Funding Corporation, all the shares of which, on incorporation, would be held by, on behalf of or in trust for the Canada Development Investment Corporation
 - Canada Enterprise Emergency Funding Corporation to acquire shares of any corporation that, on acquisition, would be held by, on behalf of or in trust for Canada Enterprise Emergency Funding Corporation
 - Canada Enterprise Emergency Funding Corporation to sell or otherwise dispose of any of its shares

- Canada Enterprise Emergency Funding Corporation to sell or otherwise dispose of all or substantially all of its assets
- [PC 2020-0305](#) – Order directing Canada Development Investment Corporation to procure the incorporation of a wholly owned subsidiary, to be known as Canada Enterprise Emergency Funding Corporation, and to take such steps as are necessary to facilitate the subsidiary's administration of a credit support program for large Canadian companies in response to the COVID-19 emergency, in accordance with any directive that may be given to that subsidiary.
- The House passed [Bill C-16](#), *An Act to amend the Canadian Dairy Commission Act* yesterday evening. It now moves on to the Senate.
- Ottawa to announce gradual reopening of national parks, historic sites ([CBC](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump said infectious-disease expert Anthony Fauci's warning about the dangers of reopening the economy and schools too quickly is not acceptable ([Reuters](#)).
 - Trump applauded the Wisconsin Supreme Court's decision to strike down a coronavirus lockdown order in his latest move to encourage states to reopen ([Reuters](#)).
- The whistleblower who was ousted as the head of a federal research agency plans to deliver a stark warning to Congress this morning: If the United States does not step up its response to the coronavirus pandemic, Americans will suffer “unprecedented illness and fatalities” ([NYT](#)).

Alberta

- Stage one of Alberta's relaunch strategy begins today as restrictions are gradually lifted, with a more gradual reopening in Calgary and Brooks ([News Release](#)).
 - The following businesses and facilities can start to resume operations today in all areas except the cities of Calgary and Brooks; in Calgary and Brooks, the relaunch will be gradual over 18 days (those marked with * can open in Calgary/Brooks today).
 - Retail businesses, such as clothing, furniture and bookstores; all vendors at farmers markets will also be able to operate*
 - Museums and art galleries*
 - Daycares and out-of-school care with limits on occupancy*
 - Hairstyling and barbershops
 - Cafés, restaurants, pubs and bars will be permitted to reopen for table service only at 50 per cent capacity
 - Day camps, including summer school, will be permitted with limits on occupancy (in Calgary/Brooks, these will be permitted on June 1)
 - Post-secondary institutions will continue to deliver courses; however, there will be more flexibility to include in-person delivery once the existing health order prohibiting in-person classes is lifted
 - Places of worship and funeral services, if they follow specific guidance already online
 - The resumption of some scheduled, non-urgent surgeries will continue gradually*
 - Regulated health professions are permitted to offer services as long as they continue to follow approved guidelines set by their professional colleges*
 - Remote working advised wherever possible, and travel outside the province is not recommended. Albertans are encouraged to download the ABTraceTogether mobile contact tracing app and use it when in public.
 - [Workplace guidance](#) and supports to help businesses and non-profits affected by COVID-19 begin to reopen and resume operations safely.
- 6,407 confirmed cases, an increase of 62 since yesterday, including two deaths.

British Columbia

- 2,376 confirmed cases, an increase of 16 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance; Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade; and Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- The following orders were issued:
 - [Order in Council No. 509](#) – declaring renewal of the public health emergency to May 20, 2020.
 - [Order in Council No. 529](#) – related to the [Act to amend the Nurses Act and other provisions in order to facilitate access to health services](#) that received royal assent on March 17, 2020 – it is ordered that May 13, 2020, be set as the date of coming into force of sections 21, 22, 70 and 89 to 93.
 - Amendments relate to increased autonomy of specialized nurse practitioners ([News Release](#)).

May 13, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Additional support fund now available to businesses and communities affected by the pandemic ([News Release](#)).
 - The new [Regional Relief and Recovery Fund](#) (RRRF) devotes nearly C\$962-million to help more businesses and organizations in sectors such as manufacturing, technology, tourism and others.
 - The funding will be allocated as follows:
 - C\$110-million for Atlantic Canada – [Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency](#) (ACOA)
 - C\$211-million for Quebec – [Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions](#) (CED)
 - C\$34.3-million for Northern Canada – [Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency](#) (CanNor)
 - C\$252.4-million for Southern Ontario – [Federal Economic Development Agency for Southern Ontario](#) (FedDev Ontario)
 - C\$49.5-million for Northern Ontario – [Federal Economic Development Initiative for Northern Ontario](#) (FedNor)
 - C\$304.2-million for Western Canada – [Western Economic Diversification Canada](#) (WD)
- The House tabled [Bill C-16](#), *An Act to amend the Canadian Dairy Commission Act* this afternoon.
 - Summary taken from the Bill: this enactment amends the *Canadian Dairy Commission Act* to increase the maximum total for outstanding amounts of loans made to the Commission by the Minister of Finance and for amounts drawn by the Commission from a line of credit to five hundred million dollars.

- Canada Emergency Student Benefit application period to launch on May 15, 2020 ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
 - CESB provides emergency financial relief to students and recent graduates who are unable to work, or unable to find work, due to reasons related to COVID-19.
 - It is also available for those who are working but not making more than C\$1,000 (before taxes) over the four-week period for which they are applying.

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump to tap ex-Glaxo executive and U.S. general for coronavirus vaccine effort ([Reuters](#)).
- The Trump administration is reviewing an order to extend its virus border restrictions indefinitely ([New York Times](#)).
- Nine states on Wednesday filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for relaxing a range of companies' compliance and monitoring requirements with federal clean air and water laws in response to the coronavirus pandemic, arguing the policy is too broad and not transparent ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta will proceed to the first phase of its relaunch plan tomorrow, Premier Jason Kenney says, though Calgary and Brooks will reopen more slowly than the rest of the province ([CBC](#)).
- Western Economic Diversification Canada launches Regional Relief and Recovery Fund to support local economy ([News Release](#))

British Columbia

- [Order in Council No. 241](#) – declaration of a state of emergency extended to May 26, 2020.
- Western Economic Diversification Canada launches Regional Relief and Recovery Fund to support local economy ([News Release](#))

Ontario

- CBC News obtains draft document showing "stage 1" reopening plan will be announced tomorrow ([CBC](#)).
- Draft shows Premier Doug Ford is ready to announce on Thursday plans to allow the reopening of retail stores that are not in malls, as well as seasonal businesses, pet services, household cleaning and maintenance, and in-person health and counselling services.
- The release also announces "lifting essential workplace limits on construction" and allowing picnics in parks.
- The release says the government "will provide updates on easing restrictions on social cohorting in the coming days." It also says information on school programs, child care and summer learning will be provided next week.
- Ontario making prescription drugs more affordable during COVID-19; province provides relief for Ontarians using the Ontario Drug Benefit Program ([News Release](#)).
 - Effective today, people using the Ontario Drug Benefit Program will not be required to pay any co-payment until July 1, 2020, for any prescription of 30-plus days that is now being dispensed in installments. In addition, existing and new Trillium Drug Program households can apply for an income reassessment to help reduce the financial burden for families during the outbreak.
- [O.Reg. 211/20](#) – General (made under the *Ontario Drug Benefit Act*).
- [O.Reg. 212/20](#) – General (made under the *Ontario Drug Benefit Act*).

- FedDev Ontario launches Regional Relief and Recovery Fund to support local economies ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
- Voluntary redeployment of education workers to fill staffing shortages; Ontario provides further support for seniors and communities during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - Starting later this week, subject to a local agreement of the framework, eligible education sector staff who volunteer will be able to register through an online portal and to be matched with congregate settings that are facing staffing shortages.
- 21,236 confirmed cases, an increase of 329 since yesterday, including 40 deaths.

Quebec

- The Quebec government's plan to reopen the province comes under scrutiny as the legislature resumes sitting ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The CNESST publishes a guide to health standards in the workplace for leisure, sport and outdoor activities with a view to a gradual safe recovery ([News Release](#)).
- Quebec announces a measure of C\$450,000 to help fish companies and ensure the well-being of fish farms ([News Release](#)).
- Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions launches the Regional Relief and Recovery Fund to support local economies ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
- Subject to the application of the principles of social distancing and all the recommendations of Public Health, the Government of Quebec announces the gradual resumption of the recreational practice of certain sports, leisure and outdoor activities that take place in outside starting May 20 ([News Release](#)).
- The exemption relating to the *Regulation respecting the hours of driving and rest of drivers of heavy vehicles* announced on April 6, 2020, will no longer apply from Saturday May 16 ([News Release](#)).
- 39,931 confirmed cases, an increase of 706 since yesterday, including 89 deaths.
- [Chart](#) showing distribution of the number of daily deaths related to the COVID-19 according to their living environment.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The House of Commons reconvenes today to debate legislation to permanently increase the Canadian Dairy Commission's (CDC) borrowing limit to half a billion dollars ([CBC](#)).
 - The bill up for debate amends the *Canadian Dairy Commission Act*, allowing the government to use the Crown corporation's buying power to mitigate unpredictable shifts in domestic milk supply and demand.
- Canada-U.S. border expected to stay closed to non-essential travel to June 21 ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - The sources said Canada asked for a 30-day roll over, and it is almost certain that Washington will agree to the proposal.
- The following have been added to the May 13 [Canada Gazette](#), Part II:
 - [S.O.R./2020-95](#) – Interim Order No. 4 Amending the *Employment Insurance Act* (Employment Insurance Emergency Response Benefit), including the associated Explanatory Note.
 - [S.O.R./2020-92](#) – Regulations Amending the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations (also including the associated Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement).
- Health Canada authorized the first COVID-19 serological test for use in Canada ([Statement](#)).
 - Serological testing will contribute to a better understanding of whether people who have been infected by COVID-19 are immune to the virus.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- Yesterday, the CDC Director Robert Redfield testified before a U.S. Senate committee that the recommendations for reopening would be released “soon” ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Both the CDC document and the White House’s published plan recommend communities reopen in phases as local cases of coronavirus subside. One of many differences, however, is advice for when communities should allow for the resumption of non-essential travel.
- Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell said Congress and the White House will need to spend more money to make sure policymakers’ quick initial response to the coronavirus-induced economic contraction isn’t wasted amid evidence that any recovery will take longer than first thought ([Wall Street Journal](#)).

Alberta

- Progress of legislation:
 - S.A. 2020 c. 7 ([Bill 13](#)), *Emergency Management Amendment Act, 2020 (No. 2)* received royal assent yesterday. In force May 12, 2020; section 11 has effect on March 17, 2020.
 - S.A. 2020 c. U-4 ([Bill 14](#)), *Utility Payment Deferral Program Act* received royal assent yesterday. This act took effect on March 18, 2020, except sections 3, 13 and 27, which will come into force on May 12, 2020.
- 6,345 confirmed cases, an increase of 45 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- 2,360 confirmed cases, an increase of seven since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Ontario takes steps to better protect long-term-care residents and staff during the COVID-19 outbreak ([News Release](#) and Order [O.Reg. 210/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Management of Long-Term Care Homes In Outbreak).
 - Emergency order adopted allowing the province to issue a mandatory management order for a long-term-care home struggling to deal with a COVID-19 outbreak.
 - This order would support the use of rapid, immediate and effective management alternatives to protect residents and staff within a home. The manager could be any person, including a corporation or a hospital.
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- No new updates.

May 12, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Trudeau promises “stronger measures” for screening at Canada-U.S. border ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

- Ottawa will distribute pandemic money now and "clean up" fraudulent claims later, PM says ([CBC](#)).
- The government is announcing, effective immediately, a new, temporary policy that will drastically reduce the time it takes for a temporary foreign worker to start a new job ([News Release](#)).
 - While this policy is in place, a worker who is already in Canada and has secured a new job offer can get approval to start working in their new job, even while their work permit application is being fully processed.
 - [Statement](#) from Minister Bibeau on temporary foreign workers.
- Prime Minister Trudeau announced a series of additional measures to help seniors and provide them with greater financial security in this time of crisis ([News Release](#)). These measures include:
 - Providing additional financial support of C\$2.5-billion for a one-time tax-free payment of C\$300 for seniors eligible for the Old Age Security (OAS) pension, with an additional C\$200 for seniors eligible for the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS).
- Expanding the New Horizons for Seniors Program with an additional investment of C\$20-million.
- Temporarily extending GIS and allowance payments if seniors' 2019 income information has not been assessed.
- Temporary suspension of service at select Canadian border services locations ([News Release](#)).
 - Fact Sheet: COVID-19 – List of CBSA locations that remain open during temporary service suspension at Canadian airports and private boat reporting sites ([Backgrounder](#)).
- Free tax clinics go virtual: Diane Lebouthillier, Minister of National Revenue, announced that virtual clinics will be held on an interim basis to help those that rely on this service ([News Release](#)).
- Minister Gould announced funding for global vaccinations ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- House Democrats propose a US\$3-trillion relief measure that is unlikely to advance in the Republican-led Senate ([New York Times](#)).
 - The proposed bill includes protections for banks that do business with both state-legal cannabis businesses and industry-adjacent businesses.
- Fauci and other top health officials urge more testing before easing lockdowns; at Senate hearing, experts warn of potential for coronavirus surge as states move to reopen ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- Prioritizing funding for front-line non-profits; increased funding to the Community Initiatives Program Operating grant will help front-line non-profits continue caring for vulnerable Albertans ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- New Buy BC e-commerce funding is available to help the province's farmers and food and beverage processors overcome some lost sales during the COVID-19 pandemic by moving their products online ([News Release](#)).
 - The funding is available to B.C. farmers, and food and beverage processors of all sizes.
 - To be eligible, an applicant must have at least two years of business revenues, be licensed to do business in B.C. and be growing or processing one or more products in the province.

Ontario

- The House passed [S.C. 2020 c. 7](#) (Bill 190) *COVID-19 Response and Reforms to Modernize Ontario Act, 2020* this afternoon, which enacts the [Alternative Filing Methods for Business Act, 2020](#) and makes amendments to the:
 - *Business Corporations Act*
 - *Business Names Act*
 - *Commissioners for Taking Affidavits Act*
 - *Condominium Act, 1998*
 - *Co-operative Corporations Act*
 - *Corporations Act*
 - *Corporations Information Act*
 - *Education Act*
 - *Extra-Provincial Corporations Act*
 - *Limited Partnership Act*
 - *Métis Nation of Ontario Secretariat Act, 2015*
 - *Notaries Act*
 - *Not-For-Profit Corporations Act, 2010*
 - *Succession Law Reform Act*
- The Bill will help people conduct business while practising physical distancing by, for example:
 - Enabling corporations to call and hold meetings virtually, as applicable, and extending the time period in which annual meetings must be held in specific circumstances.
 - Allowing designations of a beneficiary to be provided electronically for retirement savings plans, retirement income funds, locked-in retirement accounts, life income funds and tax-free savings accounts.
 - Allowing electronic filing of business registration documents and the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services to accept copies of business registration documents and e-signatures.
 - Allowing for regulations to set out the parameters for remotely commissioning or notarizing a document.
- The Ontario government is extending the Declaration of Emergency under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* to June 2, 2020; the Expenditure Estimates for the 2020-21 fiscal year were also tabled in the Legislature ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario's top doctor not confident about reopening, despite Ford saying first stage coming Thursday ([CBC](#)).
- 20,907 confirmed cases, an increase of 361 since yesterday, including 56 deaths.

Quebec

- The government will invest more than C\$10-million, through the Innovation Program, the Support Program for Research and Innovation Organizations and the Quebec Research Funds, to support related scientific and technological projects with the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Legault "strongly recommends" Quebecers wear masks ([CBC](#)).
- 39,225 confirmed cases, an increase of 756 since yesterday, including 118 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The National Research Council of Canada and CanSino Biologics Inc. announce collaboration to advance vaccine against COVID-19 ([News Release](#) and [The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - The NRC also announced collaboration with USask's VIDO-InterVac to advance development of a vaccine ([News Release](#)).
- Coalition presses Ottawa to provide bailout for Canadian public transit agencies ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

- In an open letter set to be released today, the groups add their voice to growing concerns that the COVID-19 pandemic has slashed transit ridership.
- The 45 signatories include Transport Action Canada, the Hamilton Chamber of Commerce, TTCriders, the Manitoba Federation of Labour, the Better Transit Alliance of Greater Victoria and the Canadian Association of Physicians for the Environment (CAPE).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- Top health officials in the Trump administration, including Dr. Anthony Fauci, will testify in the Senate today on measures to reopen the economy safely ([Reuters](#)).
 - National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Anthony Fauci plans to warn against the risks of reopening the economy too soon.
 - House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is expected to unveil a sweeping coronavirus-response bill, possibly this week, that would likely provide more funding for testing, new state and local government aid and another round of direct payments to people to help them meet their daily living costs.

Alberta

- To support businesses reopening during stage one of Alberta's phased relaunch, the government is launching a [new resource](#) to help them keep their staff and customers safer ([News Release](#)).
- 6,300 confirmed cases, an increase of 47 since yesterday, including two deaths.

British Columbia

- [Order in Council No. 239](#) – amendments made to the Employment and Assistance Regulation and Employment and Assistance for Persons with Disabilities Regulation.
- 2,353 confirmed cases, an increase of 23 since yesterday, including one death.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance; and Paul Calandra, Government House Leader, to hold a media availability at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- [Ministerial Order 2020-035](#) – related to the national and local provisions of the collective agreements applicable in the health and social services network; employment conditions applicable to non-unionized salaried persons.
- Two major Quebec universities, McGill and the University of Montreal, say most classes will be online in the fall semester ([CBC](#)).

May 11, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Increased border traffic likely as Canada and U.S. economies reopen: Freeland ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland says Canada and the U.S. are working on plans to deal with what she calls an inevitable increase in cross-border traffic as economies in both countries emerge from their pandemic-induced comas.

U.S. – Federal

- White House considers more coronavirus aid as jobs picture worsens ([Reuters](#)).
- U.S. next week to start purchasing US\$3-billion worth of farm goods: President Trump ([Reuters](#)).
 - It was unclear whether his statement referred to a US\$19-billion relief plan announced by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in April. The agency said it would buy US\$3-billion worth of agricultural commodities as part of that program.

Alberta

- Government is kick-starting an expanded electronics recycling project that will support job creation, grow the economy and help municipalities divert more reusable material from landfills ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- BC Hydro makes plans as power demand plummets due to COVID-19 pandemic ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- [Ministerial Order No. 152](#) – Encampment Health and Safety (COVID-19) Vancouver Enforcement Order

Ontario

- Ontario's legislature will sit tomorrow and is expected to extend the province's state of emergency to June 2 ([CBC](#)).
 - News on the remaining school year is expected next week.
- The following regulations were added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 209/20](#) – Building Code, related to Division C (made under the *Building Code Act*)
 - [O.Reg. 208/20](#) – General related to alternative procedures (made under the *Child, Youth and Family Services Act, 2017*).
 - [O.Reg. 207/20](#) – General related to alternative procedures and application fees (made under the *Child, Youth and Family Services Act, 2017*).
 - [O.Reg. 206/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Child Care Fees.
 - [O.Reg. 205/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act - Education Sector.
- The Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development and its health and safety association partners have now released over 80 sector-specific health and safety guidelines, including guidelines for curbside pickup and delivery services ([News Release](#)).
- The Ontario government is providing C\$30-million to build a safer and more reliable transportation system that will help keep goods moving and better connect communities across the province ([News Release](#)).
- 20,546 confirmed cases, an increase of 308 since yesterday, including 35 deaths.

Quebec

- The Autorité des marchés financiers (AMF) is increasing the support it provides to various front-line organizations that are dedicated to helping consumers, including seniors ([News Release](#)).

- The AMF is more than doubling, to C\$830,000, the annual amount it is providing to the 37 family economy cooperative associations (Associations coopératives d'économie familiale – ACEFs), Québec's consumer associations and three seniors associations for 2020-2021.
- "We are all concerned about Montreal," Legault says, further delays possible ([CBC](#)).
- The number of screening tests will continue to increase in Quebec ([News Release](#)).
- Quebec cautiously reopens some elementary schools and daycares after coronavirus shutdowns ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The Minister of the Environment and the Fight Against Climate Change, RECYC-QUÉBEC, the retailers, convenience stores and the brewers agreed on a plan for the gradual resumption of deposit activities ([News Release](#)).
- 38,469 confirmed cases, an increase 748 since yesterday, including 85 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- This morning, the Prime Minister announced additional support for businesses ([News Release](#)). The Government of Canada will:
 - Establish Large Employer Emergency Financing Facility (LEEFF) to provide bridge financing to Canada's largest employers, whose needs during the pandemic are not being met through conventional financing, in order to keep their operations going. This support will not be used to resolve insolvencies or restructure firms, nor will it provide financing to companies that otherwise have the capacity to manage through the crisis.
 - The LEEFF program will be designed to protect the interests of taxpayers and will require the cooperation of applicants' private-sector lenders to ensure government financing is focused on sustaining operations.
 - Support for large companies through LEEFF will be delivered by the Canada Development Investment Corporation (CDEV), in cooperation with Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) and the Department of Finance.
 - The LEEFF program will be open to large for-profit businesses — with the exception of those in the financial sector — as well as certain not-for-profit businesses, such as airports, with annual revenues generally in the order of C\$300-million or higher. To qualify for LEEFF support, eligible businesses must be seeking financing of about C\$60-million or more, have significant operations or workforce in Canada, and not be involved in active insolvency proceedings.
 - Expand the Business Credit Availability Program (BCAP) to mid-sized companies with larger financing needs.
 - Continue to provide financing to businesses through Farm Credit Canada, the BDC and EDC, including through the Canada Account.
- Indigenous Services Canada providing direct air transportation with strict, safety-first health protocol for essential personnel to serve fly-in First Nations communities and protect against COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. Department of Labor [published a series of responses](#) to specific inquiries and questions raised by states regarding the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) program ([News Release](#)).
- Democrats push ahead with next round of aid amid break in talks ([Wall Street Journal](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta to reopen daycares with limited capacity and health screening ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Daycares preparing to open as early as Thursday will be limited to 10 people per room.
- Travel to summer homes, cabins and cottages within Alberta is now permitted. Those choosing to travel within the province are reminded to consider local community guidelines and the health and safety of small communities ([News Release](#)).
- Government is accelerating infrastructure and transportation projects across the province to get thousands of Albertans back to work and the economy back on track ([News Release](#)).
- The Government of Alberta is improving testing capacity and creating jobs for Albertans as the fight against COVID-19 and efforts to reopen the economy continue ([News Release](#)).
- A new online hub called CORE will coordinate community services for older Albertans and seniors during the COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 6,253 confirmed cases, an increase of 236 since Friday, including three deaths.

British Columbia

- The Encampment Health and Safety (COVID-19) Order made by M.O. 128/2020 is repealed, and [Ministerial Order No. 150](#) Encampment Health and Safety (COVID-19) Order No. 2 is made.
- 2,330 confirmed cases, an increase of 42 since Friday, including three deaths.

Ontario

- The Government is opening provincial parks and conservation reserves for limited day-use access. The first areas will open on Monday May 11, 2020, with the remaining areas opening on Friday May 15, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- The following orders/regulations were added to E-Laws:
 - [O.Reg. 204/20](#) – General (made under the *Child Care and Early Years Act, 2014* related to exemptions and extensions due to COVID-19).
 - [O.Reg. 203/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) – Closure of Places of Non-Essential Businesses (related to primary place of residence).
- The government has approved an emergency order that would enable available school board employees to be voluntarily redeployed to congregate care settings during the COVID-19 pandemic, including hospitals, long-term-care homes, retirement homes and women's shelters ([News Release](#)).
- The government is protecting licensed childcare in Ontario during the COVID-19 outbreak by ensuring parents retain access to local licensed childcare, as well as EarlyON Child and Family Centre ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario asks long-term-care homes for plan to stem the spread of COVID-19 ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; and Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).
- 20,238 confirmed cases, an increase of 640 since Friday, including 94 deaths.

Quebec

- The Government du Québec highlights the reopening of all construction sites and manufacturing companies today ([News Release](#)).
- The Government of Quebec announces that over the next few weeks, activities surrounding real estate transaction services will resume gradually, always with the agreement and collaboration of public health authorities ([News Release](#)).
 - Reopenings will take place in phases, depending on the type of activity and the geographic areas. As of May 11, real estate brokers working in the residential and commercial sector, land surveyors, building inspectors and appraisers as well as certified appraisers will be able to resume their activities.

- [Ministerial Order 2020-034](#) – related to operations of residential and long-term-care centres, authorization of professionals practising within a health and social services institution to take samples, and lifting of restriction on access to territories.
- 37,721 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,571 since Friday, including 203 deaths.

May 4 – May 8

May 8, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Ottawa to extend wage subsidy beyond June 6 expiry date, Trudeau says. Further details to come next week ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Canadian Labour Congress calls for end to privately owned long-term-care facilities after COVID-19 deaths ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Chief Justice of Canada and Minister of Justice Launch Action Committee on Court Operations in Response to COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - The Action Committee will provide national leadership to support the work of provincial and territorial governments, individual courts, and court administrators in progressively restoring the full operation of Canada's courts while ensuring the safety of court users and staff.
- Minister Bains announces new Industry Strategy Council – this council will serve as an advisory board to assess the scope and depth of COVID-19's impact on industries and inform government's understanding of specific sectoral pressures ([News Release](#)).
- The following ministerial instructions were added to the May 9 [Canada Gazette](#), Part I:
 - [Ministerial Instructions](#) – Amending the Ministerial Instructions Respecting the Agri-food Immigration Class (Subparagraph 2(3)(c)(v)).
 - [Ministerial Instructions](#) – Amending the Ministerial Instructions Respecting the Home Child Care Provider Class and the Ministerial Instructions Respecting the Home Support Worker Class.
 - [Ministerial Instructions](#) – with respect to the processing of certain new and existing applications for temporary residence to further support government-wide measures to limit the spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus).
- Emergency Support Fund for Cultural, Heritage and Sport Organizations – next steps to support the industry impacted by the global COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#) and [Background](#)).
 - A total of up to C\$500-million has been set aside to help alleviate the financial pressures of affected organizations.
- Starting today, partner organizations will be contacted so that funds can begin to flow to cultural and sport organizations. Canadian Heritage is working closely with its partners – in particular, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Canada Media Fund, FACTOR, Musicaction and Telefilm Canada.

U.S. – Federal

- Work visas targeted as the White House expands immigration curbs, citing virus ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
 - The Trump administration is drawing up plans for an executive order, expected this month, that would ban the issuance of some new temporary, work-based visas. The order is expected to focus on visa categories such as H-1B, designed for highly skilled

workers; and H-2B, for seasonal migrant workers, as well as student visas and the work authorization that accompanies them.

Alberta

- In response to COVID-19, the Government of Alberta has created a new Agriculture Training Support Program to help employers in the food supply chain provide necessary training to new Alberta employees ([News Release](#)).
- The government has charged a Calgary-based business with ignoring an order to stop charging exorbitant prices for several consumer products ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- The province and TransLink are working on a comprehensive solution to address the major financial impacts that TransLink, like many transit agencies across the country, has incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
 - Given the progress in these discussions, TransLink and its operating companies will suspend the service reductions planned to begin on May 18 and rescind layoff notices issued to approximately 1,500 employees.

Ontario

- The governments of Canada and Ontario are investing C\$2.25-million in provincially licensed meat-processing plants to better protect employees and ensure the continued supply of healthy products for consumers during the COVID-19 outbreak ([News Release](#)).
 - The first stream of the Agri-food Workplace Protection Program will provide funding to implement COVID-19 health and safety measures in provincially licensed meat plants, including purchasing additional personal protective equipment, redesigning workstations, supporting employees who require mandatory isolation, and work-site mobility and transportation.
 - The Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) will begin accepting applications on May 12, 2020, and will expedite the approval process to get the necessary support to the agri-food sector faster.
- Ontario eases restrictions on professional sports training facilities ([Statement](#)).
 - Beginning today in Ontario, professional sport training facilities will be permitted to reopen, provided their respective sports leagues have established health and safety protocols in response to COVID-19.
- The following order was added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 200/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) – Closure of Places of Non-Essential Business (related to curb-side pick-up or delivery, construction and sports-training facilities).
- Government continues to prepare for the next stages of reopening the economy ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#) on Ontario's Initiatives to Support Jobs and Businesses Impacted).
- Attorney General Doug Downey released [the following statement](#) on building a justice system for the 21st century that is more accessible, responsive and resilient for Ontarians.
- 19, 598 confirmed cases, an increase of 477 since yesterday, including 63 deaths.

Quebec

- Public health authorities announced the terms of the mass-screening strategies that will be deployed in the sectors most affected by COVID-19, particularly in the territory of the metropolitan community of Montréal ([News Release](#)).

- Regional strategies will be deployed in certain sectors of the regions of Montréal, Laval, Lanaudière, the Laurentians and the Montérégie.
- Gradual resumption of roadworks starting May 11 ([News Release](#)).
- 36,150 confirmed cases, an increase 914 since yesterday, including 94 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Canada Emergency Response Benefit – Updated [Backgrounder](#) (Employment and Social Development Canada).
- Canada turning to foreign airlines to bring home citizens stranded by pandemic ([CBC](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump threatens to "terminate" trade deal with China over COVID-19 ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

Alberta

- Progress of legislation:
 - [Bill 14](#) – *Utility Payment Deferral Program Act* received second reading yesterday evening.
- Premier Kenney is cautioning that some hard-hit areas may not move forward on the same reopening schedule as the rest of the province, saying officials will be looking at local data as they make decisions about what to open and when ([CBC](#)).
- In response to the mass disruptions in the agriculture industry caused by COVID-19, the Government of Alberta is introducing several new supports to help farmers and ranchers through AgriRecovery ([News Release](#)).
- 6,017 confirmed cases, an increase of 54 since yesterday, including two deaths. 4,044 cases in the Calgary zone, 1,124 cases in the South zone, 505 cases in the Edmonton zone, 226 cases in the North zone, 94 cases in the Central zone and 24 cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- 2,288 confirmed cases, an increase of 33 since yesterday, including two deaths. 865 are in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 1,064 are in the Fraser Health region, 126 are in the Island Health region, 179 are in the Interior Health region and 54 are in the Northern Health region.

Ontario

- Ontario rejects regional phase-outs of COVID-19 restrictions ([CBC](#)).
- Ontario says it will "review" long-term-care system post-COVID-19 but won't commit to independence ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; and Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- Premier Legault announced that the Government of Quebec is improving the remuneration of staff to encourage work at full time and promote retention of health-care workers ([News Release](#)).

- To help unsubsidized daycares (GNS) and recognized non-subsidized daycare providers to resume service during the progressive opening period, the Quebec government announces that it will provide financial support of C\$22-million, up until June 19 ([News Release](#)).
- [Order](#) – Repeal of the order concerning the suspension of the prohibition from driving a road vehicle on bridges P-15020 of autoroute 25 and P-10942 of autoroute 30, subject to a toll under the *Act respecting transport infrastructure partnerships* unless the amount of the toll and the fees are paid in accordance with that act.

May 7, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau announced that all provinces and territories have confirmed, or are in the process of confirming, plans to cost-share wage top-ups for their essential workers ([News Release](#)).
 - The Government of Canada will provide up to C\$3-billion in support to increase the wages of low-income essential workers. Each province or territory will determine which workers would be eligible for support and how much support they will receive.
- Privacy commissioners warn COVID-19 apps come with potential risks to Canadians ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Update on Canadian Armed Forces' response to COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The White House rejected the [CDC's detailed reopening guide](#) for being too “prescriptive” and asked for revisions, administration officials said ([New York Times](#)).

Alberta

- The government is accelerating the procurement process for construction of the Red Deer Justice Centre to get Albertans back to work ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- Surgeries that were postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic are starting back up as part of a massive surgical renewal plan ([News Release](#) and [B.C. Surgery Renewal Plan](#)). Target timeline for surgical renewal:
 - May 7-15: Patient outreach, preoperative screening and implementation planning
 - May 18: Surgical services begin, increasing capacity over four weeks to near normal pre-COVID levels
 - May 31: All private contracted facilities working at maximum available capacity
 - June: Begin recruitment and training of new staff
 - June 15: All existing operating rooms running at full available capacity
 - June 15–October 15: Incrementally bringing on additional capacity
 - July: Ministry of Health's first monthly public progress report on surgical renewal
 - July–August: Optimize full capacity over the summer period
- [Order in Council No. 288](#) – related to amendments to the Child Care Licensing Regulation (certificate extensions due to COVID-19).

Ontario

- Ontario releases plan to resume scheduled surgeries and procedures; the framework also sets out the criteria for prioritizing surgeries ([News Release](#)).
 - The framework, [A Measured Approach to Planning for Surgeries and Procedures During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#), contains clear criteria that must be met before hospitals can resume scheduled surgeries.
- As a first step, hospitals will need to assess if there is adequate staffing, equipment and other resources to resume scheduled care. This assessment will be revisited on a weekly basis to reflect changing needs and requirements.
- Ontario is protecting forestry jobs and worker safety during COVID-19; John Yakabuski, Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry, announced the government is making C\$3.5-million available to help put protective measures in place for the workers who plant trees this season ([News Release](#)).
- 19,121 confirmed cases, an increase of 399 since yesterday, including 48 deaths.

Quebec

- The reopening of schools, daycares and businesses in the Montréal area has been pushed back until May 25, Premier Legault announced this afternoon ([CBC](#)).
- The federal government says 1,350 soldiers will be deployed to Quebec long-term-care homes by mid-May ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- [Ministerial Order 2020-033](#) – related to procedures of decision-making processes of a municipal body; correctional facility conditions (for medical purposes) of an inmate serving a prison term of less than two years.
- 35,238 confirmed cases, an increase of 911 since yesterday, including 121 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- House Democrats close in on new stimulus proposal; the bill being drafted by Democratic leadership is expected to include more than US\$750-billion in aid to state and local governments, as well as another round of direct support to Americans, according to interviews with lawmakers and aides ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
- President Trump to refocus coronavirus task force on economic revival, concedes risks ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- Progress of legislation:
 - [Bill 13](#) – *Emergency Management Amendment Act, 2020 (No. 2)* received third reading yesterday.
- Continued monitoring of food processing plants; Alberta Health Services and Occupational Health and Safety are visiting facilities regularly to ensure control measures are implemented and provide ongoing advice and support to the workers and employers ([News Release](#)).
- Up to C\$17.8-million in grants will be provided to childcare centres and approved family day home agencies to ensure they are ready to safely restart and support families through Alberta's economic recovery ([News Release](#)).

- 5,963 confirmed cases, an increase of 70 since yesterday, including six deaths. 4,003 cases in the Calgary zone, 1,111 cases in the South zone, 503 cases in the Edmonton zone, 229 cases in the North zone, 91 cases in the Central zone and 26 cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- Premier John Horgan has outlined a [four-phase restart plan](#) with two- to four-week intervals between phases depending on transmission rates. B.C. is currently in Phase 1 with Phase 2 to begin on May 19, which includes more retail businesses and office-based worksites. Industry-specific guidance is still being developed by WorkSafeBC to bring workers back.
 - [Background](#) – Provincial parks and recreation sites reopening and return to classrooms learning plan.
 - [WorkSafeBC](#) – Returning to safe operation announcement.
 - Phase 2 will begin on May 19, but it will be May 14 for most provincial parks and recreation sites:
 - Only small gatherings
 - Elective surgeries
 - Dentistry, chiropractic, physiotherapy, in-person counselling
 - Provincial parks will open for day use
 - More retail business and offices to reopen, supported by WorkSafeBC (industry specific guidance is being developed to bring workers back)
 - Expanded in-person schooling and childcare for K-12 (voluntary)
 - Will resume in stages, beginning with part-time for elementary students
 - Full resumption of in-person classes in September
 - Legislature resumes in the coming weeks
 - Information on public transit measures, such as physical distancing and hygiene, will be released in next few days
- [Ministerial Order No. M146](#) – related to the *Emergencies Health Services Act* and the *Health Professions Act*.
- 2,255 confirmed cases, an increase of 23 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- Ministerial Orders 2020-030 to 2020-032 and Order in Council No. 500-2020 (related to retail suspensions being lifted) have now been added to the May 7 [Gazette Officielle du Québec](#) as well as:
 - [Order in Council 501-2020](#) – the public health emergency is renewed to May 13, 2020.
 - [Order in Council 505-2020](#) – related to school/childcare conditions and further activity suspensions being lifted (priority manufacturing and construction sector services).

May 6, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Finance Minister Bill Morneau announced action to further ensure access to personal protective equipment (PPE) and other necessary medical equipment. The government is waiving tariffs on certain medical goods, including PPE such as masks and gloves ([News Release](#)).
 - [Certain Goods Remission Order \(COVID-19\) – Customs Notice 20-19](#)
- The Competition Bureau is warning all businesses against making false or misleading claims that their products and services can prevent, treat or cure COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - The Bureau has issued direct compliance warnings to a variety of businesses across Canada to stop potentially deceptive claims.

U.S. – Federal

- The Defense Department has given 3M a US\$126-million contract to boost production of N95 respirator masks in response to the coronavirus pandemic ([The Hill](#)).
- House Democrats unveil legislation to forgive student loans for health-care workers ([The Hill](#)).
 - [H.R.6720](#) – to provide student loan forgiveness to health-care workers who are on the front line in response to COVID-19.

Alberta

- [Bill 14](#), *Utility Payment Deferral Program Act*, was tabled this afternoon.
 - The program — one of the first of several supports announced by government to protect Albertans and small businesses from the economic impacts of the pandemic — allows those experiencing financial hardship as a direct result of COVID-19 to defer their utility payments until June 18.
 - Eligible residential, farm and small commercial customers can do so by contacting their utility provider ([News Release](#)).
- While teacher-directed at-home learning continues for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year, the province is engaging the education system on a re-entry plan ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- Ontario further eases restrictions on retail stores and essential construction during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - As early as Friday, May 8 at 12:01 a.m. (EDT), garden centres and nurseries will be able to open for in-store payment and purchases, operating under the same guidelines as grocery stores and pharmacies.
 - Hardware stores and safety supply stores will be permitted to open for in-store payment and purchases as soon as 12:01 a.m. (EDT) on Saturday, May 9.
 - On Monday, May 11 at 12:01 a.m. (EDT), retail stores with a street entrance can begin offering curbside pickup and delivery, in accordance with the Ministry of Health's Guidance Document for Essential Workplaces and occupational health and safety requirements.
 - The government is also expanding essential construction to allow below-grade multi-unit residential construction projects like apartments and condominiums to begin and existing above-grade projects to continue.
- The Ontario government is providing Virox Technologies Inc. with C\$850,000 from the Ontario Together Fund to help the local manufacturer double its production of disinfectants and create jobs ([News Release](#)).
- 18,722 confirmed cases, an increase of 412 since yesterday, including 68 deaths.

Quebec

- Minister of Health and Social Services announces additional funding of C\$31-million to improve access to psychosocial and mental health services in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- CNESST launches a mobile application on the measures to be implemented to prevent the spread of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 34,327 confirmed cases, an increase of 910 since yesterday, including 112 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Canada and 41 WTO members signed a [joint statement](#) to reinforce commitment to and support for rules-based multilateral trade at this critical time.

U.S. – Federal

- A new bill was introduced in the House of Representatives yesterday and seeks to protect American companies from predatory investment by the Chinese government during the coronavirus pandemic by expanding the scope of the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States.
 - [H.R.6706](#) – To place temporary restrictions on acquisitions by the People's Republic of China and for other purposes (a summary is still in progress).
- President Trump says he will keep coronavirus task force indefinitely ([Reuters](#)).
- The U.S. Treasury Department will begin distributing US\$4.8-billion in pandemic-relief funds to Native American tribal governments in all U.S. states on Tuesday, the Treasury and Interior Departments said in a joint statement ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- New equipment to double COVID-19 testing capacity; a C\$4.5-million investment in new virus detecting equipment and technology will help strengthen Alberta's COVID-19 response ([News Release](#)).
- 5,893 confirmed cases, an increase of 57 since yesterday, including two deaths. 3,957 cases in the Calgary zone, 1,094 cases in the South zone, 502 cases in the Edmonton zone, 221 cases in the North zone, 89 cases in the Central zone and 30 cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- The premier is expected to announce details about the plan for lifting some restrictions at 3 p.m. (PDT)/6 p.m. (EDT) ([CBC](#)).
- 2,232 confirmed cases, an increase of eight since yesterday, including four deaths. 849 are in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 1,031 are in the Fraser Health region, 124 are in the Island Health region, 177 are in the Interior Health region and 51 are in the Northern Health region.

Ontario

- The government is extending all emergency orders that have been put in place to date under s.7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until May 19, 2020. The government is also extending emergency electricity rate relief to families, farms and small businesses until May 31, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
 - [O.Reg. 199/20](#) – Order Made Under the Act – Extensions and Renewals of Orders.

Quebec

- The Commission des normes, de l'assurance, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail (CNESST) is making sure tools are available to support the public transport sector in their management of occupational health and safety ([News Release](#)).
- [Ministerial Order 2020-032](#) – related to the director of youth protection and maintaining health measures necessary to continue protection.

May 5, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau announced measures within agriculture programs and an investment of more than C\$252-million to support farmers, food businesses and food processors ([News Release](#)). He also announced that the government intends to propose an additional C\$200-million in borrowing capacity for the sector.
 - The Government of Canada will provide targeted support by:
 - Creating a C\$77.5-million Emergency Processing Fund to help food producers access more personal protective equipment (PPE), adapt to health protocols, and automate or modernize their facilities, processes and operations.
 - Launching a national AgriRecovery initiative of up to C\$125-million in funding to help producers.
 - Announcing the intention to increase the Canadian Dairy Commission's borrowing limit by C\$200-million to support costs associated with the temporary storage of cheese and butter to avoid food waste.
 - The government will work with opposition parties to achieve the required legislative change. It's not clear how early a bill might be ready.
 - Launching a first-ever Surplus Food Purchase Program with an initial C\$50-million fund designed to help redistribute existing and unsold inventories.
 - Working with provinces and territories to increase interim payments from 50 per cent to 75 per cent through AgriStability and explore possibilities for expanding the AgriInsurance program to include labour shortages as an eligible risk for the horticulture sector.
- Chief Public Health Officer Dr. Tam says the daily increase of cases in Canada has slowed to about three per cent. Tam says that trend, coupled with statistics showing the percentage of tests coming back positive is going down, even as the number of tests goes up, signifies that the epidemic in Canada is slowing down ([CBC](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- Trump administration pushing to rip global supply chains from China ([Reuters](#)).
 - The Trump administration is “turbocharging” an initiative to remove global industrial supply chains from China as it weighs new tariffs to punish Beijing for its handling of the coronavirus outbreak, according to officials familiar with U.S. planning.
 - White House trade adviser Peter Navarro said Trump signed an order that could allow limits on imports of components for the U.S. power grid from Russia and China, and would soon issue a separate order that would require federal agencies to purchase U.S.-made medical products.
- President Trump outlines wish list as Congress mulls more coronavirus relief ([Reuters](#)).
 - “The elimination of Sanctuary Cities, Payroll Taxes, and perhaps Capital Gains Taxes, must be put on the table,” Trump said in a tweet.

Alberta

- Bill 14, *Utility Payment Deferral Program Act*, will be introduced tomorrow when the legislature reconvenes ([News Release](#)).
 - The legislation will allow Albertans and businesses to defer electricity and natural gas utility payments.
- The government has established an industry advisory committee to act as Champions of Agriculture. This group will meet regularly and provide Agriculture and Forestry with strategic advice and recommendations on emerging issues and priorities related to consumer confidence ([News Release](#)).
- The government has allocated C\$2-million to match donations to COVID-19 response efforts by designated Alberta-based charities ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- Emergency response centre opening in Victoria ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- Ontario expands virtual mental health services during COVID-19; free internet-based programs help people cope with unprecedented situation ([News Release](#)).
- 18,310 confirmed cases, an increase of 387 since yesterday, including 61 deaths.

Quebec

- Occupational health and safety tools for employers and workers issued ([CNESST](#)).
- Premier Legault, accompanied by the Minister Responsible for Seniors and Caregivers, announced the relaxation of certain containment measures in the various living environments for seniors and people with disabilities or autism spectrum disorders ([News Release](#)).
- 33,417 confirmed cases, an increase of 794 since yesterday, including 118 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Ottawa to unveil emergency aid today for agri-food sector hit hard by COVID-19 ([CBC](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. (EDT)

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has issued more stringent rules for COVID-19 antibody tests sold in the U.S., after a slew of antibody tests hit the market without adequate proof that they really work ([LiveScience](#) and [Washington Post](#)).
 - Under the new rules, companies that are already selling these tests must send the FDA an application for "emergency-use authorization" (EUA).

Alberta

- As part of its relaunch strategy, the Alberta government has developed a plan to lift some restrictions on non-urgent surgeries and other regulated professional health services ([News Release](#)).

- 5,836 confirmed cases, an increase of 70 since yesterday, including nine deaths. 3,905 cases in the Calgary zone, 1,085 cases in the South zone, 503 cases in the Edmonton zone, 221 cases in the North zone, 89 cases in the Central zone and 33 cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- British Columbia's health system can handle a cautious restart to social activity, provincial officer says ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- 2,224 confirmed cases, an increase of 53 since yesterday, 3 deaths. 845 are in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 1,027 are in the Fraser Health region, 124 are in the Vancouver Island Health region, 177 are in the Interior Health region and 51 are in the Northern Health region.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; and Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- Quebec school boards provide a glimpse of the new normal in classrooms ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

May 4, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said his government is weighing whether it should release a 2020 budget in light of the rapidly changing economic landscape because of the pandemic ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- Internal U.S. document foresees surge of coronavirus deaths this month ([CBC](#)).
 - The document, based on modelling by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, projects that COVID-19, the respiratory disease caused by the virus, will kill 3,000 Americans a day by the end of May, the Times said, up from a current daily toll that a Reuters tally places at around 2,000.
- The Treasury Department will borrow a record-breaking US\$3-trillion between April and June as it moves to dispense emergency relief for the coronavirus pandemic ([The Hill](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta is modifying regulations to allow nurse practitioners to provide expanded care to nursing home residents during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- Premier John Horgan expected to reveal next phase of pandemic strategy on Wednesday ([CBC](#)).

- Nothing will "reopen" this week: Premier John Horgan is expected to outline the broad strokes of B.C.'s plan on Wednesday, but it won't be until the middle of the month before things take effect. And, rather than delivering a long list of which stores should open, the province will instead give guidelines to industries that may have voluntarily closed over the past two months.
- To ease financial hardship on businesses and keep employees connected with their jobs during the COVID-19 pandemic, government has extended the temporary layoff period to 16 weeks ([News Release](#)).
 - [Order in Council No. 219](#) – amending the Employment Standards Regulation.
- The following orders/regulations were issued:
 - [Order in Council No. 220](#) – amending the *Child, Family and Community Service Regulation* (time limits extended due to COVID-19 emergency).
 - [Order in Council No. 222](#) – amending the *Provincial Sales Tax Exemption and Refund Regulation* (special refunds by Insurance Corporation of British Columbia).
 - [Order in Council No. 223](#) – *Provincial Sales Tax (Multijurisdictional Vehicles) Remission Regulation*.
- [Ministerial Order No. M139](#) – the Local Government Meetings and Bylaw Process (COVID-19) Order is repealed and replaced by the linked Local Government Meetings and Bylaw Process (COVID-19) Order No. 2.

Ontario

- Ontario significantly increases daily lab testing ([News Release](#)).
- 17,923 confirmed cases, an increase of 370 since yesterday, including 84 deaths.

Quebec

- The reopening of non-essential stores in the Montréal area, which was scheduled to begin May 11, has been pushed back to May 18, Premier Legault announced this afternoon, but the region's schools are still set to reopen as planned ([News Release](#)).
- CNESST launches the Guide to Health Standards for Childcare Services in the Workplace and Family Childcare Services ([News Release](#)).
- [Statement](#) from Minister Monsef and Minister Charest in support of women's shelters and centres for victims of sexual and domestic violence in Quebec during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 32,623 confirmed cases, an increase of 758 since yesterday, including 75 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Canada and international partners launch the Coronavirus Global Response ([News Release](#)).
 - This online pledging event aims to initially raise more than US\$8-billion to help researchers and innovators develop solutions to test, treat and protect people and prevent the further spread of COVID-19.
- The Government of Canada creates COVID-19 supply council in support of Canada's response and recovery ([News Release](#) and [Background](#)).
 - The Council will provide advice on building innovative and agile supply chains for goods in wide use such as masks, gloves and disinfectants, including production, sourcing, shipping and distribution strategies.
- [Statement](#) on joint action plan to facilitate flow of goods, services and personnel amid COVID-19.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced an investment of C\$240.5-million to develop, expand and launch virtual care and mental health tools to support Canadians ([News Release](#)).

- Minister Bains announces investment in antibody discovery technology to help treat COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- [Bill C-15](#), *Canada Emergency Student Benefit Act* received royal assent on May 1, 2020.
- Health Canada pauses regulatory approval for COVID-19 rapid test ([CBC](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau highlighted that families receiving the Canada Child Benefit will get C\$300 extra per child in May to help them deal with the added pressures of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:30 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- Extension of Certain Timeframes for Employee Benefit Plans, Participants and Beneficiaries Affected by the COVID-19 Outbreak ([Notification of Relief](#)).
- Application of Certain Provisions in the TILA-RESPA Integrated Disclosure Rule and Regulation Z Right of Rescission Rules in Light of the COVID-19 Pandemic ([Interpretive Rule](#)).
- The Department of Labor issues additional guidance about short-time compensation program provisions ([News Release](#)).
- The U.S. Supreme Court hears arguments by teleconference for the first time due to the coronavirus pandemic ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The U.S. Treasury's Mnuchin says Trump is eyeing restaurant tax changes and travel boost ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- As part of its relaunch strategy, the Government of Alberta has launched a voluntary, secure mobile contact-tracing application to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 5,766 confirmed cases, an increase of 411 since Friday, including six deaths. 3,842 cases in the Calgary zone, 1,075 cases in the South zone, 504 cases in the Edmonton zone, 221 cases in the North zone, 88 cases in the Central zone and 36 cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- British Columbia has yet to release its reopening plan, but Premier John Horgan is promising details this week ([CTV](#)).
- The province is continuing to support local governments by allowing them to hold public hearings electronically ([News Release](#)).
- The government has temporarily deferred renewal fees for those liquor licensees experiencing financial hardship due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- 2,171 confirmed cases, an increase of 59 since Friday, including three deaths. 832 are in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 992 are in the Fraser Health region, 123 are in the Island Health region, 175 are in the Interior Health region and 49 are in the Northern Health region.

Ontario

- Ontario continues to support mental health needs during COVID-19 ([Statement](#)).
- The following orders/regulations have been added to E-Laws:
 - [O.Reg. 192/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Certain Persons Enables to Issue Medical Certificates of Death.
 - [O.Reg. 193/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Hospital Credentialing Processes.
 - [O.Reg. 194/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.1 (2) of the Act – Limitation Periods.
 - [O.Reg. 195/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.1 (2) of the Act – Treatment of Temporary COVID-19 Related Payments to Employees.

- [O.Reg. 196/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Closure of Places of Non-Essential Businesses (related to the reopening of businesses announcement on Friday).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; and Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).
- 17,553 confirmed cases, an increase of 945 since Friday, including 95 deaths.

Quebec

- The following orders were issued:
 - [Ministerial Order 2020-031](#) – related to revoked access restrictions of regional county municipalities.
 - [Order in Council no. 500-2020](#) – related amendments of various Orders and to suspensions being lifted (retail businesses).
- The virtual parliamentary committee hearings will continue from May 4 to 22. The National Assembly will then resume its work, at the rate of three sessions during the week of May 25 and four sessions during the weeks of June 1 and 8 ([News Release](#)).
- 31,865 confirmed cases, an increase of 3,217 since Friday, including 183 deaths.

April 2020

April 27 – May 1

May 1, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- [Order](#) (made under the *Financial Administration Act*) Authorizing the Minister of PSPC to Transfer, Lease or Loan Essential Goods in response to COVID-19.
- The following orders have now been added to the May 2 *Canada Gazette*, Part I:
 - Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada [Order](#) (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States), as well as the affiliated Explanatory Note.
 - [Interim Order No. 2](#) – Respecting Passenger Vessel Restrictions Due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) (under the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001*).
- [Bill C-15](#) *Canada Emergency Student Benefit Act* is currently at third reading in the Senate.
- The Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) announced today it is providing public companies with temporary blanket relief from certain filing and delivery requirements, which are generally tied to the sending of materials for annual general meetings ([News Release](#)).
- Public Health Agency of Canada using flu tracking system to monitor COVID-19 ([CTV](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The FDA authorizes remdesivir drug as emergency treatment for COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- The following orders/regulations were issued:

- [Order in Council No. 209](#) – The Motor Vehicle Act Regulations are amended: Division 30F – Drivers' Licences – Exemptions Due to COVID-19 Emergency has been added.
- [Ministerial Order No. M138](#) – Electronic Attendance at Credit Union Meetings (COVID-19) Order.
- British Columbians whose ability to work has been affected because of the COVID-19 pandemic and are receiving the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) can now apply for the B.C. Emergency Benefit for Workers (BCEBW) online ([Information Bulletin](#)).

Ontario

- Following the sector-specific health and safety guidelines released yesterday afternoon, Premier Ford announced today that these businesses will be permitted to begin operations on Monday, May 4 at 12:01 a.m. ([News Release](#)):
 - Garden centres and nurseries with curbside pick-up and delivery only, and lawncare and landscaping.
 - Additional essential construction projects that include:
 - Shipping and logistics
 - Broadband, telecommunications and digital infrastructure
 - Any other project that supports the improved delivery of goods and services
 - Municipal projects
 - Colleges and universities
 - Childcare centres
 - Schools
 - Site preparation, excavation and servicing for institutional, commercial, industrial and residential development
 - Automatic and self-serve car washes; auto dealerships, open by appointment only.
 - Golf courses may prepare their courses for the upcoming season, but not open to the public.
 - Marinas may also begin preparations for the recreational boating season by servicing boats and other watercraft and placing boats in the water, but not open to the public.
- The following orders/regulations have been added to e-laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 191/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Global Adjustment For Market Participants and Consumers (affiliated [News Release](#)).
 - Steps are being taken to defer a portion of Global Adjustment (GA) charges for industrial and commercial electricity consumers that do not participate in the Regulated Price Plan for the period starting from April 2020.
 - [O.Reg. 190/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Access to Personal Health Information by Means of the electronic Health Record (affiliated [News Release](#)).
- 16,608 confirmed cases, an increase of 421, including 39 deaths.

Quebec

- Public health authorities announced the implementation of a new diagnostic plan for COVID-19 cases. This strategy aims to increase access to diagnoses of COVID-19 in the general population, which is in addition to the screening in healthcare settings recommended to date ([News Release](#)).
- 28,648 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,110 since yesterday, including 163 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- A parliamentary committee has voted to employ a rarely used power to summon key World Health Organization adviser Bruce Aylward after the global body declined to allow him to testify before MPs on how it responded to the COVID-19 pandemic ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - The Commons health committee on Thursday voted unanimously in favour of a motion to call Dr. Aylward to appear before the committee. MPs for the Liberals, Conservatives, Bloc Québécois and NDP all backed it.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy signalled on Friday that they will not support a fifth coronavirus bill unless it provides liability protections for employers ([The Hill](#)).
- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is investigating almost 200 coronavirus-related cases in which employers inadequately protected their workers from the pandemic ([The Hill](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta announced its phased [relaunch strategy](#) yesterday evening to gradually reopen closed businesses and services as early as May 14 (stage 1) if a series of public health measures, including increased testing, expanded contact tracing and stricter border controls, are in place by then. Industry specific guidelines/directives will be issued over the next few days ([News Release](#)).
 - Remote working is advised where possible in stage one (still not permitted in stage one is gatherings of more than 15 people).
 - Specific businesses allowed to open in stage one with two-metre physical distancing and other public health guidance includes retail services, and daycares and summer camps with occupancy limits.
 - The overall plan may change as the case numbers evolve.
- 5,355 confirmed cases, an increase of 190 since yesterday, including two deaths. 3,590 cases in the Calgary zone, 946 cases in the South zone, 490 cases in the Edmonton zone, 211 cases in the North zone, 85 cases in the Central zone and 33 cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- 2,112 confirmed cases, an increase of 25 since yesterday, including two deaths. 815 are in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 961 are in the Fraser Health region, 120 are in the Island Health region, 170 are in the Interior Health region and 46 are in the Northern Health region.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance; and Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

No new updates.

April 30, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Federal deficit could top C\$252-billion, says budget officer ([CBC](#) and [PBO Update](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- About half of U.S. states easing coronavirus restrictions ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- Premier Kenney will discuss how Alberta plans to reopen its economy at 3:30 p.m. (MDT)/5:30 p.m. (EDT) ([CBC](#)).

British Columbia

- The B.C. government is deferring one of the fees (Stumpage) it charges to help people, communities and forest companies navigate through the COVID-19 crisis ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- Ontario providing employers with workplace safety guidelines ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)). The 61 sector-specific guidelines are available [here](#) from Ontario's health and safety associations and construction guidelines are [here](#).
 - The guidelines will provide direction to those working in manufacturing, food manufacturing and processing, restaurant and food service, and the agricultural sector.
 - These new sector-specific guidelines feature recommended actions employers can begin to plan for as they prepare to adapt including:
 - Ways to ensure appropriate physical distancing, like eliminating pay-at-the-door options, holding team-meetings outdoors, staggering shift times and using ground markings and barriers to manage traffic flow.
 - Changes to the workplace, like installing plexiglass barriers, increasing the air intake on building heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems to increase air flow, and using boot sanitizing trays.
 - Promoting proper workplace sanitation, providing personal protective equipment, substituting dry dusting with vacuuming, ensuring customer-facing staff are given hand sanitizer, providing a place to dispose of sanitizing wipes and enforcing handwashing before and after breaks.
- The following regulations were added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 185/20](#) – General (made under the *Grains Acts*) related to licences.
 - [O.Reg. 187/20](#) – General (made under the *Pension Benefits Act*) related to employer payments.
- Premier says businesses should "get ready" as Ontario releases new safety guidelines ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Labour Minister Monte McNaughton called the measures "best practices" that will be enforced by labour inspectors.
- Government launches new tool to support trucking industry; Ontario 511 app provides up-to-date information for truck drivers during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 16,187 confirmed cases, an increase of 459 since yesterday, including 86 deaths.

Quebec

- Ministerial Orders 2020-27 to 2020-029 have now been added to the April 30 [Gazette officielle du Québec](#) as well as:
 - [O.C. 483-2020](#) – Renewal of the public health emergency to May 6, 2020.
 - [O.C. 496-2020](#) – That the time limit preceding the coming into force on June 1, 2020, of certain provisions referred to in section 106 of the act mainly to establish the Centre d'acquisitions gouvernementales and Infrastructures technologiques Québec be suspended for the period of the public health emergency and resume at the end of the emergency ([affiliated News Release](#)).
 - [O.C. 488-2020](#) – Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting food.
 - [O.C. 494-2020](#) – Regulation extending the duration of the consent to the stay of certain international students.
- The Quebec government recalls that the new Regulation respecting tourist accommodation establishments will come into force on May 1, 2020. However, the ban on operating any type of tourist accommodation is maintained until further notice, except for the exceptions provided by public health authorities in the context of the pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- Minister Danielle McCann announces C\$3-million in emergency funding for long-term-care accommodation ([News Release](#)).
- The government is granting a credit to businesses for their contribution to the Health Services Fund ([News Release](#)).
- 27,538 confirmed cases, an increase of 944 since yesterday, including 98 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- House passes [Bill C-15](#), *Canada Emergency Student Benefit Act*. The Senate will sit on Friday to give final approval.
 - In approving the bill, the government also approved a motion that provides the government with guidance on how to craft those [regulatory] details and also commits the government to further action.
 - The motion, which was approved unanimously Wednesday, states that the government will “implement new financial incentives and support measures to connect Canadians, particularly students and Canadian youth, to the various jobs available. For example, in the agriculture and agri-food sector, in order to ensure regional economic stability and food production during this crisis” ([The Globe and Mail](#) and [News Release](#)).
- Parliamentary budget officer is expected to provide an update today on the federal emergency aid programs ([CTV](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump’s “Operation Warp Speed” aims to rush coronavirus vaccine ([Bloomberg](#)).
 - The program will pull together private pharmaceutical companies, government agencies and the military to try to cut the development time for a vaccine by as much as eight months

Alberta

- Though final decisions have yet to be made, Alberta is on track to begin reopening some aspects of the economy in May, says Premier Jason Kenney ([CBC](#)).
- New public orders have been put in place to help with the continued protection of residents in long-term care and supportive living, as well as to improve their quality of life:
 - [CMOH Order 12-2020](#) - Effective April 29, the list of symptoms that require staff assessment and then testing is being expanded.

- [CMOH Order 14-2020](#) - Residents in continuing-care facilities who are not in isolation can now enjoy outdoor visits with a designated essential visitor and one other person.
- [CMOH Order 13-2020](#) - New measures for residential addiction treatment centres to prevent the risk of infection.
- 5,165 confirmed cases, an increase of 315 since yesterday, including seven deaths. 3,520 cases in the Calgary zone, 833 cases in the South zone, 489 cases in the Edmonton zone, 205 cases in the North zone, 84 cases in the Central zone and 34 cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- Premier John Horgan says the province will unveil its plan to loosen COVID-19 restrictions and open up some sectors of the economy at a briefing next week ([CBC](#)).
- 2,087 confirmed cases, an increase of 34 since yesterday, including four deaths. 811 are in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 941 are in the Fraser Health region, 120 are in the Island Health region, 169 are in the Interior Health region and 46 are in the Northern Health region.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- [Ministerial Order 2020-030](#) related to section 25 of the Regulation respecting specialized nurse practitioners, supervision performed remotely (COVID screening tests).
- [Guidance](#) on travelling from one region to another or from one city to another during the COVID-19 pandemic.

April 29, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- [Bill C-15](#), *An Act respecting Canada emergency student benefits* was tabled in the House today (currently, at first reading). This enactment authorizes the payment of Canada emergency student benefits to students who lost work and income opportunities for reasons related to the coronavirus.
- The [Canada Gazette, Part II](#) has been published and includes:
 - [S.O.R./2020-90](#) – Income Support Payment (Excluded Nominal Income) Regulations (made under the *Canada Emergency Response Benefit Act*).
 - [S.O.R./2020-89](#) – Interim Order No. 3 Amending the *Employment Insurance Act* (Employment Insurance Emergency Response Benefit) and affiliated Explanatory Note.
 - [S.O.R./2020-88](#) – Interim Order No. 2 Amending the *Employment Insurance Act* (Employment Insurance Emergency Response Benefit) and affiliated Explanatory Note.
 - [S.O.R./2020-84](#) – First Nations Election Cancellation and Postponement Regulations (Prevention of Diseases) and affiliated Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement.
- Prime Minister Trudeau says any digital contact tracing must be balanced with privacy concerns ([CTV](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The Trump administration is quietly planning a major undertaking to speed the development of a coronavirus vaccine, with a goal to have 100 million doses ready by year's end (Bloomberg News via [Reuters](#)).
- The Federal Reserve signalled that it will keep its key short-term interest rate near zero for the foreseeable future as part of its extraordinary efforts to bolster the economy ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- The provincial state of emergency has been extended to May 12, 2020 ([News Release](#) and [Order in Council No. 207](#)).

Ontario

- The Ontario government is further expanding the list of essential workers eligible to receive free emergency childcare during the COVID-19 outbreak ([News Release](#)).
 - [O.Reg. 183/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Closure of Establishments.
- 15,728 confirmed cases, an increase of 347 since yesterday, including 45 deaths.

Quebec

- The governments of Canada and Quebec announce more support for vulnerable people who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless during the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
 - These funds include:
 - C\$19,514,375 allocated to the Designated Communities funding stream
 - C\$1,902,653 allocated to the Rural and Remote Homelessness funding stream
- Deputy Prime Minister Geneviève Guilbault announces the gradual withdrawal of certain checkpoints in the regions of Quebec ([News Release](#)).
- The Government of Quebec announces two housing measures to help people affected by the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)):
 - Interest-free loan of C\$1,500 for rent payment.
 - Temporary accommodation measure (support for Quebecers who see their move-in project in their main residence, including accommodation, postponed due to COVID-19).
- Minister of Health and Social Services and the Minister Responsible for Seniors and Caregivers announce an investment of C\$240,000 for the deployment of a special program to support the bereaved during the pandemic COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 25,757 confirmed cases, an increase of 837 since yesterday, including 79 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The House of Commons is holding its fourth in-person session to study today and potentially expedite the passage of the federal government's C\$9-billion suite of measures aimed at helping students during the COVID-19 pandemic ([CTV](#)).

- The new bill is titled *An Act respecting Canada emergency student benefits*.
- First Ministers' [statement](#) on shared public health approach to support restarting the economy.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- [Executive Order](#) on Delegating Authority Under the DPA with Respect to Food Supply Chain Resources During the National Emergency Caused by the Outbreak of COVID-19.
 - President Trump orders U.S. meat-processing plants to stay open despite coronavirus fears ([Reuters](#)).
- U.S. Department of Labor Issues COVID-19 Relief and Guidance for Employee Benefit Plans ([News Release](#)).
- Senate Democrats unveil bill to federalize medical supply chain and boost production ([The Hill](#)).
- House Democrats reversed course on plans to bring the chamber back into session next week, but Senate Republicans vowed to return despite COVID-19 threat ([The Hill](#)).

Alberta

- Updated modelling scenarios continue to estimate that Alberta's outbreak will reach its peak in late May ([News Release](#)).
- 4,850 confirmed cases, an increase of 154 since yesterday, including five deaths. 3,366 cases in the Calgary zone, 685 cases in the South zone, 486 cases in the Edmonton zone, 202 cases in the North zone, 84 cases in the Central zone and 27 cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- [Ministerial Order No. M133](#) – Employment and Assistance (COVID-19) Order is made.
- 2,053 confirmed cases, an increase of 55, including two deaths. 803 are in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 918 are in the Fraser Health region, 119 are in the Island Health region, 168 are in the Interior Health region and 45 are in the Northern Health region.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, for an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- Quebec's economic relaunch plan is "a risky bet," province's top health official warns ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

April 28, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau releases [joint statement](#) by First Ministers for restarting the economy. This statement also identifies the criteria and measures that need to be in place in order to begin to take steps to restart the economy.
 - Four main principles are identified, including taking a science- and evidence-based approach to decision-making, coordination and collaboration between all jurisdictions,

continued accountability and transparency of all governments, and flexibility and proportionality as information changes over time.

- Conservatives seeking legislative changes to Ottawa's C\$9-billion student support package ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - The bill could be introduced as early as tomorrow, when MPs are scheduled to sit in reduced numbers.
 - The package included C\$5.2-billion for a new Canada Student Emergency Benefit that will provide C\$1,250 a month for students who can't find work. It also included C\$1.9-billion for expanded student loans and C\$912-million for a Canada Student Service Grant that will provide up to C\$5,000 apiece to students who volunteer in their community on projects or programs related to COVID-19.
- Inside the negotiation of Canada's supersized coronavirus bailout ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Business and labour groups are urging Ottawa to set up a national working group, much like the NAFTA advisory council, to provide input on kick-starting the economy when stay-at-home restrictions are gradually lifted. The goal would be to offer advice on health protocols for each sector of the economy, as well as the conditions that would trigger their reopening.
- The latest national COVID-19 modelling shows that Canada could see up to 3,883 COVID-19 deaths by this time next week, but overall the public health measures Canadians are taking are working ([CTV](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- Federal courts begin to consider guidelines for reopening ([News Release](#)).
- U.S. House will not return next week after all, due to coronavirus risk ([Reuters](#)).
- President Trump: U.S. considering coronavirus testing on some international flights ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- The Government of Alberta is temporarily allowing registry agents to provide select services by phone, secure email, fax or mail ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- Ontario is helping businesses overcome the unique challenges created by COVID-19. A [new website](#) has been set up to accept proposals for temporarily changing rules and regulations ([News Release](#)).
- 15,381 confirmed cases, an increase of 525 since yesterday, including 59 deaths.

Quebec

- Premier Legault today presented a plan to reopen various economic sectors for the month of May. This recovery will be gradual and take place over several weeks, with the aim of relaunching the Quebec economy in a prudent manner ([News Release](#) and [Plan](#) for reopening economic activities).
- Three types of businesses will reopen (all other sectors and types of businesses will be subject to a plan that will be presented later):
 - From May 4: retail stores and stores with exterior entrances, excluding those in the greater Montréal region

- From May 11: the construction sector other than residential as well as manufacturing companies that will, however, have to respect certain restrictions per shift (maximum of 50 workers, plus 50 per cent of surplus employees). Retail businesses and stores with exterior entrances in the greater Montréal region may also reopen
- From May 25: manufacturing companies, without restriction (100 per cent of employees).
- In line with the recent announcement that certain economic sectors will reopen soon:
 - The Commission des normes, de l'équité, de la santé et de la sécurité du travail (CNESST) is launching a virtual toolkit that can help and support employers and workers in complying with the sanitary instructions issued by the public health authorities ([News Release](#)).
 - The Minister of the Economy and Innovation wishes to specify the opening procedures for the companies concerned ([News Release](#) and [Guide to Health Standards in the Workplace – COVID-19](#)).
 - The Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity and Minister Responsible for the Mauricie Region, Jean Boulet, is confirming that the entire construction industry will reopen as of May 11, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- Plan for opening schools during COVID-19:
 - [List of scheduled openings](#).
 - [Safety measures](#) for workers and children in elementary schools and daycare services.
- World's biggest cargo plane to ship Chinese PPE to Quebec ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- 25,757 confirmed cases, an increase of 775 since yesterday, including 83 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- New federal COVID-19 projections coming later this morning ([CBC](#)).
- House of Commons to meet virtually today and in person tomorrow ([CTV](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- Democrats are getting behind the idea of more stimulus checks to Americans. There are three plans that could be part of the next coronavirus relief bill ([Business Insider](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta's case numbers and hospitalization rates for COVID-19 are well below modelling projections released earlier this month ([CBC](#)).
- 4,696 confirmed cases, an increase of 216 since yesterday, including two deaths. 3,257 cases in the Calgary zone, 643 cases in the South zone, 484 cases in the Edmonton zone, 196 cases in the North zone, 84 cases in the Central zone and 32 cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- B.C. is "getting close" to easing restrictions ([CBC](#)).
 - Summer classes are not likely as B.C. works on "rational" plan for returning kids to school ([CBC](#)).
- 1,998 confirmed cases, an increase of 11 since yesterday, including three deaths. 795 are in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 879 are in the Fraser Health region, 117 are in the Island Health region, 164 are in the Interior Health region and 43 are in the Northern Health region.

Ontario

- Ontario Superior Court of Justice has required four long-term-care homes in the province to provide its nurses with access to personal protective equipment such as N95 respirator masks ([Law Times](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Prabmeet Sarkaria, Associate Minister of Small Business and Red Tape Reduction, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- With the school plan unveiled, the province will be announcing the relaunch of the economy; Finance Minister Pierre Fitzgibbon will join daily briefing at 1 p.m. (EDT) ([CBC](#)).
- The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Quebec announced the implementation of a new temporary measure to allow meetings or sessions to be held at a distance for which laws or regulations would prevent normally ([News Release](#)).

April 27, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The federal and Manitoba governments will be supporting a project that will allow local food producers and farmers' markets to sell their products online ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The White House is reviewing expanded guidance on reopening society ([Washington Post](#)).
- Congress is slated to take up additional legislation to provide relief to individuals and small businesses impacted by the coronavirus-forced economic shutdowns ([The Hill](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- The following orders/regulations have been issued:
 - [Ministerial Order No. M128](#) – Encampment Health and Safety (COVID-19) Order.
 - [Order in Council 203](#) – Related to amendments to the Child Care Subsidy Regulation (under the *Child Care Subsidy Act*).
- The Provincial Health Officer issued COVID-19 [Guidance](#) to Retail Food and Grocery Stores.

Ontario

- Ontario unveils guiding principles to reopen the province ([News Release](#) and [Framework](#)).
 - Key takeaways:
 - No hard dates have been set. It will depend on the virus spread and containment, health system's capacity, public health system's capacity and continued incident tracking.

- The framework is based on how/conditions to reopen, not when; Ontario will take a gradual three-stage approach, with two to four weeks between easements to assess the case numbers.
- No details on types of businesses that will be able to reopen (in stage 1) was announced today.
- In the coming days, the Ontario Jobs and Recovery Committee will begin discussions with business leaders to better understand the challenges that each region and sector is facing.
- The government will provide guidelines to employers on how to open safely and protect their employees and customers. They will be developed in partnership with public health officials and Ontario's Health and Safety Associations. However, no dates were given for the release of these documents.
- The following orders/regulations were added to E-Laws:
 - [O.Reg. 174/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – related to long-term-care homes and redeploying of staff.
 - [O.Reg. 175/20](#) – Emergency Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Closure of Outdoor Recreational Amenities – related to allotment/community gardens.
 - [O.Reg. 176/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Service Agencies Providing Services and Supports to Adults with Development Disabilities.
 - [O.Reg. 177/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2(4) of the Act – Congregate Care Settings.
 - [O.Reg. 178/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.1 (2) of the Act – Meetings for Corporations – related to means for meetings of directors, shareholders or members; time extension; voting; election by electronic means; and information to be laid before annual meeting.
 - [O.Reg. 179/20](#) – School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days.
- 14,856 confirmed cases, an increase of 424 since yesterday, including 57 deaths.

Quebec

- Primary schools to reopen May 11 for all of Quebec except the Montréal area, which will be on May 19; Premier Legault said the timeline will depend on the number of hospitalizations for COVID-19 ([News Release](#) and [further information](#)).
 - Return to school is prescribed on a voluntary basis only.
- High schools, Cegep and universities to remain closed until the fall session.
- The government was very clear that they do not exclude going back to strict confinement measures if they see a spike in the number of cases or new clusters forming.
- Educational childcare services/reopening in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Legault said he will announce a plan tomorrow to allow some businesses to reopen ([CBC](#)).
- 24,982 confirmed cases, an increase of 875 since yesterday, including 84 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada launches applications for the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy ([News Release](#) and [Background](#)).
- The Minister of Fisheries and Oceans and the Canadian Coast Guard announced C\$62.5-million of new assistance to the fish and seafood processing sector ([News Release](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump to meet with textile makers today as companies shift to masks and gowns ([Reuters](#)).
- The Trump administration is focusing on protocols to keep U.S. factories open ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- The Provincial Court of Alberta will permit remote applications, including out-of-custody guilty pleas ([News Release](#)).
- A variety of efforts are being made to support vulnerable and at-risk Albertans feeling the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- 4,480 confirmed cases, an increase of 760 since Friday, including five deaths. 3,104 cases in the Calgary zone, 598 cases in the South zone, 479 cases in the Edmonton zone, 182 cases in the North zone, 83 cases in the Central zone and 34 cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- [Ministerial Order No. M121](#) – Supreme Court Civil and Family Applications (COVID-19) Order is made.
- The province is doubling this year's funding for Family Caregivers of British Columbia to C\$1-million, helping support both caregivers and seniors ([News Release](#)).
- The province is working with the cities of Vancouver and Victoria to transition people living in encampments into temporary accommodations encampments ([News Release](#)).
- Funding announced to improve rural internet connectivity ([News Release](#)).
- 1,938 confirmed cases, an increase of 114 since Friday, including six deaths. 778 are in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 853 are in the Fraser Health region, 115 are in the Island Health region, 160 are in the Interior Health region and 42 are in the Northern Health region.

Ontario

- The Ontario government is providing frontline staff with a temporary pandemic payment ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
 - This increase will provide four dollars per hour worked on top of existing hourly wages, regardless of the qualified employee's hourly wage. In addition, employees working over 100 hours per month would receive lump sum payments of C\$250 per month for each of the next four months.
- Education Minister Stephen Lecce announced that all publicly funded schools will remain closed until at least May 31, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- The Ontario government is introducing new and amended emergency orders (forthcoming) to better support Ontario's long-term-care homes and the deafblind community ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario parks to remain closed until May 31, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance; and Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade, to unveil the framework for reopening the province at 1:30 p.m. (EDT).
- 14,432 confirmed cases, an increase of 913 since Friday, including 72 deaths.

Quebec

- Quebec is expected to announce some details around reopening, including how it plans to deal with the remainder of the school year ([CBC](#)).
- The following orders have been issued:
 - [Ministerial Order 2020-028](#) – Related to redeployed personnel in the health and social services network, and collective agreements.

- [Ministerial Order 2020-029](#) – Related to childcare services, biofood producers and processors, and any meeting, sitting or assembly that takes place in person (including that of a deliberative body).
- The Government of Quebec announces that an additional C\$5-million is being granted to support community family organizations and community organizations offering community drop-in daycare activities ([News Release](#)).
- 24,107 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,491 since Friday, including 175 deaths.

April 20 – April 24

April 24, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced that the federal government has reached an agreement in principle with all provinces and territories to implement the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) for small businesses ([News Release](#)).
 - This program will lower rent by 75 per cent for small businesses that have been affected by COVID-19.
 - The CECRA will be administered by the federal government through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.
- The governments of Canada and Ontario are investing up to C\$2.5-million to help the agri-food sector expand online, providing more opportunities for producers to grow their business ([News Release](#)).
 - Agristability interim payments increased for Saskatchewan producers ([News Release](#)).
- The Canadian Chamber of Commerce said federal and provincial governments must make sure personal protective equipment (PPE) is widely available to businesses to protect employees and customers and avoid a resurgence of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- [S.O.R./2020-91](#) – Regulations Amending the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations (*Emergencies Act* and *Quarantine Act*), and the affiliated Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement, has been added to the April 24 *Canada Gazette*, Part II.
- The following orders have now been added to the April 25 *Canada Gazette*, Part I:
 - [Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order \(Mandatory Isolation\), No. 2](#), as well as the affiliated Explanatory Note.
 - [Ministerial Instructions](#) with respect to the processing of certain new and existing applications for temporary residence to further support government-wide measures to limit the spread of COVID-19 (made under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*).
 - [Interim Order](#) – Respecting Passenger Vessel Restrictions Due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (made under the *Canada Shipping Act, 2001*).

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump signed into law [H.R. 266: The Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act](#).
 - The legislation contains C\$100-billion for hospitals and a nationwide testing program, along with C\$60-billion for small banks and an alternative network of community development banks that focus on development in urban neighbourhoods and rural areas ignored by many lenders.
 - There's also C\$60-billion for small-business loans and grants delivered through the Small Business Administration's existing disaster aid program ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta has joined other provinces, the territories and the federal government in a program to help small businesses pay rent; the province expects to commit up to C\$67-million ([News Release](#)).
- The Site Rehabilitation Program – mainly funded by the federal government's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan – will provide grants to oilfield service contractors to perform well, pipeline, and oil and gas site reclamation work.
 - Starting now, the program is expected to create about 5,300 direct jobs and lead to the cleanup of thousands of sites ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- Small businesses will see their monthly rent reduced by at least 75 per cent, thanks to the new federal-provincial Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance Program; the B.C. government is offering significant support to businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic, including tax reductions, delays and deferrals ([News Release](#)).
- B.C.'s provincial health officer has released an [order for industrial camps and guidelines](#) to protect people working in the silviculture sector during the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- The Ministry of Attorney General is establishing two advisory groups to support government response to the impact of restrictive public health measures on the justice system ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- The Ontario province is committing C\$241-million through the new Ontario-Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance Program ([News Release](#)).
- The provincial government will release a framework early next week for how it plans to reopen Ontario's economy, Premier Ford said earlier today ([CBC](#)).
- 13,519 confirmed cases, an increase of 640 since yesterday, including 50 deaths.

Quebec

- The Quebec government will contribute to the federal emergency assistance for commercial rent by covering 25 per cent of its costs, an investment of C\$137-million ([News Release](#)).
- Quebec's COVID-19 reopening plan will be ready next week and will include strict health guidelines ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The National Director of Public Health now recommends wearing a face covering as an additional tool to limit the spread of the virus ([News Release](#)).
- 22,616 confirmed cases, an increase of 778 since yesterday, including 97 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is expected to announce today significant rent relief to help businesses that can't afford to pay their landlords at a time when their operations are shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic ([CBC](#)).
 - They expect the program to be run through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corp., as opposed to commercial banks or business banking agencies such as Business Development Bank of Canada.
- Federal projected spending on direct supports due to COVID-19 hits C\$145-billion ([CBC](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- The House passed the C\$484-billion aid package that will increase funding for small businesses and hospitals; President Trump will sign the relief bill at noon today ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- 3,720 confirmed cases, an increase of 319 since yesterday, including two deaths. 2,633 cases in the Calgary zone, 454 cases in the Edmonton zone, 373 cases in the South zone, 157 cases in the North zone, 80 cases in the Central zone and 23 cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- 1,824 confirmed cases, an increase of 29 since yesterday, 4 deaths. Vancouver Coastal Health: 755, Fraser Health: 760, Island Health: 111, Interior Health: 156 and Northern Health: 42.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance; and Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care, to make an announcement at 12:30 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- The Minister of Health and Social Services, the Minister Responsible for Government Administration and the Chairman of the Conseil du trésor confirm that all of the bonuses granted in the context of the pandemic crisis of COVID-19 are extended until May 31 ([News Release](#)).

April 23, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced more than C\$1-billion in support of a national medical research strategy to fight COVID-19 that includes vaccine development, the production of treatments, and tracking of the virus ([News Release](#)). The plan includes:
 - C\$155-million for research on vaccines and other treatments, support for clinical trials and expanding national testing and modelling.
 - C\$662-million for clinical trials led by Canada.
 - C\$350-million to expand national testing and modelling of COVID-19, including a COVID-19 immunity task force that includes Dr. David Naylor, Dr. Catherine Hankins, Dr. Tim Evans, Dr. Theresa Tam and Dr. Mona Nemer.
- G20 Labour and Employment Ministerial [Statement](#).
- [Bill 242](#) *An Act to amend the Employment Insurance Act (illness, injury or quarantine)* (note: this is a Private Member's Bill) was tabled on Monday and currently sits at first reading in the House.

U.S. – Federal

- Hundreds of members of the U.S. House of Representatives gathered in Washington this afternoon to pass the US\$484-billion coronavirus relief bill. The measure is expected to receive overwhelming approval ([Reuters](#)).
- U.S. civil rights agency says employers can test workers for COVID-19 ([Reuters](#) and [Updated EEOC Guidance](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- The following orders have been issued:
- [Ministerial Order No. M120](#) – the Protection Against Liability (COVID-19) Order made by MO 94/2020 is repealed, and the Protection Against Liability (COVID-19) Order No. 2 is made.
- [Ministerial Order No. M121](#) – Supreme Court Civil and Family Applications (COVID-19) Order.
- Essential service workers on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic have been referred to open child care spaces through the Province's new child care matching process ([Information Bulletin](#)).
- Applications for B.C. Emergency Benefit for Workers to open May 1 ([News Release](#)).
- The BCEBW is a one-time, tax-free C\$1,000 payment for British Columbians whose ability to work has been affected as a result of COVID-19. Most people who are eligible for the new federal Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) are also eligible for the BCEBW, including those who have run out of employment insurance (EI) benefits and subsequently qualify for the CERB.

Ontario

- Ontario is delivering a new [COVID-19 Action Plan for Vulnerable People](#) to better protect vulnerable populations during the outbreak of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- The following orders/regulations were added to e-laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 169/20](#) – General (made under the *Ontario Disability Support Program Act, 1997*) – related to the treatment of Canada emergency response benefit payments.
 - [O.Reg. 168/20](#) – General (made under the *Ontario Works Act, 1997*) – related to the treatment of Canada emergency response benefit payments.
 - [O.Reg. 167/20](#) – Teacher's qualifications (made under the *Ontario College of Teachers Act, 1996*) – related to persons impacted by the emergency declaration.
 - Related: [O.Reg. 166/20](#) Proficiency in Mathematics (made under the *Ontario College of Teachers Act, 1996*)
 - [O.Reg. 165/20](#) – Order Made Under the Act – Extensions and Renewals of Orders
 - [O.Reg. 164/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Signatures in Wills and Powers of Attorney.
- 12,879 confirmed cases, an increase of 634 since yesterday, including 54 deaths.

Quebec

- The Quebec National Assembly will virtually meet in parliamentary committee ([News Release](#)).
 - The adjournment period of parliamentary business was extended until Tuesday, May 5. However, the parliamentarians agreed to hold four virtual sessions in parliamentary committee. These sessions will allow the deputies to exchange with certain members of the executive. The first session is scheduled for April 24 at 3 p.m.
- Premier Legault assured the province this week that planning is underway to phase out the societal lockdown, no specifics were provided ([CBC](#)).

- He said there will be guidelines about wearing masks in public; schools will be reopened gradually, possibly by geographic region and with some kind of physical-distancing policy in place; and widespread coronavirus testing will be necessary. This process is set to start on May 4.
- Premier Legault calls on all those in the health network who are absent to return to work to fight the virus ([News Release](#)).
- 21,838 confirmed cases, an increase of 873 since yesterday, including 109 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Support for Students and Recent Graduates Impacted by COVID-19 ([Backgrounder](#)).
- The federal government is expected to announce today new measures aimed at mobilizing the country's scientists and researchers in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic ([CTV](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump's [Proclamation](#) Suspending Entry of Immigrants.

Alberta

- Court of Queen's Bench will extend its limitation of hearings to emergency and urgent matters only to May 31, 2020, and the adjournment of criminal jury trials and jury selections to September 8, 2020 ([Court's Master Order #3](#)).
- 3,401 confirmed cases, an increase of 306 since yesterday, including five deaths. 2,396 cases in the Calgary zone, 451 cases in the Edmonton zone, 303 cases in the South zone, 150 cases in the North zone, 79 cases in the Central zone and 22 cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- [Ministerial Order No. M116](#) – Electronic Attendance at Corporate Meetings (COVID-19) Order (made under the *Emergency Program Act*).
- 1,795 confirmed cases, an increase of 71 since yesterday, including three deaths. 745 are in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 747 are in the Fraser Health region, 110 are in the Island Health region, 153 are in the Interior Health region and 40 are in the Northern Health region.

Ontario

- The Ontario government is extending all emergency orders that have been put in place to date under s.7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until May 6, 2020 ([News Release](#), order forthcoming).
 - New order issued to support people with mental health and addictions issues:
 - [O.Reg. 163/20](#) – Order Under Subsection of 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Work Deployment Measures for Mental Health and Addictions Agencies.
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Todd Smith, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services; and Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- Ministerial Orders 2020-22 to 2020-23 and 2020-25 to 2020-26 were added to the April 23 [Gazette officielle du Québec](#); the public health emergency has been renewed until April 29, 2020 ([O.C. 478-2020](#)).
- [Ministerial Order 2020-27](#) related to further amendments to various orders, including government services and priority manufacturing activities.
- Modification of the ban on open fires in or near the forest ([News Release](#)).

April 22, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced comprehensive support of nearly C\$9-billion for post-secondary students and recent graduates ([News Release](#)).
 - Students will be eligible for C\$1,250 a month from May through August.
 - The government must pass legislation to allow the new student benefits to flow ([CBC](#)).
- Removing barriers for international students working in essential services to fight COVID-19 ([News Release](#))
 - Starting immediately, the government will remove the restriction that allows international students to work a maximum of 20 hours per week while classes are in session, provided they are working in an essential service or function.
- [Statement](#) on joint WTO efforts to ensure open and predictable trade for food and agricultural products amid COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - Members committed to not imposing agriculture export restrictions or implementing unjustified trade barriers on agriculture and agri-food products and key agricultural production inputs.

U.S. – Federal

- Department of Labor urges masks and distance for COVID-19 construction safety ([News Release](#)).
 - Occupational Safety and Health Administration [COVID-19 Guidance](#) for the Construction Workforce.

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- Companies, societies and cooperatives now able to meet electronically ([Information Bulletin](#)).
 - A temporary change under the *Emergency Program Act* will allow electronic meetings during the province's state of emergency. The order (forthcoming) helps corporations hold annual or special general meetings.

Ontario

- Ontario takes immediate steps to further protect long-term-care residents and staff during COVID-19 outbreak ([News Release](#)).
 - Response includes increased testing, COVID-19 SWAT teams and additional PPE.

- The Ontario government is calling for help from the Canadian military to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus in long-term-care facilities, where the province says soldiers are needed to help with staffing and medical care ([CBC](#)).
- 12,245 confirmed cases, an increase of 510 since yesterday, including 37 deaths.

Quebec

- Premier Legault reiterated that the great challenge remains to fill the shortage of staff in seniors' residences. Quebec, therefore, asked Ottawa today for the help of 1,000 army soldiers to lend a hand in senior-living environments ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Legault mulls gradual opening of schools, daycares before end of June ([CBC](#)).
- 20,965 confirmed cases, an increase of 839 since yesterday, including 93 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The following order/regulations have been issued:
 - [P.C. 2020-0263](#) – Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Prohibition of Entry into Canada from the United States), pursuant to section 58 of the *Quarantine Act*.
 - [S.O.R./2020-0092](#) – Regulations Amending the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations, made under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*.
 - [S.O.R./2020-0091](#) – Regulations Amending the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations made under the *Emergencies Act* and *Quarantine Act*.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- Trump to sign new immigration ban later today ([Reuters](#)).
 - The new 60-day ban would apply to those seeking permanent residency, or “green cards,” to live in the United States but not temporary workers.
- The US\$484-billion interim emergency bill passed by the U.S. Senate yesterday and includes expanded funding for small businesses and hospitals and money for coronavirus testing ([Reuters](#)).
 - The U.S. House of Representatives will pass Congress' latest coronavirus aid bill on Thursday.
- U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said on Wednesday most, if not all, of the U.S. economy should be reopened by later in the summer ([Reuters](#)).
- Temporary Postponement of the Time to Deposit Certain Estimated Duties, Taxes, and Fees During the National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak ([Rule](#)).
- Continuous Emission Monitoring; Quality-Assurance Requirements During the COVID-19 National Emergency ([Rule](#))

Alberta

- 3,095 confirmed cases, an increase of 187 since yesterday, including two deaths. 2,204 cases in the Calgary zone, 446 cases in the Edmonton zone, 200 cases in the South zone, 148 cases in the North zone, 77 cases in the Central zone and 20 cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- 1,724 confirmed cases, an increase of 25 since yesterday. 707 are in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 715 are in the Fraser Health region, 109 are in the Island Health region, 153 are in the Interior Health region and 40 are in the Northern Health region.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- COVID-19 in Quebec: Long-term care homes continue to face staffing and equipment issues ([CBC](#)).

April 21, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Government of Canada launches Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy Calculator for Employers ([News Release](#)).
 - The CEWS calculator can be found on CRA's [Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy webpage](#).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced an investment of C\$350-million to support vulnerable Canadians through charities and non-profit organizations that deliver essential services to those in need ([News Release](#)).
- Ottawa watching food supply chain "very, very carefully" after Alberta outbreak ([CBC](#)).
 - Beef prices could go up, but Trudeau says he does not anticipate a domestic shortage.
- Two cargo planes return empty to Canada from China without medical supplies ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- [Joint Statement](#) by Brazil, Canada, Italy and Egypt following the Extraordinary High-Level Meeting of the Group of Friends of Food Security and Nutrition on the impact of COVID-19 on food availability and supply.

U.S. – Federal

- Lawmakers and the White House struck a deal on a C\$484-billion relief package that would replenish a depleted loan program for distressed small businesses and provide additional money for hospitals and coronavirus testing ([Washington Post](#)).
- The House plans to take up the measure on Thursday.
- The federal government unveiled a plan to return to normal operations — outlining a multipronged approach ([Washington Post](#)).
 - [The memo](#), issued by the Office of Management and Budget and the Office of Personnel Management, says officials will "ramp back up government operations to the maximum extent possible, as local conditions warrant."

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- As part of the B.C. government's C\$5-billion COVID-19 Action Plan, up to C\$35.6-million will be available over three months from Community Living BC to support service providers to continue delivering residential services ([News Release](#)).
- Temporary 3-Month Extension of Early Marketing Period for Developments Marketed Prior to Obtaining Building Permits and Financing Commitments ([Information Bulletin](#)).

Ontario

- The province is investing C\$11-million to help deliver meals, medicines and other essentials to those in need and doubling the Guaranteed Annual Income System (GAINS) payments ([News Release](#)).
- 11,735 confirmed cases, an increase of 551 since yesterday, including 38 deaths.

Quebec

- Quebec plans to reopen schools and businesses gradually ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Revenu Québec invites employees in sectors related to essential services to begin the steps relating to their registration for the Incentive Program for the retention of essential workers ([News Release](#)).
- As of now, businesses among priority services and activities can publish information regarding their urgent labour needs. Following a rapid review, the information will be posted in [a new section of the website](#) ([News Release](#)).
- Premier François Legault indicated that despite the obstacles encountered, the situation in the vast majority of living environments that welcome seniors is under control ([News Release](#)).
- 20,126 confirmed cases, an increase of 807 since yesterday, including 102 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The federal government is expected to unveil today more financial support for vulnerable Canadians struggling to weather the COVID-19 pandemic ([CTV](#)).
 - The government is also expected to provide more details about the timing and rollout of the massive C\$73-billion wage subsidy program.
- Canada shifts tone and talks about "critical need" for WHO review of response to COVID-19 ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The federal government has limited ability to ramp up COVID-19 testing nationwide, say officials ([CBC](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- Senate minority leader said he believed Democrats, Republicans and the White House had a deal to provide C\$350-billion to a coronavirus relief small-business lending program and that the Senate could vote on the deal later today ([The Hill](#)).
- U.S. coronavirus response deepens divide as Trump suspends immigration ([Reuters](#)).
 - Trump announced his move on immigration on Twitter late on Monday, suggesting it would prevent further contagion from outsiders while saving American jobs.
- Temporary Regulatory Relief in Response to COVID-19 ([Rule](#)).

Alberta

- New funding will increase staffing of health-care aides to alleviate pressures in contracted continuing-care facilities ([News Release](#)).

- 2,908 confirmed cases, an increase of 105 since yesterday, including four deaths. 2,077 cases in the Calgary zone, 438 cases in the Edmonton zone, 156 cases in the South zone, 143 cases in the North zone, 77 cases in the Central zone and 17 cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- The following orders/regulations have been issued:
 - [Ministerial Order No. 115](#) – Prohibition on Unconscionable Prices for Essential Goods and Supplies (COVID-19) Order.
 - [Order in Council No. 176](#) – The Violation Ticket Administration and Fines Regulation made under the *Offence Act* is amended.
 - [Order in Council No. 177](#) – The Violation Ticket Administration and Fines Regulation made under the *Offence Act* is amended.
- B.C.'s provincial health officer says anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19 can now be tested for the disease in an attempt to avoid a spike in disease transmission through the community ([CBC](#)).
- 1,699 confirmed cases, an increase of 29 since yesterday, including deaths. 700 are in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 705 are in the Fraser Health region, 102 are in the Island Health region, 153 are in the Interior Health region and 39 are in the Northern Health region.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care; and Todd Smith, Minister of Children, Community and Social Services, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- [Ministerial Order 2020-026](#) was issued and is related to:
 - The temporary authorization of a non-participating physician or a physician who has withdrawn within the meaning of the *Health Insurance Act*
 - Hunters and trappers are authorized to remotely register
 - The confinement measures concerning a sector of Ville de Boisbriand, set out in Ministerial Order 2020-018 dated April 9, 2020, is revoked as of April 21, 2020.

April 20, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- A government motion to suspend all regular sittings of the House of Commons until May 25, 2020, was adopted ([Globe and Mail](#)).
 - A new COVID-19 committee will gather in-person on the floor of the House of Commons every Wednesday, starting next week, and by video conference on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- The Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) has provided an online space, [Pandemic Info Share](#), to enable businesses and organizations to share their pandemic-related good practices and resources ([News Release](#)).

U.S. Federal

- The Trump administration and Congress indicated earlier today that they were working toward agreement on a coronavirus aid package the Senate could take up as soon as Tuesday with more than C\$450-billion ([Reuters](#)).
- Pentagon to ask U.S. Congress for emergency coronavirus funds to support defense industry ([Reuters](#)).
- The Trump administration announced [new guidelines](#) requiring nursing homes nationwide to report to patients, their families and the federal government when they have cases of coronavirus.

Alberta

- Indigenous communities that need more time for industry consultations during the COVID-19 pandemic can apply for a timeline extension ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- Helping rural, remote and Indigenous communities respond to COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- Health experts say the COVID-19 outbreak has likely peaked in Ontario; modelling shows physical distancing still needed to prevent further spread ([News Release](#)).
 - Ontario has reached its 'peak' in COVID-19 pandemic, but long-term care situation getting worse: officials ([Globe and Mail](#)).
- 11,187 confirmed cases, an increase of 606 since yesterday, 31 deaths.

Quebec

- Quebec grants C\$4-million to Medicom to accelerate the construction of a factory for N-95 masks and surgical masks ([News Release](#)).
- Premier François Legault, the Minister of Health and Social Services, the President of the Federation of Medical Specialists of Quebec and the President of the Federation of General Practitioners du Quebec, announced the procedures for the deployment of doctors who will come in to help the teams at work in the living environments of seniors ([News Release](#)).
- Quebec drops all non-essential hospital activities to sure up nursing home staffing ([Globe and Mail](#)).
- 19,319 confirmed cases, an increase of 962 since yesterday, 62 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Parliament to resume with mix of virtual and in-person sittings ([Globe and Mail](#)).
- Canada, U.S. agree to extend border restrictions to May 20, 2020 ([Globe and Mail](#)).
- What will Canada's Pandexit strategy look like? How officials are deciding when to lift coronavirus lockdowns ([Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Based on interviews last week with a wide range of sources—including senior political officials in Ottawa and provincial capitals, and infectious-disease and economic experts, both here and abroad
 - Disease modellers have emphasized the need to remove restrictions step by step, with at least two weeks between steps.
 - While modellers might help determine how much additional contact can be allowed across entire jurisdictions, it will still be left to governments to decide which sectors to prioritize—who returns to work and when.

- [Policy Statement](#) on Foreign Investment Review and COVID-19.
 - Canada tightens foreign investment scrutiny, citing economic impact of COVID-19 ([Globe and Mail](#)).
- As part of the Action Plan, G20 members committed to a coordinated, time-bound suspension of official bilateral debt service payments for the world's poorest and most vulnerable countries, including many Small Island Developing States ([News Release](#)).
- Canada and Ontario Supporting Agri-food Sector Supply Chain During COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- [Statement](#) from the Minister of Fisheries, Oceans, and the Canadian Coast Guard on support to the fish and seafood industry.
- Prime Minister Trudeau announced up to C\$306.8-million in funding to help small and medium-sized Indigenous businesses, and to support Aboriginal Financial Institutions that offer financing to these businesses ([News Release](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. EDT.

U.S. Federal

- President Trump says government will step up coronavirus testing efforts, after governors blast federal inaction ([Washington Post](#)).
- Treasury and CBP Announce Deferment of Duties and Fees for Certain Importers During COVID-19 Response ([News Release](#)).
- The Trump administration and Congress expect an agreement today on an aid package of up to US\$450-billion to boost a small-business loan program that has run out of money and add funds for hospitals and COVID-19 testing ([CBC](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta plans to dramatically expand a COVID-19 testing system that already leads the country ([Globe and Mail](#)).
- 2,803 confirmed cases, an increase of 645 since Friday, 5 deaths. 1,997 cases in the Calgary zone, 429 cases in the Edmonton zone, 142 cases in the South zone, 137 cases in the North zone, 76 cases in the Central zone, 22 cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- New ticketing measures to enforce Emergency Program Act orders ([News Release](#)).
 - Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, has given police and other enforcement officers the ability to issue \$2,000 violation tickets for price gouging and the reselling of medical supplies and other essential goods.
- Technology loans giving more children the opportunity to learn at home ([News Release](#)).
- 1,647 confirmed cases, an increase of 72 since Friday; 3 deaths. Vancouver Coastal Health: 686, Fraser Health: 680. Island Health: 97, Interior Health: 150, Northern Health: 34.

Ontario

- The Ontario government is investing C\$20-million to advance medical research and develop tools and resources to combat COVID-19 and other infectious diseases through the Ontario COVID-19 Rapid Research Fund ([News Release](#)).
- 10,578 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,053 since Friday; 75 deaths.

Quebec

- The following Orders were issued:

- [Ministerial Order 2020-023](#) related to the list of work environments for which a salaried person may receive an 8% bonus and amending Orders related to priority commercial enterprises, media telecommunications services and priority services in the field of transportation and logistics.
- [Ministerial Order 2020-025](#) various Orders amended related to construction sector services.
- Superior Court: the urgent activities selected for continuity of services has [been further amended](#).
- 18,357 confirmed cases, an increase of 2,500 since Friday; 189 deaths.

April 20, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- A government motion to suspend all regular sittings of the House of Commons until May 25, 2020, was adopted ([Globe and Mail](#)).
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- Pentagon to ask U.S. Congress for emergency coronavirus funds to support defense industry ([Reuters](#)).
- The Trump administration announced [new guidelines](#) requiring nursing homes nationwide to report to patients, their families and the federal government when they have cases of coronavirus.

Alberta

- Indigenous communities that need more time for industry consultations during the COVID-19 pandemic can apply for a timeline extension ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- Helping rural, remote and Indigenous communities respond to COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- Health experts say the COVID-19 outbreak has likely peaked in Ontario; modelling shows physical distancing still needed to prevent further spread ([News Release](#)).
 - Ontario has reached its 'peak' in COVID-19 pandemic, but long-term care situation getting worse: officials ([Globe and Mail](#)).
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U.S. Federal

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 - [Ministerial Order 2020-023](#) related to the list of work environments for which a salaried person may receive an 8% bonus and amending Orders related to priority commercial enterprises, media telecommunications services and priority services in the field of transportation and logistics.
 - [Ministerial Order 2020-025](#) various Orders amended related to construction sector services.
- Superior Court: the urgent activities selected for continuity of services has [been further amended](#).
- 18,357 confirmed cases, an increase of 2,500 since Friday; 189 deaths.

April 13 – April 17

April 17, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau announced new actions to protect Canadian jobs and provide more support to businesses and organizations dealing with the economic impacts of COVID-19.
 - The Government of Canada will provide over C\$1.7-billion for targeted measures including new measures to help retain and create approximately 10,000 well-paying jobs in the energy sector. ([News Release](#) and [Department of Finance Backgrounder](#)).
 - Trudeau offers aid to energy workers while skirting full bailout ([Bloomberg](#)).
 - Ottawa announces C\$1.7-billion to clean up orphan oil-and-gas wells in Western Canada ([Globe and Mail](#)).

- Foreign ministers from 13 countries agree on key principles to keep transportation links and supply chains open ([Global Affairs Canada](#)).
 - The group agreed on a [Joint Declaration](#) outlining a series of practical actions and strongly advocated for other countries to take similar steps.
- The AgriStability enrollment deadline for the 2020 program year has been extended without penalty, from April 30, 2020, to July 3, 2020. This extension will allow farmers more time to sign up and benefit from the program ([News Release](#)).
- New measures introduced for non-medical masks or face coverings in the Canadian transportation system ([Transport Canada](#)).
 - The Minister of Transport announced new measures requiring all air passengers to have a non-medical mask or face covering to cover their mouth and nose during travel. Effective noon EDT on April 20, 2020 ([Backgrounder](#)).
- Last month, the Government of Canada announced action to support the Canadian news and broadcasting sectors during the COVID-19 pandemic, including the establishment of an Advisory Board.
 - Today, the Government is releasing draft legislative proposals that would make adjustments to these tax measures to help ensure that they achieve their initial objectives ([News Release](#)).
- Canadian Armed Forces' respond to COVID-19 pandemic in Quebec long-term care facilities ([National Defence](#)).

U.S. Federal

- President Trump says states, not U.S. government, must boost coronavirus testing ([Reuters](#)).
- Texas is among the first states to announce it will loosen stay-at-home restrictions ([Washington Post](#)).

Alberta

- Premier Jason Kenney issued the [following statement](#) on the federal government's energy stimulus package.
- Alberta Parks is suspending and refunding camping reservations up to and including May 19, 2020 ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- The following Orders/Regs have been issued:
 - [Ministerial Order No. M114](#) – Electronic Attendance at Strata Property Meetings (COVID-19) Order ([News Release](#)).
 - [Order in Council No. 175](#) – The Commercial Transport Fees and the Motor Vehicle Fees Regulations have been amended (related to fees during COVID emergency).
- New modelling released by B.C. health officials about the state of the novel coronavirus pandemic shows virus rates are slowing down in the province ([CTV](#)).
- More online options for students to support social, emotional well-being ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- The following Orders/Regs were added to e-laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 161/20](#) Milk and Milk Products (made under the *Milk Act* related to the extension of certificates and licenses due to COVID).
 - [O.Reg. 160/20](#) Exemption from Reduced Load Period Weight Limits (made under the *Highway Traffic Act*).
 - [O.Reg. 159/20](#) General (made under the *Ambulance Act*).

- [O.Reg. 158/20](#) Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) Of the Act – Limiting Work to a Single Retirement Home.
- [O.Reg. 157/20](#) Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) Of the Act – Work Deployment Measures for Municipalities.
- [O.Reg. 156/20](#) Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) Of the Act – Deployment of Employees of Service Provider Organizations.
- [O.Reg. 154/20](#) Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) Of the Act – Work Deployment Measures for District Social Services Administration Boards.
- [O.Reg. 153/20](#) Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) Of the Act – Closure of Places of Non-Essential Businesses (related to seasonal campgrounds).
- Ontario Offers Emergency Child Care to More Frontline Staff ([News Release](#)).
- The government is expanding the list of essential workers eligible to receive emergency child care see: [O.Reg. 155/20](#) Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) Of the Act – Closure of Establishments.
- Canada and Ontario Supporting Agri-food Sector Supply Chain During COVID-19; C\$1-million in new funding to support efforts that match employers with job-seekers ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario Establishes Key Partnerships to Make Home Learning More Accessible; iPad with Free Rogers Wireless Data Will Support Learning at Home ([News Release](#)).
- 9525 confirmed cases, an increase of 564 since yesterday, 55 deaths.

Quebec

- The Quebec government invests C\$45-million to support the recruitment of agricultural workers ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Legault takes ‘full responsibility’ for shortages in struggling Quebec care homes ([Globe and Mail](#)).
- 16,798 confirmed cases, an increase 941 since yesterday, 58 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Canada-U.S. reach deal to extend border restrictions by 30 days ([CTV](#)).
- Minister Fortier Highlights Government Support for Businesses in Digital Town Hall with Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce ([Department of Finance](#)).
- [Joint statement](#) of the Alliance for multilateralism (Global Affairs Canada).
- [Statement](#) by the Minister of Indigenous Services on the First Nations Election Cancellation and [Postponement Regulations](#) (Prevention of Diseases) coming into effect.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. EDT.

U.S. – Federal

- Trump's guidelines may have some states reopening in a month ([Bloomberg](#)).
- Release of U.S. Government Action Plan to Support the International Response to COVID-19 ([Fact Sheet](#)).
- COVID-19 Related Goods: U.S. Imports and Tariffs; Institution of Investigation ([International Trade Commission](#)).
- Recommended Actions To Reduce the Risk of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Among Transit Employees and Passengers ([Federal Transit Administration](#)).

Alberta

- The Alberta and federal governments, with the input and assistance of industry and worker representatives, have developed a plan to respond to confirmed cases of COVID-19 in food processing plants ([News Release](#)).
- 2158 confirmed cases, an increase of 162 since yesterday, 2 deaths.

British Columbia

- 1575 confirmed cases, an increase of 14 since yesterday, 3 deaths. Vancouver Coastal Health: 670, Fraser Health: 630, Island Health: 94, Interior Health: 149, Northern Health: 32.

Ontario

- Ontario Takes Further Action to Protect Vulnerable People from COVID-19; Province makes it easier to reassign staff where they are needed most ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, and Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care, to make an announcement at 1:00 p.m. EDT.

Quebec

- The proceedings in the National Assembly of Quebec remain adjourned until May 5, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- The Government of Quebec is investing C\$1.3-million in the firm Ferme d'hiver through Investissement Québec to support, alongside private partners, the development of an innovative technological solution ([News Release](#)).

April 16, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister announces new measures for small businesses ([News Release](#)):
 - Expanding the Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) to businesses that paid between C\$20,000 and C\$1.5-million in total payroll in 2019.
 - Announcing intent to introduce the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) for small businesses.
- COVID-19 Guidance for High-Risk and Essential Workplaces ([News Release](#)).
 - The tip sheets offer guidance and good practices for specific occupations, industries and services, for both employers and workers. They can be downloaded from the [CCOHS website](#).
- Despite White House urgency, Canada closes door to reopening U.S. border ([Bloomberg](#)).
- Canadian Securities Administrators (CSA) today published a relief order that provides registrants with an additional six months to comply with the conflicts of interest provisions in the Client Focused Reforms ([News Release](#)).
- COVID-19 deaths surpass federal projections due to outbreaks in long-term-care homes, Trudeau says ([CBC](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump issues proposed guidelines for relaxing social distancing guidance ([Washington Post](#)).
- After just two weeks, the White House says the new small business loan program is completely out of money. It has stopped accepting claims. But lawmakers can't agree on how to update the C\$350-billion Paycheck Protection Program ([Washington Post](#)).
- Federal Reserve announces its Paycheck Protection Program Liquidity Facility is fully operational and available to provide liquidity to eligible financial institutions ([Federal Reserve](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- New COVID-19 supports for businesses and local governments ([News Release](#)).
 - Most commercial property tax bills will be reduced by an average of 25 per cent, along with new measures to support local governments facing temporary revenue shortfalls as a result of COVID-19.
- A new B.C. Business COVID-19 Support Service will serve as a single point of contact for businesses throughout the province looking for information on resources available during the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- Free counselling service launches for post-secondary students ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- Ontario significantly expands hospital capacity to prepare for any COVID-19 outbreak scenario ([News Release](#)).
 - Province adds more than 2,000 acute care and critical care beds and enacts pandemic staffing plans.
- Ontario enables auto insurance companies to provide driver rebates during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- The following two regulations were made under the *Private Security and Investigative Services Act* (related to the extension of licenses/registration requirements for business entities):
 - [O.Reg. 152/20](#): Registration Requirements for Business Entities
 - [O.Reg. 151/20](#): Term of Licenses
- 8,961 confirmed cases, an increase of 514 since yesterday, including 38 deaths.

Quebec

- Premier Legault continues to appeal for the mobilization of all those with health skills to support the staff and residents of residential and long-term care centres ([News Release](#)).
- Three temporary measures have been put in place to ease and assist administrators of supplemental pension plans and participants in these plans ([News Release](#)).
 - These measures reduce administrative burdens related to pension plans.
- Minister Jean Boulet announces deferral until September 1, 2020, of payments to the Registraire des entreprises ([News Release](#)).
- Trudeau considers request to send Armed Forces to Quebec's long-term-care homes ([CBC](#)).
- 15,857 confirmed cases, an increase of 997 since yesterday, including 143 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau poised to announce more financial support for small businesses today ([CTV](#)).
 - It's likely to involve some changes to the eligibility rules for the Canada Emergency Business Account program that banks and credit unions began delivering last week.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- The White House plans to release guidelines today to inform states on how to relax coronavirus restrictions and reopen businesses ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- [Notice](#) of Public Hearing – Election Response to COVID-19 Administering Elections During the Coronavirus Crisis.

Alberta

- Personal protective equipment (PPE) is reaching Albertans across the province as the government continues its procurement and distribution effort ([News Release](#)).
- Additional funding will improve access to mental-health and addiction-recovery services, supports and resources ([News Release](#)).
- 1,996 confirmed cases, an increase of 126 since yesterday.

British Columbia

- 1,561 confirmed cases, an increase of 44 since yesterday, including three deaths. Vancouver Coastal Health: 670, Fraser Health: 623, Island Health: 92, Interior Health: 146 and Northern Health: 30.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- Ministerial Orders 2020-17 to 2020-21 were added to the April 16 [Gazette officielle du Québec](#), which also includes:
 - [O.C. 460-2020](#): The public health emergency is renewed until 24 April 2020.
 - [M.O. 2020-07](#): *Regulation Respecting the Use of Non-Skid Devices on the Tires of Certain Road Vehicles* (considering the COVID-19 pandemic situation caused limited access, for the population, to vehicle maintenance services).
- [Ministerial Order 2020-022](#) – related to visits from a family caregiver to users lodged in facilities in institutions where a residential and long-term-care centre is operated.
- The Ministry of Forests, Wildlife and Parks has decided to ban open fires in or near the forest – effective April 16 ([News Release](#)).

April 15, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Prime Minister announces expanded access to Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) and support for essential workers ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
 - To help more Canadians benefit from the CERB, the government will be changing the eligibility rules to:
 - Allow people to earn up to C\$1,000 per month.
 - Extend the CERB to seasonal workers who have exhausted their EI regular benefits and are unable to undertake their usual seasonal work and/or are unable to find a job or return to work because of COVID-19.
- The government announces relief for federally regulated pension plan sponsors ([News Release](#)).
- The following regulations have been added to the April 15 *Canada Gazette*, Part II:
 - [S.O.R./2020-62](#): Income Support Payment Amount Regulations
 - [S.O.R./2020-61](#): Interim Order Amending the *Employment Insurance Act* (Employment Insurance Emergency Response Benefit)
 - The objective of this regulation is to fix the amount of the income support payment as C\$500 per week under the act.
 - [S.O.R./2020-55](#): Regulations Amending the Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations (IRPR)
 - Amendments to the IRPR are needed to provide the Canada Border Services Agency with authorities that are necessary to operationalize the prohibitions.
- Bank of Canada unveils new bond-buying programs in bid to support credit markets amid virus crisis ([The Globe and Mail](#) and [BoC Press Release/Statement](#)).
- The premiers don't want *Emergencies Act* used during COVID-19 pandemic ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Pandemic could affect food supplies, power grids, telecommunications, says government document prepared by Public Safety Canada ([CBC](#)).
- Released today: Statistics Canada's [Gross domestic product by industry: Nowcast, March 2020](#).
 - The flash estimate for GDP indicates a decline of approximately nine per cent in March. This would be the largest one-month decline in GDP, since the series started in 1961.
- [Joint Statement](#) by Filomena Tassi, Minister of Labour, and leaders from labour and industry regarding support for workers and employers during the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis.
- Parks Canada suspends camping, group activities and events across the country until at least May 31, 2020 ([Parks Canada News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
- Government of Canada connects Canadians with mental wellness supports during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- Federal banking agencies to defer appraisals and evaluations for real estate transactions affected by COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- President Trump is demanding accountability from the World Health Organization ([News Release](#)).
- Connecting Americans to coronavirus information online ([News Release](#)).
 - The White House and key federal agencies are working alongside Schema.org to help ensure critical resources surface across online search engine results.

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- State of emergency has been extended until April 28, 2020 ([News Release](#) and [Ministerial Order No. M073](#)).

- The following orders have been issued this afternoon:
 - [Ministerial Order No. M109](#): Client Registry System/Enterprise Master Patient Index Designation Order (related to disclosure and E-Health – *Personal Health Information Access and Protection of Privacy Act*)
 - [Ministerial Order No. M110](#): Provincial Laboratory Information Solution (PLIS) Repository Designation Order (related to disclosure and E-Health – *Personal Health Information Access and Protection of Privacy Act*)
- More support for commercial truck drivers during COVID-19 crisis – installation of portable toilets at several commercial vehicle pull-outs, inspection stations and chain-up locations ([Information Bulletin](#)).
- Liquor-store hours extended to protect seniors and most vulnerable ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- Ontario ramping up protection for long-term-care residents; robust action plan and new emergency order to protect the most vulnerable in long-term-care homes ([News Release](#)).
 - The temporary emergency order will come into effect on April 22, 2020.
- The following orders/regulations were added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 149/20](#): Special Rules Relating to Declared Emergency (made under the *Planning Act*)
 - [O.Reg. 150/20](#): Unfair or Deceptive Acts or Practices (made under the *Insurance Act*)
- 8,447 confirmed cases, an increase of 494 since yesterday, including 51 deaths.

Quebec

- Danielle McCann, Minister of Health and Social Services, announced that the Government of Quebec is providing C\$20-million in emergency assistance to meet the additional financial needs expressed by regional and national community organizations in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- The premier pleads with Quebec medical specialists to help out in COVID-19-ravaged seniors' residences ([CTV](#)).
- 14,860 confirmed cases, an increase of 612 since yesterday, 52 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada updates mandatory requirements for travellers entering Canada ([News Release](#)).
 - [P.C. 2020-0260](#): Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada Order (Mandatory Isolation), No. 2.
 - The updated order, under which any traveller arriving in Canada — whether they are symptomatic or asymptomatic — cannot isolate or quarantine in a place where they would be in contact with people who are vulnerable, such as adults aged 65 years or over and people with pre-existing medical conditions.
- Temporary reduction of service at some low traffic Canadian land border crossings ([News Release](#) and [Fact Sheet](#)).
- Canada's central bank will make an announcement today on its key interest rate and detail the impact of COVID-19 on the national economy ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- Trump eases PPE export ban with Canada and Mexico exemptions ([Bloomberg](#)).
- Trump halts U.S. payments to the World Health Organization ([CTV](#)).
- [Amendment](#) to Declaration Under the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act for Medical Countermeasures Against COVID-19 (to extend liability immunity).

Alberta

- [O.C. 116/2020](#) Procedures (Forest and Prairie Protection) Amendment Regulation (made under the *Provincial Offences Procedure Act*) was issued yesterday evening.
- The government is providing C\$3-million to Caregivers Alberta to expand supports for caregivers during the COVID-19 pandemic and into the future ([News Release](#)).
- The government is working to source personal protective equipment (PPE) and expedite its distribution to groups and organizations in need ([News Release](#)).
- 1,870 confirmed cases, an increase of 138 since yesterday, including two deaths. 1,242 cases in the Calgary zone, 402 cases in the Edmonton zone, 107 cases in the North zone, 74 cases in the Central zone, 36 cases in the South zone and nine cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- All temporary foreign workers arriving in British Columbia for seasonal farm work will be required to self-isolate in government-managed accommodations for 14 days prior to being transported to farms throughout B.C. ([Information Bulletin](#)).
 - Employers are responsible for paying temporary foreign workers for a minimum 30 hours per week during self-isolation and at the rate of pay specified on the federal Labour Market Impact Assessment.
- 1,517 confirmed cases, an increase of 27 since yesterday, including three deaths. Vancouver Coastal Health: 658, Fraser Health: 601, Island Health: 89, Interior Health: 141 and Northern Health: 28.

Ontario

- The following orders were added to e-laws this morning:
 - [O.Reg. 145/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Work Deployment Measures For Service Agencies Providing Violence Against Women Residential Services and Crisis Line Services
 - [O.Reg. 146/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Limiting Work to a Single Long-Term Care Home
 - [O.Reg. 147/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act - Work Deployment Measures in Long-Term Care Homes
 - [O.Reg. 148/20](#): General (made under the *Nutrient Management Act* related to the extension of licenses and certificates due to COVID)
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care, and Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- The April 15 [Gazette officielle du Québec](#) has been published which includes:
 - [O.C. 454-2020](#): *Regulation amending the Regulation respecting labour standards* (minimum wage will increase by 60 cents on May 1 to C\$13.10 an hour) ([News Release](#))

- [Ministerial Order 2020-021](#) – amends various orders including 2020-018 (related to priority manufacturing activities, priority commercial enterprises, construction sector services and transportation and logistics).

April 14, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Government of Canada is further facilitating the enforcement of the federal *Quarantine Act*. These changes provide increased flexibility for law enforcement agencies, including the RCMP and local and provincial police forces, to issue tickets to individuals who do not comply with orders under the federal *Quarantine Act* ([News Release](#)).
 - The following regulations have been added to the April 14 *Canada Gazette*, Part II:
 - [S.O.R./2020-86](#): Regulations Amending the Contraventions Regulations (Quarantine Act). In force April 11, 2020.
 - [S.O.R./2020-87](#): Regulations Amending the Application of Provincial Laws Regulations. In force April 11, 2020.
- Parliament is set to resume the week of April 20 in both chambers, barring an agreement to extend the suspension ([CTV](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced earlier today that, effective at midnight, anyone who is returning to Canada from abroad has to have a “credible quarantine plan” or they will be forced to spend 14 days in isolation in a “quarantine location” ([CTV](#)).
- Trudeau says Ottawa and the provinces are in talks to reopen economy in stages ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The Government of Canada providing C\$20-million to safeguard Canada's food supply by supporting critical food inspection services ([News Release](#)).
- The Prime Minister announced health and social support for the Yukon, Northwest Territories and Nunavut ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- California and Oregon governors lay out frameworks for reopening states ([Washington Post](#)).
- More than 9,000 U.S. health-care workers have been infected with the coronavirus, CDC says ([Washington Post](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta Wildfire is hiring 200 additional firefighters, invoking a fire ban (effective April 15), implementing off-highway vehicle (OHV) restrictions, increasing fine violations and funding C\$20-million more in community FireSmart initiatives, all to prepare for the upcoming wildfire season during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- The government is moving forward with tender packages for the design and construction of one K-4 and four K-9 school projects that will be located throughout the province ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- [Ministerial Order No. M105](#) Health Care Labour Adjustment (COVID-19) Order has been issued.

Ontario

- Ontario extends declaration of emergency to continue the fight against COVID-19 until May 12 ([News Release](#)).
 - [S.O. 2020 c. 6](#) – *Coronavirus (COVID-19) Support and Protection Act, 2020* (Bill 189) received royal assent this afternoon. The act is in force as of today, except Schedule 2, subsection 1(2) in force on proclamation (not yet in force) and Schedule 3 in force March 30, 2020.
 - The act amends the *Education Act*, *Planning Act*, *Development Charges Act*, *Police Services Act* and the *Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities Act*.
- Two more orders were added to E-Laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 143/20](#): Order Made Under the Act – Extensions and Renewal of Orders (related to closure of outdoor recreational amenities).
 - [O.Reg. 144/20](#): Exemption for Temporary Health and Residential Facilities (made under the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act*).
- Ontario public schools will not reopen on May 4, premier says ([CTV](#)).
- Ontario to "redeploy every resource" to long-term-care homes ([CBC](#)).
- 7,953 confirmed cases, an increase of 483 since yesterday, including 43 deaths.

Quebec

- Premier François Legault asks Quebecers with medical training to enlist to help in CHSLDs ([News Release](#)).
- 14,248 confirmed cases, an increase of 691 since yesterday, including 75 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Canada and U.S. in talks to extend border closures amid pandemic ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Sources say the discussions are more focused on whether to extend the border restrictions for two weeks or another 30-day period.
- [Joint statement](#) by Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs and the European Union's High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy regarding international collaboration in addressing COVID-19.

U.S. – Federal

- U.S. authorities are weighing when and how to restart the economy ([Morningstar](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta senators want to know when help for the energy industry is coming ([CBC](#)).
 - Finance minister has said help was on the way but recently noted that any aid would be "sector agnostic."
- 1,732 confirmed cases, an increase of 81 since yesterday, including two deaths. 1,114 cases in the Calgary zone, 399 cases in the Edmonton zone, 105 cases in the North zone, 74 cases in the Central zone, 33 cases in the South zone and seven cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- 1,490 confirmed cases, an increase of 45 since yesterday, 11 deaths. Vancouver Coastal Health: 650 Fraser Health: 591, Island Health: 87, Interior Health: 136 and Northern Health: 26.

Ontario

- The following orders were added to E-Laws this morning:
 - [O.Reg. 137/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.1 (2) of the Act – Limitation Periods
 - [O.Reg. 138/20](#): Order Made Under the Act – Extensions and Renewals of Orders
 - [O.Reg. 139/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Child Care Fees
 - [O.Reg. 140/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Agreements Between Health Service Providers and Retirement Homes.
 - [O.Reg. 141/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act - Temporary Health or Residential Facilities
 - [O.Reg. 142/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act - Closure of Public Lands for Recreational Camping
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, to hold a media availability at 1:45 p.m. (ET).

Quebec

- The Government of Quebec announced that landscaping and landscape maintenance companies will be added to the list of priority services and activities. These companies and their supply chains will be able to resume their activities from April 15, 2020 ([News Release](#)).

April 13, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Today, the Government of Canada announced C\$50-million to help farmers, fish harvesters and all food production and processing employers put in place the measures necessary to follow the mandatory 14-day isolation period required of all workers arriving from abroad ([News Release](#)).
- Tories call for tweaks to federal business aid (for small businesses to help them quickly cover employee wages) ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Nearly six-million people have applied for COVID-10 emergency benefits ([CBC](#)).
- Nearly half of known COVID-19 deaths in Canada linked to long-term-care homes ([CTV](#) and [new interim infection prevention and control guidance](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- A stalemate in Congress over interim emergency aid seems likely to continue ([Politico](#)).
- Supreme Court to hold arguments by teleconference in May ([News Release](#)).
- States team up on reopening plans ([Bloomberg](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta Hope COVID-19 study tests early treatment option ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- Members of Provincial Parliament will return to Queen's Park for a single day tomorrow to pass legislation to extend the state of emergency for a further 28 days and to discuss a bill on education, childcare and municipal housing amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Ontario secures critical medical equipment and supplies ([News Release](#)).
 - Ontario is providing same-day deliveries to hospitals, long-term-care and retirement homes, and other facilities to support essential workers.
- Health officials expect number of COVID-19 cases in Ontario to start going down soon ([CBC](#)).
- 7,470 confirmed cases, an increase of 421 since yesterday, including 17 deaths.

Quebec

- The Government of Quebec amends [the list of priority services and activities](#) (effective April 15) by adding:
 - The mining sector – mining activities will be permitted in a gradual and supervised manner ([News Release](#)).
 - Residential construction sites ([News Release](#)).
 - Maintenance and repair activities to all vehicles ([News Release](#)).
 - Suppliers of products, parts or other equipment necessary for transport and logistics services are also affected by this modification.
- Quebec puts five long-term-care homes under watch; promises more inspections ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- [COVID-19 Guide](#): new measures to ensure health on construction sites ([News Release](#)).
- 13,557 reported cases, an increase of 711 since yesterday, including 39 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- [S.C. 2020 c. 6](#) – *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act, No. 2* received royal assent Saturday evening. The act is in force on royal assent except sections 8 and 11 in force on October 1, 2020.
 - Department of Finance [News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#).
 - [COVID-19 Economic Response Plan](#) – The program will be in place for a 12-week period, from March 15 to June 6, 2020.
- Minister Morneau and Minister Ng mark the launch of the Canada Emergency Business Account ([News Release](#)).
 - Small business owners can apply for support from the Canada Emergency Business Account through their banks and credit unions.
- The Government of Canada establishes COVID-19 Disability Advisory Group to consider, respect and incorporate the interests and needs of persons with disabilities into its decision-making and pandemic response ([Backgrounder](#)).
- OPEC+ has agreed to reduce production by 10 million barrels per day – an unprecedented move to stabilize the market ([CBC](#)).
- Canada building its own PPE supply chain in China ([CBC](#)).
- Canadian military intelligence unit issued warning about Wuhan outbreak back in January ([CBC](#)).
- RCMP role in enforcing the federal *Quarantine Act* ([News Release](#)).
- Communities across Canada prepare for doubled crises of flooding in a time of pandemic ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Health Canada approves new rapid COVID-testing kits ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- U.S. may face 18 months of rolling shutdowns ([Bloomberg](#)).

- Coronavirus outbreak could reach its peak in the U.S. this week, CDC director says ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

Alberta

- Minister of Energy Sonya Savage issued a [statement](#) on the OPEC+ meeting.
- Alberta is sending supplies to British Columbia, Ontario and Quebec to help address demand for personal protective equipment (PPE) and ventilators ([News Release](#)).
- Service Alberta has issued a [ministerial order](#) that will temporarily suspend or modify provisions related to timelines, location and distance, as well as utility payments and access to information requests.
- Government is providing C\$5-million to support food banks and community organizations in their food supply efforts ([News Release](#)).
- [Record of decision](#) of the Chief Medical Officer of Health outlining updated requirements for health-care facilities in Alberta – further restrictions on movement of staff members between health-care facilities.
- The province is launching a donation-matching program to increase support to charities responding to COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 1,651 confirmed cases, an increase of 228 since Thursday, including 15 deaths. 1,046 cases in the Calgary zone, 395 cases in the Edmonton zone, 103 cases in the North zone, 72 cases in the Central zone, 31 cases in the South zone and four cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- Effective April 15, 2020, the Limitation Periods (COVID-19) Order made by M.O. 86/2020 is repealed, and Limitation Periods (COVID-19) [Order No. 2](#) is made.
- Rachel Blaney among MPs working to implement virtual parliament ([Campbell River Mirror](#)).
- Province and Creative BC support musicians impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with new grants for livestreaming ([News Release](#)).
- 1,445 confirmed cases, an increase 109 of since Thursday, including 10 deaths. Vancouver Coastal Health: 642, Fraser Health: 558, Island Health: 84, Interior Health: 135 and Northern Health: 26.

Ontario

- The Ontario government extended all emergency orders that have been put in place to date under s.7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until April 23, 2020, including 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 ([News Release](#) and [Order](#)).
- [O.Reg. 136/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) – Closure of Places of Non-Essential Businesses (related to critical industrial construction activities).
- Ontario government is implementing the next phase of its strategy to significantly expand and enhance testing ([News Release](#)).
 - Ontario expects to double the number of tests processed each day to 8,000 by April 15, 2020, and 14,000 by April 29, 2020,
- Province prevents operators from charging fees while childcare centres are closed ([News Release](#)).
- In consultation with the Ontario Privacy Commissioner, the province is developing a new health data platform called the Pandemic Threat Response (PANTHR) ([News Release](#)).
- On March 21, Premier Ford launched the Ontario Together web portal appealing to Ontario's manufacturers, entrepreneurs and innovators to provide essential supplies and equipment – to date, the portal has received over 14,000 submissions ([News Release](#)).

- 7,049 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,290 since Thursday, including 74 deaths.
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- The following orders have been issued:
 - [Order No. 2020-018](#) – Ministerial Order 2020-017 is further amended by inserting the following after paragraph m of the heading “3. Government services and other priority activities”: “m.1. Inspection and monitoring of animal health and crops”; and introduced restrictions on residents of the sector Ville de Boisbrand.
 - [Order No. 2020-019](#) – related to redeployment of persons to perform other duties or functions within the health and social services network (despite any provision of the collective agreements or national, local or regional agreements).
 - [Order No. 2020-020](#) – related to the custody or access right of a parent; continuation of care in public and private institutions; respecting health services and social services for Cree Native persons (associated [News Release](#)).
- Quebec preparing plan to reopen economy, as infection rate stabilizes ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The Minister of Health and Social Services, Danielle McCann, and the Minister responsible for Seniors and Caregivers, Marguerite Blais, present reinforced protection measures ([News Release](#)).
- The Quebec government is requesting the cancellation of indoor and outdoor festivals and cultural events planned in Quebec until August 31, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- 12,846 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,934 since Thursday, including 112 deaths.

April 6 – April 10

April 9, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The House of Commons will reconvene Saturday (2:15 p.m. (EDT) start) to debate the government's wage subsidy legislation ([CBC](#)).
- The federal government is reaching out to the provinces and territories to talk about invoking the never-used-before *Emergencies Act*, as pressure mounts on Ottawa to take control of critical medical supplies and equipment in the fight against COVID-19 ([CBC](#)).
- Interim Order Respecting Drugs, Medical Devices and Foods for a Special Dietary Purpose in Relation to COVID-19 was published in the April 11 [Canada Gazette](#) Part I and [Order Approving the Interim Order](#).
 - The objective is to protect the health and safety of Canadians through exceptional importation of drugs, medical devices and foods for special dietary purposes that are in shortage as a direct or indirect result of the COVID-19 pandemic and by providing improved access to biocide drugs.
- The Canadian government, in the midst of an economic crisis triggered by the COVID-19 pandemic, announced it is lifting a ban on the issuance of export permits for the shipment of controlled goods to Saudi Arabia ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- [Joint statement](#) by Canadian Securities Administrators and Investment Industry Regulatory Organization of Canada on recent volatility in Canadian equity markets.
- CRTC update on its proceedings further to COVID-19 pandemic ([Statement](#)).

- Measuring the labour market is not business as usual for the week of March 15 to 21 ([Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey](#)).
 - Employment fell by more than one million in March (-1,011,000 or -5.3 per cent). The employment rate — or the proportion of people aged 15 and older who were employed — fell 3.3 percentage points to 58.5 per cent, the lowest rate since April 1997.

U.S. – Federal

- Congress Preps Pandemic Price-Gouging Bill ([H.R. 6472](#) and [Letter](#)).
- Senate Democrats blocked a Republican attempt to approve another US\$250-billion in forgivable loans to small businesses, seeking changes to the pandemic relief funding and demanding greater consultation across party lines ([The Hill](#)).
 - Senate adjourns until Monday.
- Governors consider supply consortium to skirt FEMA dysfunction ([Bloomberg](#)).
- Federal courts are individually coordinating with state and local health officials to obtain local information about the coronavirus (COVID-19), and some have issued orders relating to court business, operating status, and public and employee safety ([Resource](#)).

Alberta

- Some regulations will be temporarily modified for truck drivers and railway operators to protect the supply chain and ensure Canadians can access necessities like medical supplies, groceries and fuel during the COVID-19 crisis ([News Release](#)). (orders forthcoming)
- Business Link will serve as a one-stop shop to help small businesses learn about and connect to available COVID-19 supports based on their unique business needs ([News Release](#)).
- The Alberta government will allocate almost C\$2-billion from the 2020 Capital Plan to resurface roads, repair bridges, restore schools and fill potholes, all to get thousands of Albertans back to work ([News Release](#) and [Capital Plan](#)).

British Columbia

- Applications open for temporary rental supplement are now open ([News Release](#)).
 - The supplement will be available for April, May and June 2020 and will be paid directly to landlords on behalf of renters to reduce tenants' rent owing.
- New virtual mental health supports for COVID-19 on the way ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- The Ontario government has launched a new Ontario Jobs and Recovery Committee, which will focus on getting businesses up and running and people back to work after the COVID-19 pandemic is over ([News Release](#)).
- The Government of Ontario is partnering with SPARK Ontario to help seniors and the most vulnerable stay connected and healthy as they self isolate during the COVID-19 outbreak ([News Release](#)).
- 5,759 confirmed cases, an increase of 483 since yesterday, including 26 deaths.

Quebec

- [M.O. 2020](#): Suspension of the requirement for a driver of a road train operating under a special road train operating permit to refrain from travelling on Good Friday and Easter Monday. This order is in force April 9 and revoked April 14, 2020.
- In the wake of the measures taken to minimize the impact of COVID-19 on the Quebec financial system, the AMF announces additional adjustments to the framework in force ([News Release](#)).

- The measures are in addition to those announced on March 31 and target various stakeholders in the financial services industry.
- The Minister of Energy and Natural Resources and Minister responsible for the Côte-Nord region, Mr. Jonatan Julien, announces that the government is suspending the period of validity of all mining claims in effect in Quebec, for a period of 12 months from today, April 9, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- 10,912 confirmed cases, an increase of 881 since yesterday, including 41 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Health Canada released [modelling data](#) with different possible scenarios this morning ([Statement](#)).
- Travel restrictions still in place at international border crossings for the upcoming long weekend ([News Release](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- This morning, the Federal Reserve announced another series of sweeping steps to provide as much as US\$2.3-trillion in additional aid during the coronavirus pandemic, including starting programs to aid small and mid-sized businesses as well as state and local governments ([Press Release](#)).
- A total of 6.61 million people filed jobless claims in the week ended April 4, according to Labor Department figures released this morning ([Bloomberg](#)).
- Promoting Telehealth for Low-Income Consumers; COVID-19 Telehealth Program ([Rule](#)).
- [Correction notice](#) of Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL) declarations issued for each state and territory of the U.S. (U.S. Small Business Administration).
 - To correct the deadline date to file an application until December 31, 2020, and remove the credit elsewhere limitation.

Alberta

- Progress of emergency legislation:
 - [Bill 13: Emergency Management Amendment Act, 2020 \(No. 2\)](#) was referred to the Committee of the Whole yesterday evening (Committee reported the bill with an amendment).
- [Ministerial Order 219/2020](#) from the Minister of Energy to immediately suspend specific legislated reporting requirements for energy companies under the *Coal Conservation Act*, the *Oil and Gas Conservation Act* and the *Oil Sands Conservation Act*.
 - The modifications in the order will not defer or remove any monitoring requirements that ensure Alberta's public safety and environmental protection, as well as reporting required for royalty calculation and collection.
- COVID-19 [modelling data](#) released ([News Release](#)).
- 1,423 confirmed cases, an increase of 50 since yesterday, including three deaths. 860 cases in the Calgary zone, 368 cases in the Edmonton zone, 95 cases in the North zone, 72 cases in the Central zone, 26 cases in the South zone and two cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- 1,336 confirmed cases, an increase of 45 since yesterday, including five deaths. Vancouver Coastal Health: 615, Fraser Health: 487, Island Health: 81, Interior Health: 130 and Northern Health: 23.

Ontario

- The following order was added to E-Laws this morning:
 - [O.Reg. 132/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2. (4) Of the Act – Use of Force and Firearms in Policing Services.
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Peter Bethlenfalvy, Treasury Board President; and Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- [Order 2020-017](#): Amendments to various older orders are made; Ministerial Order 2020-016 is further amended by inserting “and agronomists” after “clinics” in paragraph I of the heading “3. Government services and other priority activities;” temporary bonus measures are granted to personnel members employed by the holders of ambulance service permits, health communication centres or the Corporation d’urgencessanté.
- The renewal of the public health emergency order and Ministerial Orders 2020-13 to 2020-16 have now been added to the April 9 [Gazette officielle du Québec](#). Regulations published:
 - [O.C. 430-2020](#): Regulation respecting volatility requirements for certain petroleum products for the period from April 9, 2020, to June 30, 2020 (made under the *Petroleum Products Act*). In force April 9, 2020.
 - [O.C. 443-2020](#): Regulation to amend the Regulation respecting the collection of support (made under *An Act to facilitate the payment of support*). In force April 9, 2020.
- The Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity and Minister responsible for the Mauricie region, Mr. Jean Boulet, announced that the Temporary Assistance Program for Workers (PATT COVID-19) will end on April 10, 2020, 4 p.m. (EDT) ([News Release](#)).
- The Canada Emergency Response Benefit (launched by the Canadian government), is available to the majority of workers eligible for the PATT COVID-19.

April 8, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Competition Bureau [statement](#) on competitor collaborations during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In circumstances where there is a clear imperative for companies to be collaborating in the short term to respond to the crisis, where those collaborations are undertaken and executed in good faith and do not go further than what is needed, the Bureau will generally refrain from exercising scrutiny.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced more measures today to support businesses and young Canadians taking a financial hit ([CBC](#)).
 - Finance Minister Bill Morneau provided further details on the eligibility criteria for businesses to access the Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS) ([News Release](#)). Additional details are included in the [backgrounder](#).
- Return to work will be graduated and likely months off, Trudeau says ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Canada’s government is working with banks on more relief measures to help consumers cope with the fallout from the coronavirus pandemic, Royal Bank of Canada Chief Executive Officer David McKay said ([Bloomberg](#)).

- Human rights implications of COVID-19 ([Statement](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced temporary changes to the Canada Summer Jobs program that will help employers hire summer staff ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

The Trump administration issued new restrictions on exports of safety masks and gloves to combat the novel coronavirus outbreak ([Notice](#)).

- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has temporarily eased its policies on nutrition and menu labelling to help calm consumer fears about product shortages, keep restaurants in business and avoid food waste during the COVID-19 pandemic ([Guidance Document](#)).
- New York to open virtual courts to ongoing nonessential cases ([Memorandum](#)).
- U.S. health officials planning for what re-entry to "normality" will look like ([CBC](#)).

Alberta

- Progress of emergency legislation:
 - [Bill 13: Emergency Management Amendment Act, 2020 \(No. 2\)](#) received second reading this afternoon.

British Columbia

- The British Columbia Civil Resolution Tribunal (CRT) remains open, and to help people resolve disputes during the COVID-19 pandemic, is extending statutory deadlines and waiving fees for those struggling financially ([Information Bulletin](#)).
- B.C. is introducing new measures to support British Columbians returning home from international destinations ([News Release](#)).
 - The measures, which include a new legal requirement to provide a self-isolation plan, support the provincial health officer's travel orders and reinforce the federal emergency order under the *Quarantine Act* requiring people entering Canada to self-isolate for 14 days.
- The B.C. government is providing a new Emergency Relief Support Fund and has added service flexibility for parents of children with special needs to help during the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- All B.C. provincial parks are immediately closing ([News Release](#)).
 - The B.C. government is restricting camping and motorized recreation (including the use of off-road vehicles) throughout the entire Kootenai Recreation Strategy area this spring and summer ([News Release](#)).
- Parliamentary secretary's [statement](#) on safe spaces for people leaving violence.

Ontario

- Ontario accelerates essential construction projects during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - Extending hours for essential construction will also give worksite managers more flexibility to stagger shifts, limit the number of people in one place and take reasonable precautions to keep workers safe and healthy under the recent guidelines issued by Ontario's Chief Prevention Officer for construction sites.
- Doug Ford blasts "unacceptable" level of COVID-19 testing ([CBC](#)).
 - Ontario is conducting far fewer COVID-19 tests daily than it had hoped to by this point in a far smaller proportion of its population than any other province. Quebec, B.C. and Alberta are each testing at double Ontario's rate.
- 5,276 confirmed cases, an increase of 550 since yesterday, including 21 deaths

Quebec

- Premier François Legault announced that the Minister of Health and Social Services had already started to transfer staff, in particular, beneficiary attendants, nurses and doctors, from the hospital sector or others to CHSLD and private seniors residences ([News Release](#)).
- Legault says all patients and staff to be tested at long-term-care homes ([CBC](#)).
- 10,031 confirmed cases, an increase of 691 since yesterday, including 25 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Faced with crisis, Trudeau forced to shift on immigration ([Bloomberg](#)).
 - Lower immigration may represent a third strike against Canada's economy.
 - Newcomers have powered the country's growth in recent years, providing a major source of new demand – the surge has spurred a housing boom, driving up prices and fueling construction.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- Trump removes inspector-general overseeing government's coronavirus response ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

Alberta

- Family Resource Networks (FRNs) will deliver prevention and early intervention services and supports through a provincial network of community-based service providers ([News Release](#)).
- 1,373 confirmed cases, an increase of 25 since yesterday, including two deaths. 835 cases in the Calgary zone, 358 cases in the Edmonton zone, 90 cases in the North zone, 66 cases in the Central zone, 22 cases in the South zone and two cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- 1,291 confirmed cases, an increase of 25 since yesterday, including four deaths. Vancouver Coastal Health: 603, Fraser Health: 458, Island Health: 79, Interior Health: 128 and Northern Health: 23.

Ontario

- The Government of Ontario has issued an emergency order ([O.Reg. 128/20](#)) to temporarily allow authorized cannabis retail stores to offer delivery and curbside pick-up ([Information Bulletin](#)).
- The following orders/regulations were added to E-Laws this morning:
 - [O. Reg. 129/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Signatures in Wills and Powers of Attorney.
 - [O.Reg. 130/20](#): Limitation Under Section 25 of the Act – Noise By-Laws in Connection with Construction (construction projects and services in the city associated with the health-care sector, including new facilities, expansions, renovations and conversion of spaces that could be repurposed for health-care space, at any time of the day or night.)
 - [O.Reg. 131/20](#): Limitation Under Section 451.1 of the Act – Noise By-Laws in Connection with Construction.

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Monte McNaughton, Minister of Labour, Training and Skills Development, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- The state of the health emergency is renewed until April 16 ([Decree](#)).
- [Order in Council 288-2020](#) (financial assistance for education expenses) was published in the April 8 *Gazette officielle du Québec*, Part 2.
- Quebec announces two economic measures for the forestry sector ([News Release](#)).
- The Government of Quebec informs the population that the residents who are on the territory of the parish municipality of Notre-Dame-des-Sept-Douleurs are in containment. People will no longer be able to leave or access the island (some exceptions) ([News Release](#) and [Order No. 2020-016](#)).
 - Amendments to various older Orders are also made, and Ministerial Order 2020-015, is further amended by inserting "and their relatives" after "vulnerable groups" in paragraph h of the heading "1. Priority health services and social services."

April 7, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Liberal government is proposing to make it easier for businesses to access its proposed wage-subsidy program, according to draft legislation obtained by [The Globe and Mail](#).
 - The legislation confirms the government's plan to cover 75 per cent of a wage, up to a maximum benefit of C\$847 a week.
 - "Much of the wage subsidy is going to be embedded with the *Income Tax Act*," Prime Minister Trudeau said.
 - The draft bill gives companies the option of using January and February as reference periods instead, under certain conditions. It also includes a section that reduces the threshold for March to 15 per cent. The proposed threshold would remain at 30 per cent for April and May.
- Prime Minister Trudeau announces production of more medical supplies and equipment in Canada ([News Release](#)).
- The government is working with Thornhill Medical, CAE, Ventilators for Canadians and a group led by StarFish Medical to produce the 30,000 machines domestically ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The NAFTA energy ministers are meeting to work out a game plan for the G20 talks in response to demands from Saudi Arabia and Russia for the U.S. and Canada to cut production to help prop up oil prices ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- Senate Democrats, earlier today, [proposed a "Heroes Fund"](#) that would give up to US\$25,000 to "frontline workers," a category they want to cover everyone from doctors, nurses and home health aides to grocery store clerks, truck drivers and mass transit employees. It would also include government employees at all levels.

Alberta

- Government House Leader Jason Nixon called Alberta MLAs back to the legislature this afternoon to debate legislation related to the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- *Emergency Management Act* amended for further clarity ([News Release](#)).
 - **Bill 13:** *Emergency Management Amendment Act, 2020 (No. 2)* received first reading this afternoon. Proposed amendments include:
 - Clarifying that the minister has the power to modify a state of emergency without terminating it
 - Providing clear language that it is an offence to be non-compliant with orders made under states of local or provincial emergency
 - Allowing states of local emergency to last for 90 days
- The chief medical officer of health is ordering a provincewide ban on visitors to long-term-care centres, licensed group homes and other facilities ([News Release](#)).
- Alberta is on track to hit a staggering 25 per cent unemployment rate as businesses continue to shed jobs amid the COVID-19 pandemic coupled with historically low oil prices, Premier Jason Kenney said earlier today ([CBC](#)).

British Columbia

- COVID-19 and wildfire response: Category 2, Category 3 and Resource Open Management Fires to be prohibited ([Information Bulletin](#)).
- New spaces secured for vulnerable people to self-isolate ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- **O. Reg. 126/20:** General and made under the *Pharmacy Act* (related to the “coronavirus exemption” and the adaptation of a prescription for a controlled substance) – has been added to E-Laws.
- Ontario helping Indigenous communities stop the spread of COVID-19 – over C\$37-million committed to support outbreak planning, prevention and mitigation ([News Release](#)).
- 4,726 confirmed cases, an increase of 379 since yesterday, including 21 deaths.\

Quebec

- The Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Quebec, Mrs. Sonia LeBel, and the Chief Justice of the Court of Appeal of Quebec, Nicole Duval Hesler, today announced the digital registry of the Court of Quebec ([News Release](#)).
 - **This registry** (available starting April 9) will allow lawyers and citizens of all regions of Quebec to file electronically a declaration of appeal in the case of appeals as of right in civil matters.
- 9,340 confirmed cases, an increase of 760 since yesterday, including 29 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Canada begins clinical trial of experimental COVID-19 treatment using plasma from recovered individuals ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Ottawa and the provinces are navigating a "Wild West" in the medical supply market ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - The Government of Canada has struck an agreement with Chinese car maker BYD for the production of tens of millions of masks.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- 3M makes deal with the White House, says Canada will continue to receive N95 masks ([CTV](#)).
- Enforcement Discretion Under HIPAA to Allow Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information by Business Associates for Public Health and Health Oversight Activities in Response to COVID-19 ([Rule](#)).
- U.S. deaths from COVID-19 climb to over 10,000 ([CBC](#)).
 - Outbreak shows signs of leveling off in New York and New Jersey ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- Temporary rules will be in place to provide job protection for workers and flexibility for employers during this pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- Employers allowed to appropriately respond to public health measures and at the same time allow employees to remain attached to jobs and have the ability to access federal assistance programs, such as:
 - Increasing the maximum time for temporary layoff, improving schedule flexibility and streamlining the process for approvals related to modifying employment standards.
- Premier Jason Kenney says the province is looking to procure non-medical masks for the general public ([CBC](#)).
- 1,348 confirmed cases, an increase of 98 since yesterday, including one death. 817 cases in the Calgary zone, 351 cases in the Edmonton zone, 89 cases in the North zone, 66 cases in the Central zone, 22 cases in the South zone and three cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- Under new guidelines set by Transport Canada to reduce and mitigate the risks of COVID-19, additional safety measures are now in place for the province's inland ferry system to help protect the safety of passengers and crew ([Information Bulletin](#)).
- Why B.C. is flattening the COVID-19 curve ([CBC](#)).
- 1,266 confirmed cases, an increase of 63, including one death. Vancouver Coastal Health: 586, Fraser Health: 450, Island Health: 79, Interior Health: 128 and Northern Health: 23.

Ontario

- Ontario joins Quebec in restricting short-term rentals during coronavirus pandemic ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- No new updates.

April 6, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Emergency benefit to be expanded to cover more part-time workers, Prime Minister Trudeau says ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

- He also said Parliament will soon be recalled to approve legislation enacting the new 75 per cent wage subsidy. He did not announce a date but said talks are going on with opposition parties.
- New Horizons for Seniors Program projects can now be used for COVID-19 support ([News Release](#)).
- Dr. Theresa Tam, at the Public Health Agency of Canada, said today that Canadians can use non-medical masks in tandem with social-distancing measures to limit the transmission of COVID-19 when out grocery shopping or at a pharmacy ([CBC](#)).
- The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) is prepared to help Canadians who have been outside of Canada for an extended period and are heeding the advice of the Government of Canada to return home ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- [Executive Order](#) on Encouraging International Support for the Recovery and Use of Space Resources.
- N.Y. deaths may signal possible plateau ([Bloomberg](#)).
 - States and nations tightened restrictions: Boston enacted a curfew; Texas is monitoring travellers entering from Louisiana.

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- Emergency order ([O.Reg.120/20](#)) will allow police, firefighters and paramedics to obtain COVID-19 positive status information about individuals with whom they are coming into contact ([Statement](#)).
 - The information disclosed will be limited to an individual's name, address, date of birth and whether the individual has had a positive COVID-19 test result.
 - Once the declaration of emergency is lifted, this data will be made inaccessible to first responders.
 - Related to this order: [O.Reg. 122/20](#) (made under the *Vital Statistics Act* – persons exempt).
- Province providing one-time financial assistance during school and childcare closures ([News Release](#) and [O.Reg. 121/20](#)).
 - The new Support for Families initiative offers a one-time payment of C\$200 per child zero to 12 years of age, and C\$250 for those zero to 21 years of age with special needs.
- Ontario providing relief for remote northern property taxpayers during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - Province deferring provincial land tax payments for 90 days.
- Ontario has only one-week's supply of "critical" protective equipment left, Premier Ford said earlier today ([CBC](#)).
- 4,347 confirmed cases, an increase of 309 since yesterday, including 13 deaths.

Quebec

- The Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Solidarity and Minister responsible for the Mauricie region, Mr. Jean Boulet, announces the allocation of C\$100-million for the

implementation of the Concerted Actions Program for the maintenance in employment ([News Release](#)).

- The Parti Quebecois called on the Legault government to order all big-box stores that are remaining open during the COVID-19 pandemic to close any non-essential departments – claiming unfair competition ([News Release](#)).
- Partnership between Télé-Québec and the Government of Quebec to further support young people and their learning ([News Release](#)).
- 8,580 confirmed cases, an increase of 636 since yesterday, including 27 deaths.
 - Premier Francois Legault said “only” eight people were hospitalized in the province with the disease over the day prior, a number he called “extraordinary” ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- U.S. and Canada discuss putting tariffs on Saudi and Russian oil ([CBC](#)).
- Ottawa and banks close to making a deal on coronavirus small business loans ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Many provinces and territories are enforcing border checkpoints and travel restrictions – so far, eight provinces and territories have set up such checkpoints and travel restrictions ([CBC](#)).
- The Government of Canada announced on Friday it has entered into an agreement with Amazon Canada to help manage the distribution of personal protective equipment and supplies, purchased by the government, to support the COVID-19 response. Amazon is providing these services to Canadians at cost, without profit ([News Release](#)).
- The Government of Canada announces new measures for ferries and commercial passenger vessels capable of carrying more than 12 passengers ([News Release](#)).
- Karina Gould, Minister of International Development, announced the allocation of C\$159.5-million in funding to support international efforts to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. This investment includes C\$50-million announced by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau earlier in March ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
- Canada announced support to those experiencing homelessness and women fleeing gender-based violence during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- U.S. hospitals are facing “severe” and widespread shortages of personal protective equipment, ventilators, testing supplies and staff, according to a newly released [watchdog report](#) from the Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General ([Washington Post](#)).
- President Trump said that the federal government will send 600,000 N95 masks to New York City and 200,000 to Suffolk County. He said additional ventilators would be sent to New Jersey, Louisiana, Michigan, Illinois and Massachusetts ([NBC](#)).
- Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Policy and Regulatory Revisions in Response to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency ([Federal Register](#)).

Alberta

- In response to COVID-19 and the economic effects to our forestry industry, the Alberta government will defer timber dues for six months ([News Release](#)).
- 1,250 confirmed cases, an increase of 282 since Friday, including 10 deaths. 774 cases in the Calgary zone, 309 cases in the Edmonton zone, 67 cases in the Central zone, 77 cases in the North zone, 20 cases in the South zone and three cases in zones yet to be confirmed.

British Columbia

- As part of British Columbia's emergency COVID-19 response plan, the province is partnering with the BC Care Providers Association to launch EquipCare BC to help seniors in long-term-care and assisted-living homes ([News Release](#)).
- 1,203 confirmed cases, an increase of 82 since Friday, including seven deaths. Vancouver Coastal Health: 554, Fraser Health: 424, Island Health: 76, Interior Health: 128 and Northern Health: 21.

Ontario

- The Government of Ontario launched a [new web portal](#), connecting workers with employers looking to fill positions in the agri-food sector ([News Release](#)).
- On Friday evening, Ontario added [O. Reg. 119/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) – Closure of Places of Non-Essential Businesses to the E-Laws website.
- Ontario hospitals ban health-care workers from criss-crossing borders to work ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Ontario is investing up to C\$40-million to support organizations that provide residential services for children and youth, people with developmental disabilities and emergency shelters for women and families fleeing domestic violence ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education; Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; and Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).
- 4,038 confirmed cases, an increase of 783 since Friday, including 52 deaths.

Quebec

- Premier François Legault announced Sunday that the closure of all businesses and non-essential businesses will be extended until May 4 ([News Release](#)).
- [Ministerial Order 2020-015](#) – related to amendments of various orders and special sector-based agreements concerning the measures related to the public health emergency; certain union organizations are amended by this order (such as work conditions).
- The Quebec government supports [Le Panier Bleu](#), a project set up to unite the various initiatives that have emerged to stimulate local purchasing in Quebec since the COVID pandemic.
- 7,944 confirmed cases, an increase of 1,843 since Friday, including 33 deaths.

March 2020

March 30 – April 3

April 3, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Prime Minister said the government has signed a deal with Amazon Canada to use its distribution network to send medical supplies to meet provincial needs ([CBC](#)).
- Canada continues to work with 3M and its U.S. partners, Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland said, adding that the government is working with a range of suppliers around the world.

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced an investment of C\$100-million to improve access to food for Canadians facing social, economic and health impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. ([News Release](#)).
- The recent orders (related to minimizing the risk of exposure/prohibition of entry) under the *Quarantine Act* have all been published in Part 1 of the April 4 [Canada Gazette](#).
 - The following orders have been added to the Orders in Council Database:
 - Order providing goods and services to any private entity in Canada or elsewhere [PC 2020-207](#)
 - Order providing support for working capital and liquidity for micro enterprises in order to cover non-deferrable costs during the current economic crisis related to COVID-19 [PC 2020-206](#).

U.S. – Federal

- 3M faces pressure from Trump order to stop exporting N95 masks to Canada ([CBC](#)).
- Among other things, the order mandates that 3M stop making N95 masks that are destined for customers in Canada and Latin America, and instead keep them in the U.S.
- 3M [Response](#) to Defense Production Order.
- Trump administration discussed shutting oil production in the Gulf of Mexico ([Seeking Alpha](#)).
- White House expected to roll out mask guidance to combat COVID-19 spread ([CBC](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- [Order in Council 159/2020](#) – Direction to the British Columbia Utilities Commission Respecting COVID-19 Relief was published – made under the *Utilities Commission Act* (see the [news release](#) from Wednesday's digest).
- The government is providing an additional C\$1.5-million to supplement the Indigenous Emergency Assistance Fund, which assists Indigenous students who are experiencing an unexpected financial emergency ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- Ontario extends business closures to stop the spread of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- The updated essential businesses list can be [found here](#).
 - The restrictions are aimed at further reducing contact between people and stopping the spread of COVID-19. By 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, April 4, 2020, businesses that are not identified on the list must close their physical locations.
- This closure will be in effect for 14 days, with the possibility of an extension as the situation evolves.
- Ontario provides full transparency by releasing COVID-19 modelling ([News Release](#)).
 - Ontario projects between 3,000 and 15,000 deaths over 18-24 months of pandemic ([full text of Ontario government model](#) and [CBC](#) coverage).
- [O. Reg. 118/20](#) – Order under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Work Deployment Measures in Retirement Homes.
 - Ontario protecting seniors in retirement homes during COVID-19 outbreak ([News Release](#)).
- 3,255 confirmed cases, an increase of 462 since yesterday and 14 deaths.

Quebec

- 6,101 confirmed cases, an increase of 583 since yesterday and 25 deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland spoke with premiers yesterday evening to discuss the evolving COVID-19 situation ([News Release](#)).
 - The leaders discussed preparations and actions undertaken by the federal government and provincial and territorial partners to protect the health and safety of all Canadians and to support workers and businesses.
- Ontario's move puts pressure on feds to reveal national COVID-19 projections ([National Post](#)).
 - Federal officials are hoping the national projections will be available within the next five days.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said the government is working with credit-card providers to offer some sort of relief to customers ([CBC](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- Disaster Declarations of Economic Injury for the Coronavirus (COVID-19) ([Small Business Administration](#)).
- The Trump administration is close to recommending that all Americans wear cloth masks if they go out in public ([Reuters](#)).

Alberta

- Progress of emergency legislation:
 - S.A. 2020 c. 5, ([Bill 10](#)) – *Public Health (Emergency Powers) Amendment Act, 2020*, received royal assent yesterday evening. In force April 2, 2020.
 - S.A. 2020 c. 6 ([Bill 11](#)) – *Tenancies Statutes (Emergency Provisions) Amendment Act, 2020*, received royal assent yesterday evening. In force April 2, 2020 (sections 1 and 3 have effect on March 27, 2020).
 - S.A. 2020 c. 4 ([Bill 12](#)) – *Liabilities Management Statutes Amendment Act, 2020*, received royal assent yesterday evening. In force on proclamation – not yet in force.
- 968 confirmed cases, an increase of 97 since yesterday, including two deaths. 589 cases in the Calgary zone, 247 cases in the Edmonton zone, 59 cases in the Central zone, 55 cases in the North zone and 14 cases in the South zone.

British Columbia

- B.C. firefighters ordered to attend immediately life-threatening calls only ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- 1,121 confirmed cases, an increase of 55 since yesterday, six deaths. 525 in the Vancouver Coastal health region, 386 in the Fraser Health region, 72 in the Island Health region, 121 in the Interior Health region and 17 in the Northern Health region.

Ontario

- Ontario increasing public health units' capacity to stop COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - Ontario has launched a [new user-friendly online portal](#) for the public to easily access their COVID-19 lab test results.
- Provincial health experts are expected to provide a briefing Friday on modelling projections for the spread of COVID-19 in Ontario ([CBC](#)).

- Infected health-care workers are the source of coronavirus outbreaks at four Ontario hospitals ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health; and Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, to make an announcement at 1:30 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- The government is announcing C\$150-million to help small and medium-sized businesses in Quebec ([News Release](#)).
 - [This program](#) is set up to support SMEs that are experiencing financial difficulties due to COVID-19 and who need liquidity of less than C\$50,000 for their working capital.
 - Businesses in all industries, including cooperatives, not-for-profit organizations and social economy businesses engaged in business activities.
 - The Government of Quebec is also announcing an extension of the Local Investment Funds (FLI) for two years, until December 31, 2022.
- [Order No. 2020-014](#) – related to the conditions of health emergency compliance in the municipal sector (contracts, sale of an immovable at a public auction).
 - Also listed are various amendments to previous orders, including an amendment to the “priority commercial enterprises” to add “smoke shops that are not specialized points of sale of tobacco” and the closure of businesses on Sundays.

April 2, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Government of Canada provides [guidance](#) on services and functions deemed essential to Canada's critical infrastructure during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - The guidance document provides a list of services and functions across Canada's 10 critical infrastructure sectors: energy and utilities, information and communication technologies, finance, health, food, water, transportation, safety, government and manufacturing.
- Trudeau to hold call with premiers as worries mount over shortage of COVID-19 medical supplies ([CBC](#)).
- Military set to deploy to Indigenous and northern communities to fight outbreak of COVID-19 ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- [Order](#) Under the *Defense Production Act* Regarding the Purchase of Ventilators:
 - The secretary shall use any and all authority available under the act to facilitate the supply of materials to the appropriate subsidiary or affiliate of the following entities for the production of ventilators: General Electric Company; Hill-Rom Holdings, Inc.; Medtronic Public Limited Company; ResMed Inc.; Royal Philips N.V.; and Vyair Medical, Inc.
- New York state's coronavirus death toll doubled in 72 hours to more than 1,900 ([CTV](#)).
 - President Donald Trump acknowledged that the federal stockpile of personal protective equipment used by doctors and nurses is nearly depleted.

Alberta

- Nine non-profits will receive C\$3-million to provide additional food assistance for vulnerable K-12 students and families in response to the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).

- Government is directing Alberta Health Services to temporarily suspend parking fees for health-care workers and the general public during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- Progress of emergency legislation:
 - [Bill 10](#): *Public Health (Emergency Powers) Amendment Act, 2020*, still awaiting third reading.
 - [Bill 11](#): *Tenancies Statutes (Emergency Provisions) Amendment Act, 2020*, still awaiting royal assent.
 - [Bill 12](#): *Liabilities Management Statutes Amendment Act, 2020*, received third reading this afternoon. Now awaiting royal assent.

British Columbia

- Premier's task force to support B.C. economy during and after COVID-19: [Background](#) (updated April 2, 2020).
 - A new Economic Recovery Task Force will bring together leaders from business, labour, First Nations and not-for-profits to help ensure the province's economic response to COVID-19 is effective and responsive.
- The following orders were published this afternoon:
 - [Ministerial Order No. M092](#) – The amendments to support the shortage of pharmacists/pharmacy technicians of the College of Pharmacists of British Columbia made under the *Health Professions Act* come into force on April 1, 2020.
 - [Ministerial Order No. M093](#) – Provincial Compliance Officer (COVID-19) Order.
 - [Ministerial Order No. M094](#) – Protection Against Liability (COVID-19) Order. Those providing essential services cannot be held liable for damages caused by exposure to COVID-19 while continuing to operate ([News Release](#)).
- Province boosts emergency funding supports for students ([News Release](#)).
 - Students attending B.C.'s 25 public post-secondary institutions who are experiencing emergency financial pressures will benefit from a one-time investment of C\$3.5-million in emergency financial assistance.
- New emergency supports for province's most vulnerable ([News Release](#)).
 - For people in B.C. currently receiving income assistance or disability assistance, the province will temporarily exempt federal employment insurance benefits, including the new C\$2,000 Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB).
 - For everyone on income assistance or disability assistance who is not eligible for the emergency federal support programs, including the CERB, the province will provide an automatic C\$300-monthly COVID-19 crisis supplement for the next three months.

Ontario

- The following orders were published this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 115/20](#) – Temporary Exemptions Relating to Declared Emergency (made under the Environmental Bill of Rights).
 - [O.Reg. 116/20](#) – Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Work Deployment Measures for Boards of Health.
- Ontario supports trucking sector for keeping goods moving ([Statement](#)).
- Attorney General announces C\$4-million to support victims and protect front-line justice staff ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario increasing mental-health support during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 2,793 confirmed cases, an increase of 401 since yesterday, including 16 deaths.

Quebec

- The Quebec government is seeking the collaboration of businesses to get through the health crisis linked to COVID-19.
 - To support the health network, the government is looking for products that can meet the demand for supplies of personal protective equipment (PPE) ([see list here](#)).
- Prioritization of screenings has been revised and refocused on those most at risk of being hospitalized or developing complications following infection and those who occupy strategic functions in the fight against infection in Quebec ([News Release](#)).
- Premier François Legault asked the police officers of the Sûreté du Québec and the municipal police forces, in particular of Montréal, to be less tolerant and even crack down on people who defy the rules by continuing to assemble and against non-essential businesses that remain open ([News Release](#)).
 - The President of the Conseil du trésor and Minister responsible for Government Administration, Christian Dubé, and the Minister of Health and Social Services, Danielle McCann, announced a salary bonus and protective measures staff up to C\$287-million for health-care workers who are in direct contact with patients with COVID-19.
- 5,518 confirmed cases, an increase of 907 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Canada's food supply at risk as pandemic tightens borders to farm workers – the pandemic is making it difficult for farmers to bring in temporary workers to plant crops on time ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Canada is spending millions on faster testing tech for COVID-19 ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Alberta and Ontario signed deals with Spartan Bioscience Inc., a small Ottawa-based company that produces a hand-held DNA analyzer that can provide COVID-19 test results in about 30 minutes.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- U.S. to build hundreds of temporary hospitals as country's coronavirus death toll surpasses China's ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The Labor Department [reported](#) that about 6.6 million people filed new claims for unemployment benefits last week, bringing the figure for the past two weeks to nearly 10 million. ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
- The U.S. is weighing grounding domestic flights to virus hot spots ([Wall Street Journal](#)).

Alberta

- The government is expanding eligibility for select licensed childcare centres to provide childcare for all essential service workers ([News Release](#)).
- To ensure the continuous operation of Alberta's food supply chain, the provincial government is partnering with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to increase food inspector capacity ([News Release](#)).
- 871 confirmed cases, an increase of 117 since yesterday, including two deaths. 527 cases in the Calgary zone, 219 cases in the Edmonton zone, 57 cases in the Central zone, 51 cases in the North zone and 12 cases in the South zone.
- [O.C. 107/2020](#) Electronic Documents Regulation is made (under the *Provincial Court Act*).
- Progress of emergency legislation:

- [Bill 10: Public Health \(Emergency Powers\) Amendment Act, 2020](#) was referred to the Committee of the Whole yesterday evening; the committee reported the bill with one amendment.
- [Bill 11: Tenancies Statutes \(Emergency Provisions\) Amendment Act, 2020](#) still at third reading, awaiting royal assent.
- [Bill 12: Liabilities Management Statutes Amendment Act, 2020](#) was referred to the Committee of the Whole yesterday evening – no amendments were introduced.

British Columbia

- The provincial health officer (PHO) has issued [new guidelines](#) to support compliance with orders on business closures and gatherings under the *Public Health Act* ([News Release](#)).
 - All PHO orders and guidance documents can be [found here](#).
- 1,066 confirmed cases, an increase of 53 since yesterday, including one death. Vancouver Coastal Health: 497, Fraser Health: 367, Island Health: 72, Interior Health: 114 and Northern Health: 16.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Michael Tibollo, Associate Minister of Mental Health and Addictions, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- Order in Council 388-2020 (renewal of the public health emergency), Ministerial Orders 2020-10 to 2020-13 and Order 2020-4267 (notification of a document by a technological means) were published in the April 1 [Gazette officielle du Québec](#), Part 2 yesterday evening.
 - [O.C. 397-2020](#) Regulation respecting certain financial assistance measures for borrowers under the *Act respecting financial assistance for education expenses* owing to the COVID-19 pandemic has also been published. This regulation came into force on April 1, 2020.

April 1, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy ([Backgrounder](#) and [News Release](#)).
 - Eligible employers would include individuals, taxable corporations and partnerships consisting of eligible employers as well as non-profit organizations and registered charities.
- Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) to launch on April 6 ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
- Trudeau looking to recall Parliament once again to consider expanded COVID-19 aid ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - A senior government official said a time has not yet been set to reconvene Parliament, but it's likely to happen [early next week](#). While there are conflicting views on whether legislation is needed, the numbers are so large that the government thought it was right to put it before Parliament, the official said.

- Finance Minister Bill Morneau said the expanded wage subsidy will cost the federal government C\$71-billion but will reduce the demand and fiscal cost of a similar program for unemployed workers.
- Canadian officials say isolation measures to stay for a long time – no specific timeline on how long strict measures could last, saying they would be in place for a number of weeks — and perhaps months.
- Canadian government shopping for high-demand N95 masks on the international market ([CBC](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- Florida and Pennsylvania joined states ordering lockdowns ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
- The Federal Reserve said it was temporarily taking steps to ease an obscure capital requirement for large banks to address strained conditions in the Treasury market ([Wall Street Journal](#)).

Alberta

- Progress of emergency legislation:
 - [Bill 10](#): *Public Health (Emergency Powers) Amendment Act, 2020*, received second reading this afternoon.
 - [Bill 11](#): *Tenancies Statutes (Emergency Provisions) Amendment Act, 2020*, still at third reading, awaiting royal assent.
 - [Bill 12](#): *Liabilities Management Statutes Amendment Act, 2020*, received second reading this afternoon.

British Columbia

- The province has partnered with the Digital Technology Supercluster and the Business Council of British Columbia to create the COVID-19 Supply Hub, a made-in-B.C. online platform to coordinate, source and expedite medical supplies and personal protective equipment (PPE) for provincial health authorities to support front-line health workers fighting COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- Province supporting people with relief on power bills during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - BC Hydro will offer new, targeted bill relief to provide immediate help to those most in need.
 - Major industries, like pulp and paper mills and mines, will have the opportunity to defer 50 per cent of their bill payments for three months.
 - Small businesses that have been forced to close due to COVID-19 will have their power bills forgiven for three months, from April to June 2020.
 - In addition to this new targeted bill relief, BC Hydro rates will be reduced by one per cent on April 1, 2020.
- Starting in April 2020, the province, through viaSport, will provide provincial, disability and multi-sport organizations with the ability to access C\$5-million, which represents 50 per cent of their annual 2020-21 provincial funding allocation, to provide these organizations with access to cashflow sooner ([Statement](#)).

Ontario

- Ontario joins forces with the private sector to fight COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - New C\$50-million Ontario Together Fund will support the development of essential equipment and supplies.
- [O. Reg. 114/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Enforcement Orders (related to the [news release](#) from this morning – public required to identify themselves if charged with breaching an emergency order.)

- 2,392 confirmed cases, an increase of 426 since yesterday, including two deaths.

Quebec

- [Order No. 2020-013](#) has now been published in English.
 - Edit to this morning's digest: the order also amends the list of priority activities to add "horticulture" and "bike repairs workshops" to the list of priority services and activities.
- [Guidance for Industry](#): What to do when someone tests positive for COVID-19 in a food establishment.
- Quebec bans non-essential travel within Laurentians, Lanaudière and Outaouais regions and to La Tuque ([La Presse](#), in French only, and [CBC](#)).
- 4,611 confirmed cases, an increase of 449 since yesterday, including two deaths.

Last updated 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Bank of Canada is expected to buy C\$200-billion of debt as it embraces quantitative easing ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The following regulations have been added to the April 1 *Canada Gazette*, Part II (Regulatory Impact Statements are included).
 - [S.O.R./2020-44](#) Regulations Amending the Employment Insurance Regulations.
 - [S.O.R./2020-53](#) Regulations Amending the Schedule to the *Quarantine Act* (COVID-19 Coronavirus Disease).
- More restrictions coming on travel between Ottawa and Gatineau ([CBC](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump, appearing at a briefing with two of his top medical advisors, repeatedly urged Americans to follow federal social-distancing guidelines, which have now been extended through the end of April ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
 - Nearly half of the 50 states have now reported more than 1,000 confirmed cases.
- Delegating Additional Authority Under the *Defense Production Act* With Respect to Health and Medical Resources to Respond to the Spread of COVID-19 was added to the Federal Register today ([85 FR 18403](#)).

Alberta

- Full text of the emergency legislation was added yesterday evening:
 - [Bill 10: Public Health \(Emergency Powers\) Amendment Act, 2020](#), still at first reading – if passed, this bill will provide law enforcement agencies full authority to enforce public health orders during a pandemic.
 - [Bill 11: Tenancies Statutes \(Emergency Provisions\) Amendment Act, 2020](#), passed third reading, awaiting royal assent – if passed, this bill will ensure no one will be retroactively charged for residential rent increases or late fees while the state of public health emergency is in effect.
 - [Bill 12: Liabilities Management Statutes Amendment Act, 2020](#), still at first reading – if passed, this bill will enable government to clarify and enable expanded, delegated authority for the Orphan Well Association to maintain and manage orphan sites.
- 754 confirmed cases, an increase of 64 since yesterday. 453 cases in the Calgary zone, 187 cases in the Edmonton zone, 51 cases in the Central zone, 50 cases in the North zone and 12 cases in the South zone.

British Columbia

- The B.C. government has formally extended the provincial state of emergency to support the provincewide response to the COVID-19 pandemic, through the end of the day on April 14, 2020 ([News Release](#) and [Order in Council](#)).
- 1,013 confirmed cases, an increase of 43 since yesterday. Vancouver Coastal Health: 476, Fraser Health: 348, Island Health: 67, Interior Health: 107 and Northern Health: 15.

Ontario

- People who are being charged with an offence under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* (EMCPA) will be required to identify themselves if asked by a provincial offences officer, which includes police officers, First Nations constables, special constables and municipal bylaw enforcement officers ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Vic Fedeli, Minister of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade; and Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- [Draft Regulation](#) with regard to the format of pleadings filed in technological media with the court office of the Court of Appeal was published in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.
- [Order No. 2020-013](#) related to the modification of various previously released orders (related to judicial procedural changes and limitations of entry).
- The Government of Quebec is implementing the Assistance Program for the maintenance of essential regional air services during health emergencies. With a maximum budget of C\$40-million, the purpose of this program is to provide transportation of essential goods ([News Release](#)).

March 31, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has announced new partnerships with Canadian industries to fight COVID-19 ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
 - C\$2-billion is being invested to support diagnostic testing and to purchase ventilators and protective personal equipment, including for bulk purchases with provinces and territories.
 - New procurement agreements have been signed with Canadian companies Thornhill Medical, Medicom and Spartan Bioscience to purchase and boost capacity to manufacture equipment and supplies.
 - Letters of intent have been signed with five companies – Precision Biomonitoring, Fluid Energy Group Ltd., Irving Oil, Calko Group and Stanfield's.
 - In addition, C\$50-million has been made available in funding for members of the Next Generation Manufacturing Supercluster to develop and scale-up new, in-demand technologies, equipment and medical products.
- TC Energy proceeding with long-delayed Keystone XL pipeline with assistance from Alberta ([The Globe and Mail](#) and [Statement](#) by Minister Seamus O'Regan).
- Canadian transit agencies seek more than C\$1-billion in emergency funds ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump called for a possible fourth relief package to include significant investment in infrastructure ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
 - Mrs. Pelosi has also said she envisions a phase-four bill would pay for some growing workplace needs: medical leave, more protections for those at risk of infection, government funds to pay for coronavirus tests and help for pension funds at risk because of the economic jolt.
- U.S. cases topped 181,000, with more than 3,600 deaths ([Wall Street Journal](#)).

Alberta

- Legislation tabled deals with a number of issues, including modernizing the *Public Health Act* and protecting mobile home residents. Government will also be tabling legislation that updates the process for managing well liabilities in the province that will create conditions to help the province's oil and gas industries rebound once the pandemic is over ([News Release](#)):
 - Bill 10: *Public Health (Emergency Powers) Amendment Act, 2020* was tabled this afternoon and currently sits at first reading (full text may be added [later today here.](#))
 - Bill 11: *Tenancies Statutes (Emergency Provisions) Amendment Act, 2020* was tabled this afternoon and currently sits at first reading (full text may be added [later today here.](#))
 - Bill 12: *Liabilities Management Statutes Amendment Act, 2020* was tabled this afternoon and currently sits at first reading (full text may be added [later today here.](#))

British Columbia

- Province helps essential service workers find childcare ([Information Bulletin](#)).

Ontario

- Ontario extends school and childcare closures to May 4, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario enabling students to complete the academic year, offering loan payment deferrals and financial support for institutions ([News Release](#)).
- 1,966 confirmed cases, an increase of 260 since yesterday, including three deaths (linked to the Pinecrest Nursing Home in Bobcaygeon).

Quebec

- The Autorité des Marchés Financiers (AMF) announces today a series of measures aimed at minimizing the impact of COVID-19 on the Quebec financial system ([News Release](#)).
 - The measures are in addition to or are intended to specify the measures announced by the AMF on March 19, 2020. Today's announcement concerns the following sectors of financial activity:
 - Financial services cooperatives, trust companies and savings companies
 - Deposit-taking institutions authorized under the *Deposit Institutions and Protection of Deposits Act*
 - Quebec-chartered insurers
- 4,162 confirmed cases, an increase of 732 since yesterday, including six deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The government announces support for air transportation sector during COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#) and [Backgrounder](#)).
- The government provides relief to the broadcasting sector ([News Release](#)).
- The emergency coronavirus legislation the Canadian government passed last week bolsters Ottawa's ability to step in and purchase troubled assets from financial institutions or other companies if necessary ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Temporary Wage Subsidy for Employers – Frequently Asked Questions ([CRA](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- States call on retired medical staff and new graduates ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
- Roughly three of four people in the U.S. are or soon will be under instructions to stay indoors, as states and localities try to curb the spread of the coronavirus before hospitals are overwhelmed ([New York Times](#)).

Alberta

- The Legislature will reconvene today to debate legislation related to the COVID-19 pandemic, supporting Albertans and the province's economic future.
- The Canadian Energy Centre (CEC) is reducing its current operating budget by 90 per cent to reflect needs during the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- 690 confirmed cases, an increase of 29 since yesterday, including five deaths. 422 cases in the Calgary zone, 164 cases in the Edmonton zone, 46 cases in the Central zone, 45 cases in the North zone and 12 cases in the South zone.

British Columbia

- Guidance provided to industrial camps during COVID-19 ([Information Bulletin](#)).
 - [The guidelines](#) are intended to highlight key preparedness and response measures that can be taken by industrial camps in relation to COVID-19. By providing staff and residents with accurate information about prevention and control measures, the guidelines can help minimize transmission within the camps.
- 970 confirmed cases, an increase of 86 since yesterday, including two deaths. Vancouver Coastal Health: 472, Fraser Health: 323, Island Health: 67, Interior Health: 94 and Northern Health: 14.

Ontario

- Ontario extends declaration of emergency and subsequent emergency orders, regulations and amendments issued under s.7.0.1 and 7.0.2(4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* to April 13, 2020 ([News Release](#)). Orders below:
 - [O. Reg. 105/20](#): Order Made Under the Act – Extension of Emergency
 - [O. Reg. 106/20](#): Order Made Under the Act – Extensions and Renewals of Orders
 - [O. Reg. 107/20](#): Order Under Subsection 7.1 (2) of the Act – Meetings for Corporations
- All outdoor recreational amenities across the province are now closed:
 - [O. Reg. 104/20](#): Emergency Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Closure of Outdoor Recreational Amenities.
- Ontario enabling students to complete the academic year; offering loan payment deferrals and financial support for institutions ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario is expected to unveil online learning plan this afternoon ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Ross Romano, Minister of Colleges and Universities; and Stephen Lecce, Minister of Education, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- [Order 2020-012](#) was published yesterday evening related to Premier François Legault's announcement of the closing of Sunday businesses, with the exception of certain essential services.
- Québec solidaire offers 30 days of grace for rents and mortgages ([News Release](#)).
- [Order 2020-04](#) (related to the suspension of deadlines to pay the sums eligible to retain the right to drive certain vehicles) was added to the *Gazette officielle du Québec*. In force March 31, 2020.

March 30, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Canadian military assembles "rapid reaction" teams to help with pandemic response ([CBC](#)).
 - The military's "rapid reaction" teams will be available for a range of missions, such as delivering medical supplies and supporting remote communities that may be vulnerable to COVID-19 outbreaks.
- All businesses seeing 30 per cent drop in revenue due to pandemic will be eligible for 75 per cent wage subsidies, says Prime Minister Trudeau ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - The wage subsidies will be retroactive to March 15, 2020.
- Indigenous, territorial and federal leaders mobilize funding to support unique northern physical-distancing initiative ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- Americans prepared for a prolonged lockdown. New York expanded its capacity to care for sick patients as total U.S. cases exceeded 150,000 ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
- Notice of Designation of Scarce Materials or Threatened Materials Subject to COVID-19 Hoarding Prevention Measures ([Federal Register](#)).
- Waiver of Original Handwritten Signature Requirement Due to the COVID-19 Outbreak ([Patent and Trademark Office](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- [Ministerial Order M089](#) – Residential Tenancy (COVID-19) Order has been published (related to support for renters and landlords).
- [Ministerial Order M088](#) – related to Class Exemption for Patients, Practitioners and Pharmacists Prescribing and Providing Controlled Substances in Canada during the Coronavirus Pandemic (see also [Ministerial Order 087](#)).

Ontario

- Ontario enhancing public reporting about COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - [Dedicated website](#) will include expanded information of confirmed cases across the province
- Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health, issued a [statement](#) earlier today with stay-at-home recommendations except for essential reasons, such as to:
 - Access to health-care services
 - Shop for groceries
 - Pick-up medication at the pharmacy
 - Walk pets when required
 - Support vulnerable community members with meeting the above needs
- Ontario increasing health and safety measures to better protect frontline nurses from COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - The directive also addresses the ongoing stewardship and conservation of the current level of PPE supplies.
- Ontario posted various orders/regulations to E-Laws website this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 95/20](#) Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Streamlining Requirements for Long-Term Care Homes. In force March 27, 2020.
 - [O.Reg. 98/20](#) Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act – Prohibition on Certain Persons Charging Unconscionable Prices for Sales of Necessary Goods. In force March 27, 2020.
 - [O.Reg. 99/20](#) Emergency Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act (related to the prohibition of gatherings of more than five people).
 - [O.Reg. 100/20](#) – Emergency Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act (related to the closure of establishments extended to March 31, 2020).
 - [O.Reg. 101/20](#) – General, under the *Travel Industry Act* (amendments in part about a supplier's failure to provide travel services related to COVID-19). In force March 30, 2020.
- Province investing C\$10-million to mobilize businesses and volunteers to support the most vulnerable ([News Release](#)).
- 1,706 confirmed cases, an increase of 351 since yesterday including 10 deaths.

Quebec

- Premier François Legault announces the closing of Sunday businesses, with the exception of certain essential services ([News Release](#)).
- To encourage all workers who fight against COVID-19, Marie-Victorin MP Catherine Fournier proposes that overtime be tax-free ([News Release](#)).
- Worried about the pressures exerted at the negotiating table to quickly renew collective agreements in the public sector, the spokesperson for Québec solidaire, Gabriel Nadeau-Dubois, and the manager of public services, Vincent Marissal, ask Premier François Legault to call its negotiators to order and ensure that agreements are not negotiated under pressure ([News Release](#)).
- Temporary measure in relation to supervised visits ordered by the Superior Court ([News Release](#)).
- Open school: a web platform is now available online for children and parents ([News Release](#)).
- 3,430 confirmed cases, an increase of 590 since yesterday, including three deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Competition Bureau issued a report outlining competition concerns with Air Canada's proposed acquisition of Transat ([Competition Bureau](#)).

- New domestic transportation measures were announced on Saturday ([Transport Canada](#)).
 - Canadians who show any symptoms of COVID-19 will be barred from boarding all domestic flights and trains.
 - These measures come into effect today at noon.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced measures to support vulnerable Canadians to help cope with the health, social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- Parks Canada helps tourism businesses in national parks and historic sites deal with the impacts of COVID-19 by deferring commercial lease payments without interest until September 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- Joint [statement](#) on ongoing collaboration of federal-provincial ministers related to COVID-19 impacts.
 - Temporary foreign workers in the fish and seafood processing sector will be allowed, under very specific conditions, to travel to Canada, while following mandatory health and safety measures.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- President Donald Trump said on Sunday that the physical distancing guidelines would be in place until at least April 30 to slow the spread of COVID-19 ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
- U.S. coronavirus deaths could reach as high as 200,000, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Anthony Fauci said ([Bloomberg](#)).
- The U.S. is prepping a fourth stimulus package, perhaps even larger than last week's US\$2-trillion package ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
- Local and state leaders across the country are preparing for the coronavirus to move inland ([New York Times](#)).
 - Some states restrict travellers from coronavirus "hot zones" ([Wall Street Journal](#)).

Alberta

- The [List of Essential Workplaces](#) has been published.
- Increased security for Alberta renters was announced. These protections are required by new ministerial orders under the *Residential Tenancies Act* and the *Mobile Homes Sites Tenancies Act* ([News Release](#)).
- Vehicle access to provincial parks, parking lots and staging areas on public land has been suspended ([News Release](#)).
- Mass gatherings are now limited to 15 people and more restrictions will be placed on available services ([News Release](#)).
- Funding for K-12 education is being temporarily adjusted to reflect the cost of at-home learning by students during the COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- 661 confirmed cases, an increase of 175 since Friday, including three deaths. 408 cases in the Calgary zone, 149 cases in the Edmonton zone, 46 cases in the Central zone, 45 cases in the North zone and 12 cases in the South zone.

British Columbia

- [Guidance](#) to retail food and grocery stores operating during COVID-19 ([Information Bulletin](#)).
- An [Information Bulletin](#) was released yesterday related to Friday's order under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.
 - The order enables the broader use of communications tools for health-care workers and other public-sector staff who are responding to the COVID-19 state of emergency.
- The province is providing a C\$3-million emergency grant from the Community Gaming Grants program to Food Banks British Columbia ([News Release](#)).

- New guidelines for school leaders and a new website are being introduced to support B.C.'s K-12 students while in-class education is suspended to prevent the spread of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 884 confirmed cases, an increase of 159 since Friday, including one death (in the Vancouver Coastal region). Vancouver Coastal Health: 444, Fraser Health: 291, Island Health: 60, Interior Health: 77 and Northern Health: 12.

Ontario

- Ontario protecting supply chains to support COVID-19 emergency response – news release related to the regulations issued Friday under the *Supply Chain Management Act* ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario protecting consumers from price gouging – offenders face fines of up to C\$500,000 for charging unfair prices on necessary goods ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario stepping up measures to limit the spread of COVID-19 on construction sites ([Statement](#)).
 - [Updated guidance](#).
- Ontario taking emergency measures to support long-term-care homes during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - The temporary measures provide further flexibility for long-term-care homes and allow homes to redirect their staffing and financial resources to essential tasks.
- Ontario prohibits gatherings of more than five people with strict exceptions – effective as of Saturday ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health; Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, Minister of Long-Term Care; and Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, to make an announcement today at 1 p.m. (EDT).
- 1,355 confirmed cases, an increase of 362 since Friday, including four deaths.

Quebec

- The Quebec government announced C\$133-million in emergency funds for seniors residences and other facilities that work with vulnerable groups to help them deal with the COVID-19 pandemic ([CBC](#)).
- Police control to isolate eight regions ([News Release](#) and [Ministerial Order 2020-011](#)).
- [Ministerial Order 2020-010](#) and [Order 4267](#) – Temporary measures authorizing notaries to close acts remotely and bailiffs to serve pleadings by technological means ([News Release](#)).
- Quebec Premier François Legault said Sunday that the number of new COVID-19 cases in the province appears to be "stabilizing" ([CBC](#)).
- 2,840 confirmed cases, an increase of 819 since Friday.

March 23 – March 27

March 27, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced support for small businesses facing impacts of COVID-19 ([News Release](#)). The government will:
 - Launch the Canada Emergency Business Account to provide up to C\$25-billion to eligible financial institutions so they can provide interest-free loans to small businesses.

- Announce a 75 per cent wage subsidy for qualifying businesses, for up to three months, retroactive to March 15, 2020.
- Allow businesses, including self-employed individuals, to defer all GST/HST payments until June, as well as customs duties owed for imports.
- Launch the new Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Loan and Guarantee program that will enable up to C\$40-billion in lending.
- Additional support for Canadian businesses from the economic impact of COVID-19 ([Backgrounder](#)).
- Senate leader calls for more ambitious action, including buying stakes in companies ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- [Statement](#) from President Trump regarding the *Defense Production Act*: requires General Motors to accept, perform and prioritize federal contracts for ventilators.
 - [Memorandum](#) on Order Under the *Defense Production Act* Regarding General Motors Company.
- President Trump signed the US\$2-trillion relief bill ([Wall Street Journal](#)).

Alberta

- Legislature to reconvene Tuesday, March 31, 2020, to debate legislation related to the COVID-19 pandemic, supporting Albertans and the province's economic future ([News Release](#)).
- Alberta posted two orders this afternoon:
 - [O.C. 99/2020](#) Meeting Procedures (COVID-19 Suppression) Regulation. The purpose of this regulation is to provide for meetings under the act to be held in a manner that avoids exposing persons to COVID-19.
 - [O.C. 100/2020](#) Procedures (Public Health) Amendment Regulation – penalty payable by an individual in respect of a contravention of an order of a medical officer of health.
- Tax relief for tourism industry ([News Release](#)).
 - Payments deferred until August 31 will not be subject to penalties or interest.

British Columbia

- Limitation periods to commence court proceedings in British Columbia have been suspended, and statutory decision-makers have been provided discretion to waive, suspend or extend time periods related to their powers ([News Release](#)).
 - [Ministerial Order No. M086](#) Limitation Periods (COVID-19) Order.
 - [Ministerial Order No. M085](#) related to health-care disclosure and communication under the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. This order will remain in effect until June 30, 2020. The Minister may rescind or extend the effect of this Order in full or in part before June 30, 2020.
- Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture, released a [statement](#) about immediate responses to novel coronavirus (COVID-19) for the arts and culture sector.

Ontario

- Ontario posted various orders to the E-Laws website this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 92/20](#) Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response and Recovery – made under the *Supply Chain Management Act*. In force when section 2 of Schedule 37 to the *Plan to Build Ontario Together Act* comes into force (not yet in force).

- [O.Reg. 91/20](#) Health Sector Entities – made under the *Supply Chain Management Act*. In force when section 2 of Schedule 37 to the *Plan to Build Ontario Together Act* comes into force (not yet in force).
- [O.Reg. 90/20](#) Extending Time Periods for Accessible Parking Permits. In force March 26, 2020.
- [O.Reg. 89/20](#) Order under subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the act – Traffic Management (related to the closing of highways, other means). In force March 26, 2020.
- [O.Reg. 88/20](#) Extending Time Periods in Ontario Regulations – under the *Highway Traffic Act*. In force March 26, 2020.
- 993 confirmed cases, an increase of 135 since yesterday, including three deaths

Quebec

- Part of the list of priority services and activities that was posted online includes garbage collection and residual materials management. In respect of residual materials management, [here is the list of services](#) that are deemed essential.
- The following two orders remove tolls as a measure and permit products to be delivered:
 - [M.O. 2020-02](#) – Suspension of the prohibition from driving a road vehicle on bridges P-15020 of autoroute 25 and P-10942 of autoroute 30 subject to a toll under the *Act respecting transport infrastructure partnerships* unless the amount of the toll and the fees are paid in accordance with that act. In force March 25, 2020.
- [M.O. 2020-03](#) – Suspension of the axle load and total loaded mass limits applicable during the thaw period to certain road vehicles or combinations of road vehicles. In force March 25, 2020 and repealed on June 20, 2020.
- The Quebec government announced new measures to help individuals and businesses ([News Release](#)).
 - Quebec is following the federal government's lead and allowing businesses to postpone filing until June 30, 2020, for their returns and payments in respect of the March 31, April 30 and May 31 QST remittances, without interest or penalties.
 - Quebec will accelerate the processing of requests for tax credits intended for businesses and tax refunds.
- Due to the major impact the COVID-19 pandemic is having on the operations of businesses, the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles and the Autorité des marchés financiers (AMF) informed entities subject to the obligations in the *Act respecting transparency measures in the mining, oil and gas industries* that the annual statements to be provided to the AMF will be accepted up to 120 days after the prescribed deadline ([News Release](#)).
- Emergency childcare remains open and free until May 1 ([News Release](#)).
- 2,021 confirmed cases, an increase of 392 since yesterday.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Parliament's Budget Officer released a report today, *Scenario Analysis: COVID-19 Pandemic and Oil Price Shocks*, which provides an illustrative example of what could happen based on a set of economic assumptions ([Report](#)).
- The Bank of Canada has made a second unscheduled cut to its benchmark interest rate, lowering it to 0.25 per cent amid the COVID-19 crisis ([CBC](#)).
- In-person Service Canada centres to be closed ([Employment and Social Development Canada](#)).
- Canadians arriving home from abroad cannot take taxis, ride-sharing cars or public transit home if they don't have their own transportation, but rather must use transit arranged by the federal government, says the Health Minister (under the federal *Quarantine Act*) ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Statement from John Ossowski, president of the Canada Border Services Agency: CBSA is working closely with other government partners, including the Public Health Agency of Canada,

as well as allies, such as U.S. Customs and Border Protection, to confront the rapidly developing outbreak. Recently, the agency has bolstered its capacity and heightened its operational posture at all points of entry into Canada ([Statement](#)).

- The official orders for Minimizing the Risk of Exposure to COVID-19 in Canada have been added: [PC Number: 2020-0185](#) and [PC Number: 2020-0184](#).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- The U.S. coronavirus cases now surpass those of China and Italy ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
 - The Trump administration is planning to issue guidelines categorizing counties across the nation as high risk, medium risk or low risk, aiming to help state and local authorities decide whether to tighten or relax social-distancing measures designed to help slow infections.

Alberta

- 486 confirmed cases, an increase of 67 since yesterday. 300 cases in the Calgary zone, 111 cases in the Edmonton zone, 26 cases in the North zone, 37 cases in the Central zone and 12 cases in the South zone.

British Columbia

- B.C. published the following orders yesterday as part of its list of unprecedented steps to support COVID-19 response ([News Release](#)).
 - [Order No. M084](#) of the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, which grants B.C. power to take over supply chains and the ability to demand that retailers and suppliers report inventory of critical supplies ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - [Order No. M083](#) of the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, related to the Local Government Meetings and Bylaw Process.
 - [Order No. M082](#) of the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, enabling municipal bylaw officers to support enforcement of the provincial health officer's orders for business closures and gatherings, in line with offences under the *Public Health Act*.
 - People who ignore public health orders can now be jailed or fined upward of C\$25,000 ([CBC](#)).
- New clinical guidance to reduce risk for people during dual health emergencies ([News Release](#)).
 - The provincial clinical guidance incorporates the federal government's recent exemptions to the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - The provincial health officer has made two orders for public- and private-health-sector employers and long-term-care facilities. These orders ensure employees work at only one facility to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission (Information Collection from Long Term Care Facility Staff [Order](#) and Movement Limitation [Order](#).)
- 725 confirmed cases, an increase of 66 since yesterday. Vancouver Coastal Health: 359, Fraser Health: 241, Island Health: 52, Interior Health: 62, Northern Health: 11.

Ontario

- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- No new updates.

March 26, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Today the Minister of Indigenous Services, Marc Miller, outlined the details of the C\$305-million for the new distinctions-based Indigenous Community Support Fund to address immediate needs in First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation communities related to COVID-19 ([Indigenous Services Canada](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said earlier today that the federal government is urging Canada's banks to lower interest rates on credit cards ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- The official order for the mandatory quarantine rules for returning Canadians has now been added: [PC 2020-0175](#).

U.S. – Federal

- Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell said the U.S. economy "may well be in a recession," but that the central bank is taking unprecedented action to help ensure economic activity can resume ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
- A source told CBC News the White House is looking at placing American troops near the shared border ([CBC](#)).

Alberta

- Premier Jason Kenney says the province is continuing to create a list of essential and critical infrastructure that would remain open should all non-essential services be shuttered during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - "I anticipate that by early next week we will have settled on certain criteria and a list of essential services." ([CTV](#))
- To date, the government focus is on maintaining an open trade relationship between Canada and the United States for movement of essential goods across the border; also working with the federal and provincial partners to maintain functioning rail service, ports and commercial trucking systems within Canada and across North America to enable the movement of essential goods ([News Release](#)).
- Twenty-two Indigenous communities have paused consultations as of March 25 (companies that propose oil, gas, mining, forestry or similar projects that could disturb Crown land are responsible for managing consultation with affected Indigenous communities) ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- B.C. has just released its [List of Essential Services](#). Official order is forthcoming.
- Using the extraordinary powers under the *Emergency Program Act*, the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Mike Farnworth, is issuing a series of ministerial orders to ensure a coordinated response to COVID-19 across all levels of government for the duration of the provincial emergency ([News Release](#)).
 - These include: supply chain, protecting consumers, enforcement, travel and protecting B.C.'s most vulnerable.
 - The orders are forthcoming.

Ontario

- The Ontario government is providing an additional C\$3.3-billion to support frontline health-care workers and increase health-care capacity in response to the COVID-19 outbreak ([News Release](#)).
- The Ontario government is enabling C\$1.9-billion in relief for employers to reduce the financial strain. The measure, which will run through the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB), will see premium payments deferred for six months for all businesses in the province ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario published various regulations related to COVID today:
 - [O.Reg. 86/20](#): Licences to sell liquor. In force March 26, 2020.
 - Alcohol can now be ordered with food takeout and delivery across Ontario ([AGCO Info Bulletin](#)).
 - [O.Reg. 85/20](#) General, related to the Health Insurance Act. In force April 1, 2020.
 - [O.Reg. 84/20](#) Special Payments for Physician Services. In force April 1, 2020.
 - [O.Reg. 87/20](#) General, related to child, youth and family services. In force on March 26, 2020, except subsection 2(2) in force on July 1, 2020.
- 858 confirmed cases, an increase of 170 since yesterday.

Quebec

- The official opposition is working in collaboration with the government to quickly find flexible economic measures adapted to the reality of Quebec to support SMEs in all regions of Quebec ([News Release](#) – only available in French).
- 1,629 confirmed cases, an increase of 290 since yesterday including two deaths.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- New order from the Public Health Agency of Canada makes self-isolation mandatory for individuals entering Canada ([News Release](#)).
- Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety makes courses and publications available to help workplaces during COVID-19 pandemic ([News Release](#)).
- Department of Finance issued its [News Release](#) on *The COVID-19 Emergency Response Act*.
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- Yesterday evening the Senate passed the US\$2.2-trillion economic rescue package ([H.R. 748](#)). The Senate passage delivered the legislation to the House, which will most likely pass it on Friday ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
 - The Bill would provide one-time direct payments to Americans of US\$1,200 per adult.
 - It builds on efforts focused on vaccines and emergency response, sick and family medical leave for workers, and food aid; it will expand unemployment benefits and provide a US\$367-billion program for small businesses to keep making payroll while workers are forced to stay home.
 - It includes a heavily negotiated US\$500-billion program for guaranteed, subsidized loans to larger industries, including airlines.

Alberta

- The Kenney government will soon introduce its own list of essential businesses, an Alberta government source told [The Globe and Mail](#).

- Law enforcement agencies have been granted full authority to enforce public health orders and issue fines ([News Release](#)).
- 419 confirmed cases, an increase of 61 since yesterday. 250 cases in the Calgary zone, 100 cases in the Edmonton zone, 23 cases in the North zone, 35 cases in the Central zone and 10 cases in the South zone.

British Columbia

- 659 confirmed cases, an increase of 42 since yesterday, one death (another resident of the Lynn Valley Care Centre). 339 are in the Vancouver Coastal Health region, 218 are in the Fraser Health region, 47 are in the Vancouver Island Health region, 46 are in the Interior Health region and nine are in the Northern Health region.

Ontario

- [S.O. 2020, c. 5](#) (Bill 188), *Economic and Fiscal Update Act 2020*, received royal assent yesterday evening. Coming-into-force information is set out at the end of each schedule. If there is no CIF information provided, the schedule comes into force on royal assent (March 25, 2020).
 - Accompanying [News Release](#) from yesterday.
- Premier Doug Ford will be joined by Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, and Rod Phillips, Minister of Finance, to make an announcement at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- No new updates.

March 25, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- All travellers returning to Canada — with the exception of what the federal government is calling "essential workers" — will have to enter a mandatory 14-day quarantine as of midnight to help slow the spread of COVID-19, said federal Health Minister Patty Hajdu ([CBC](#)).
- The Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) has been introduced to help workers and businesses ([Department of Finance](#)).
 - This taxable benefit would provide C\$2,000 a month for up to four months for workers who lose their income as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The CERB would be a simpler and more accessible combination of the previously announced Emergency Care Benefit and Emergency Support Benefit.
- The Government of Canada is taking action to support the publishing and news sectors during the COVID-19 pandemic ([Canadian Heritage](#)).
 - The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) confirmed that the Independent Advisory Board on Eligibility for Journalism Tax Measures is now in place.
- Statement on joint international effort to ensure supply chain connectivity amid COVID-19 pandemic ([Global Affairs Canada](#)).
 - [Joint ministerial statement](#) by Australia, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, New Zealand and Singapore affirming commitment to ensuring supply chain connectivity amid the COVID-19 situation.
- Help for Canada's oil and gas sector is "hours, possibly days" away, federal Finance Minister Bill Morneau said earlier today ([CBC](#)).

- The minister said Ottawa has been in daily contact with provincial governments to discuss those issues and how it is impacting provincial revenues.
- [S.C. 2020, c. 5](#) (Bill C-13), *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act* received royal assent today. Coming into force information is set out at the end of each part. If there is no CIF information provided, the part comes into force on royal assent (March 25, 2020).

U.S. – Federal

- New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo described the street closures in New York City as a pilot program and said sports like basketball would be banned in city parks, first on a voluntary basis as long as people comply ([CBC](#)).
- A number of other U.S. states have also applied for major disaster relief status in recent days, including Florida, Texas, New Jersey, North Carolina, Missouri, Maryland and South Carolina.

Alberta

- MyAlberta is now receiving emergency isolation support applications from working Albertans who are self-isolating or the sole caregivers for someone in self-isolation ([News Release](#)).
- There are early signs of success in flattening the curve, despite rising cases ([CBC](#)).

British Columbia

- New guidance to B.C. manufacturers during COVID-19 has been released ([Information Bulletin](#)).
- New guidance to mining and smelting operations during COVID-19 has been released ([Information Bulletin](#)).
- A new temporary rental supplement has been introduced, halting evictions and freezing rents, among other actions ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- Premier Ford and Minister Phillips Announce Additional Health Care Resources and Support for People, Jobs and Employers ([News Release](#)).
- Finance Minister Rod Phillips released [Ontario's Action Plan: Responding to COVID-19](#) (March 2020 Economic and Fiscal Update).
- The action plan will provide C\$7-billion in additional resources for the health-care system and will provide direct support for people and jobs. This includes C\$3.3-billion in additional health-care resources, C\$3.7-billion to support people and jobs, and measures that will make available up to C\$10-billion in support for people and businesses through tax and other deferrals to improve their cash flows.
- 688 confirmed cases, an increase of 100 since yesterday.

Quebec

- The following orders have now been added to the *Gazette Officielle du Québec*:
 - [M.O. 2020-005](#), Ordering of measures to protect the health of the population during the COVID-19 pandemic situation.
 - [M.O. 2020-006](#), Ordering of measures to protect the health of the population during the COVID-19 pandemic situation.
 - [M.O. 2020-007](#), Public health emergency order to protect the health of the population amid the COVID-19 pandemic situation.

- [M.O. 2020-008](#), Ordering of measures to protect the health of the population during the COVID-19 pandemic situation.
- [M.O. 2020-009](#), Ordering of measures to protect the health of the population during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- [O.C. 222-2020](#), Renewal of the public health emergency under section 119 of Public Health Act and certain measures to protect the health of the population.
- [O.C. 223-2020](#), Ordering of measures to protect the health of the population during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Quebec is asking universities to inventory medical equipment that might be needed in for hospitals ([Press Conference](#)).
- 1,339 confirmed cases, an increase of 326 since yesterday.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Bill C-13, *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act* passed third reading in the House of Commons just after 6 a.m. (EDT) this morning after significant delays caused by opposition to the Liberals' attempt to grant broad spending and taxing powers to cabinet without parliamentary oversight ([CTV](#)). The full text of the Bill is expected to be published at approximately 12 p.m. (EDT) today on [Legisinfo](#).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- The White House reaches deal with lawmakers on an estimated US\$2-trillion stimulus package ([Wall Street Journal](#)). The Senate will move to vote on the bill later on today.
 - *Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act*, or H.R. 748 will provide direct financial checks to many Americans, drastically expand unemployment insurance, offer hundreds in billions in loans to both small and large businesses, and provide health-care providers with additional resources.
 - The bill would also provide that businesses can carry back losses from 2018, 2019 and 2020 for up to five years.

Alberta

- 358 confirmed cases; an increase of 57 since yesterday, one death (female in her 80s and a resident at the McKenzie Towne Continuing Care Centre in Calgary).
- 214 cases in the Calgary zone, 86 cases in the Edmonton zone, 20 cases in the North zone, 28 cases in the Central zone, eight cases in the South zone and two cases where the zone is still under investigation.

British Columbia

- 617 confirmed cases; an increase of 145 since yesterday. Vancouver Coastal Health: 330, Fraser Health: 194, Island Health: 44, Interior Health: 41, Northern Health: 8.

Ontario

- There will be an emergency session of the legislature later this afternoon, Finance Minister Rod Phillips is expected to reveal more support for the health system and businesses when he tables his one-year spending plan ([CBC](#)).

- The Minister of Finance to Release an Economic and Fiscal Update in the Legislature at 4 p.m. (EDT) (approximately), followed by the Premier and Minister media availability at 5 p.m. (EDT).
- Two additional Ontario Orders were added yesterday evening:
 - [O.Reg. 82/20](#), Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) - Closure Of Places Of Non-Essential Businesses.
 - [O.Reg. 83/20](#), General (made under the *Long-Term Care Homes Act*). In force March 24, 2020.
- Two deaths in Ontario long-term care homes (one woman in the Durham Region in her 90s and one woman in Hamilton in her 80s).

Quebec

- [Order number 2020-009](#) of the Minister of Health and Services related to the suspension of visiting rights to the elderly, suspension of rights for the elderly to leave their homes and suspension of court delays under the *Civil Code of Procedure* (except for urgent matters).

March 24, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- The Prime Minister solicited the views of premiers on the *Emergencies Act* and related emergency measures ([PM Readout](#)).
- The *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act* is currently being debated in the legislature. The Senate is scheduled to reconvene tomorrow to further scrutinize and pass the bill – royal assent is expected tomorrow.
- [The Globe and Mail](#) and CTV viewed draft copies of the Bill – full text is not yet available to the public – and listed the following highlights from the legislation:
 - Includes measures that could help auto parts makers retool their factories to produce life-saving ventilators for desperately ill COVID-19 patients.
 - Provides C\$500-million for the provinces that could be used, among other things, to purchase sorely needed medical equipment.
 - Creating a 16-week window where eligible Canadian workers can be absent from work on account of the novel coronavirus.
 - Enacting a new *Public Health Events of National Concern Payments Act*, which would grant the finance minister the ability to spend “all money required to do anything, including making payments to provinces and territories,” in relation to public health events of national concern.
 - Providing the finance minister a range of new powers related to procuring, loaning to, merging, selling, winding-up or dissolving corporations.
 - Allowing for, on the authorization of the health minister, the ability to “make, construct, use and sell a patented invention to the extent necessary to respond to the public health emergency.”
- Parks Canada implements additional measures, suspending visitor vehicle access to Parks Canada places across the country until further notice ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- Negotiators are nearing accord on U.S. Stimulus Package to Combat Coronavirus ([Wall Street Journal](#)).

- Indiana, Michigan and Oregon announced orders to stay home other than for essential business ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
- Federal Trade Commission and Justice Department Announce Expedited Antitrust Procedure and Guidance for Coronavirus Public Health Efforts ([Federal Trade Commission](#)).

Alberta

- No new updates.

British Columbia

- The Liquor Control and Licensing Regulation is amended re: temporary authority to sell liquor ([O.C. 134/2020](#)).
 - The amendments are repealed on July 15, 2020.
- Certain parks and recreation areas will close ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- Ontario posted various Orders to E-laws this afternoon:
 - [O.Reg. 78/20](#), Emergency Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of the Act regarding child care for specified workers. In force March 23, 2020.
 - [O.Reg. 77/20](#), Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of *The Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* – Work Deployment Measures In Long-Term Care Homes. In force March 23, 2020. o Accompanying [News Release](#).
 - [O.Reg. 76/20](#), Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of *The Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* – Electronic Service. In force March 23, 2020.
 - [O.Reg. 75/20](#), Order Under Subsection 7.0.2 (4) of *The Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* – Drinking Water Systems And Sewage Works. In force March 23, 2020.
- For a 45-day period, the government is working to suspend time-of-use electricity rates, holding electricity prices to the off-peak rate of 10.1 cents-per-kilowatt-hour ([Office of the Premier](#)).
- The Ontario Construction Consortium (OCC) (an umbrella group for labour unions representing carpenters, painters and other workers), said the government should suspend work in the sector for 14 days to protect the safety of workers and employers during the crisis ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - In the press conference today, Premier Ford noted: “if the industry does not take every step necessary to look after their workers, I will shut them down.”
- 588 confirmed cases; an increase of 85 since yesterday.

Quebec

- C\$2-million dollars has been released for food banks ([La Presse](#)).
- 1,013 confirmed cases; an increase of 385 since yesterday.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- House of Commons is set to reconvene this afternoon.
 - The federal Liberals appear to be backing away from a proposal to grant themselves sweeping power to spend money, borrow and change taxes without parliamentary approval through to December 31, 2021, as part of legislation the government is expected to table Tuesday, as it passes COVID-19 emergency economic measures ([CTV](#)).

- Public Health Agency of Canada reported that 44 per cent of all COVID-19 cases in the country are the result of community transmission ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- President Donald Trump has speculated that he might ease social distancing recommendations in the next week ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

Alberta

- Government is providing C\$25-million to support homeless-serving agencies respond to COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- 301 confirmed cases; an increase of 42 cases since the weekend. 188 cases in the Calgary zone, 68 cases in the Edmonton zone, 19 cases in the North zone, 17 cases in the Central zone, eight cases in the South zone.

British Columbia

- Two significant Bills were tabled/received royal assent yesterday and have made changes to the *Employment Standards Act* to better support workers both during the COVID-19 public health emergency and in the long term ([News Release](#)):
 - [Bill 15](#), 2020: *Supply Act (No. 2), 2020*. In force on royal assent (March 23, 2020).
 - [Bill 16](#), *Employment Standards Amendment Act (No. 2), 2020*. In force on royal assent (March 23, 2020).
- Vancouver can now enforce physical distancing with fines up to C\$50,000 ([CTV](#)).

Ontario

- Yesterday evening Ontario posted its [List of Essential Workplaces](#); see also the accompanying [news release from the Office of the Premier](#). The official Order is still forthcoming.
- Premier Doug Ford to make an announcement at Queen's Park at 1 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- Yesterday evening Quebec posted its [List of Essential Workplaces](#) – the official Order is still forthcoming.
- Premier François Legault expected to speak at 1 p.m. (EDT).

March 23, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau announced support (C\$275-million) for coronavirus research and medical countermeasures ([News Release](#)).
 - The funding will be used to advance projects that are already underway by university researchers and others to respond to COVID-19 and ensure domestic supply of potential vaccines.

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau also announced new measures to support farmers and agri-food businesses in Canada facing financial hardship ([News Release](#))
 - Farm Credit Canada will receive support that will allow for an additional C\$5-billion in lending capacity to producers, agribusinesses and food processors.
- “Stiff enforcement measures could be imposed if people don't stop engaging in behaviour that puts lives at risk,” says Prime Minister Justin Trudeau ([CBC](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- The Federal Reserve unveiled a major expansion of lending programs that are designed to keep credit markets functioning after they seized up last week ([Press Release](#)).
- The Senate failed to advance Coronavirus rescue package for a second day ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
- The White House announced the launch of the COVID-19 High Performance Computing Consortium to provide COVID-19 researchers worldwide with access to the world's most powerful high-performance computing resources that can significantly advance the pace of scientific discovery in the fight to stop the virus ([News Release](#)).

Alberta

- Three significant decisions have been made that will give Albertans and Alberta employers additional supports as they deal with the impacts of the COVID-19 crisis: education property tax freeze, education property tax deferral for business and WCB premiums deferral for private sector businesses and support for small and medium businesses ([News Release](#)).
- New temporary physician billing codes are being added to the schedule of medical benefits so that physicians are compensated for providing virtual care ([News Release](#)).

British Columbia

- COVID-19 Action Plan: B.C.'s first steps to support people, businesses – particularly through tax relief ([Office of the Premier](#)).
 - The plan dedicates C\$2.8-billion to help people and fund the services they need to weather the crisis; C\$2.2-billion will provide relief to businesses and help them recover after the outbreak.
 - Emergency Benefit for Workers will provide a tax-free C\$1,000 payment to British Columbians whose ability to work has been affected by the outbreak.
 - Boosted income supports by increasing and expanding the B.C. Climate Action Tax Credit in July 2020.
 - Effective immediately, businesses with a payroll over C\$500,000 can defer their employer health tax payments until September 30, 2020.
 - The recovery plan will dedicate funding to particularly hard-hit parts of the economy, such as the tourism, hospitality and culture sectors.
- Service BC centres are remaining open ([News Release](#)).
- 472 confirmed cases; an increase of 48 since the weekend. Three more patients have died (one from Lynn Valley Care Centre, one from Haro Park Centre and one resident from Fraser Health).

Ontario

- Premier Ford announced all non-essential businesses to close by midnight Tuesday, March 24. A list of non-essential and essential businesses will be released by the government tomorrow ([News Release](#)).
 - Official Order has not yet been published.

- Grocery stores and pharmacies singled out as part of an "extensive" list of businesses that can stay open ([CBC](#)).
- New funding (C\$200-million) will support municipalities, food banks, homeless shelters and individuals ([News Release](#)).
 - The funding will also help individuals who do not qualify for emergency financial supports under federal programs.
 - The government is putting in place an expanded Emergency Assistance Program administered through Ontario Works to cover these individuals' needs such as food, rent, informal childcare and services.
- Ontario schools will not reopen April 6; Premier Ford did not say when students can plan to return to school ([CTV](#)).
- 503 confirmed cases; an increase of 78 from the weekend.

Quebec

- François Legault announced all non-essential businesses to close by midnight Tuesday, March 24 ([Press Conference](#)).
 - Official Order has not yet been published.
 - Residents of elderly care homes will now not be allowed to leave their residences.
- Police forces have new temporary powers to enforce the containment measures ([CBC](#)).
- 628 confirmed cases; an increase of 409 since the weekend.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- House of Commons will be recalled on Tuesday at 12 p.m. (EDT) to pass emergency legislation to help workers and businesses ([News Release](#)).
- The CBSA will facilitate entry for Canadians driving U.S. plated vehicles by permitting the temporary import of U.S. vehicles without paying duties and taxes, subject to conditions ([CBSA](#)).
 - Exemptions to the air travel restrictions will apply to foreign nationals who have already committed to working, studying or making Canada their home – exemptions include seasonal agricultural workers ([Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada](#)).
- Federal, local governments consider fines, prison to enforce social distancing, "we will use every measure in our toolbox at the federal level to ensure compliance," says federal Health Minister Patty Hajdu ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - Prime Minister Justin Trudeau says Canada is not at the point where the federal government needs to take emergency measures to force people to stay at home ([Bloomberg](#)).
- Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) and Canadian Paralympic Committee (CPC) say they won't send athletes to compete at the Tokyo Games — set to begin July 24. Canadian Olympic and Paralympic Committees call for 1-year postponement ([CBC](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- The lockdown affecting large segments of the American public to try to curb the spread of the coronavirus is likely to last 10 to 12 weeks, or until early June, U.S. Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin said on Sunday ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
 - U.S. cases climbed to over 25,000 on Sunday morning and at least 325 people have died, with about half the cases in New York State. Illinois, Connecticut and New Jersey instituted statewide lockdowns ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
 - President Trump approves [New York](#) and [Washington](#) Disaster Declaration.

- Lawmakers in Washington are nearing a deal that could pump a record \$1 trillion into the economy to limit the economic damage. Mnuchin told “Fox News Sunday” that he hopes Congress will vote on the bill today ([The Globe and Mail](#)).

Alberta

- Select licensed child care centres will be opened to provide child care for core service workers ([News Release](#)).
- Premier Jason Kenney has announced the membership of the Economic Recovery Council, created to provide advice which will guide Alberta through the downturn that comes as a result of COVID-19 and the energy price crash ([News Release](#)).
- The Premier’s Council on Charities and Civil Society will strengthen community organizations working to address social challenges. Their first task is advising on civil society’s response to COVID ([News Release](#)).
- 259 confirmed cases; an increase of 113 cases since Friday, including three recovered and one death. 64 cases in the Calgary zone, 60 cases in the Edmonton zone, 18 cases in the North zone, 10 cases in the Central zone, Seven cases in the South zone.

British Columbia

- Distillers in British Columbia are temporarily authorized to manufacture alcohol-based hand sanitizer to help combat COVID-19, through an updated policy directive from the Liquor and Cannabis Regulation Branch ([News Release](#)).
- Guidance issued to construction sites operating during COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
- Changes made to temporarily allow restaurants to deliver liquor products alongside the purchase of a meal ([Policy Directive](#)).
- Personal service establishments – like barbershops, salons, nail estheticians, health spas, massage parlours, tattoo shops and others – are ordered to close ([Joint Statement](#)).
- Action is being taken to protect vulnerable people, including those experiencing homelessness. Measures include a ban on evictions for non-payment of rent and centralized procurement for critical supplies needed by frontline providers, including gloves and cleaning products ([News Release](#)).
- Child care centres that remain open will receive compensation to continue operating with reduced enrolment ([News Release](#)).
- 424 confirmed cases; an increase of 153 since Friday, including six recovered and 10 deaths. Vancouver Coastal Health: 230, Fraser Health: 126, Island Health: 37, Interior Health: 27, Northern Health: 4.

Ontario

- New temporary order announced which would give hospitals the ability to cancel and postpone services to free-up space and valuable staff, identify staffing priorities, and develop, modify and implement redeployment plans, ([News Release](#)).
- New Government Website Removes Barriers for Companies to Provide Essential Goods and Services ([News Release](#)).
 - [Ontario Together](#) will identify the province’s supply challenges and solicit ideas and advice from Ontario’s business and manufacturing communities.
 - Ontario to open select child care centres across the Province ([News Release](#)).
- Closure of drive test centres will take effect today ([Statement](#)).
- Premier Ford to make an announcement at Queen’s Park at 12:30 p.m. ET.
- 425 confirmed cases; an increase of 117 since Friday, including six recovered and five deaths.

Quebec

- François Legault announced Sunday that schools will be closed until May 1, along with all stores in shopping malls apart from grocery stores, pharmacies and SAQ liquor stores ([CBC](#)).
 - All playgrounds in Montréal have been closed and starting today Hydro-Québec will not charge late payment fees for those who cannot pay their bills.
- 219 confirmed cases; an increase of 80 since Friday, including one recovered and four deaths.

March 16 – March 20

March 20, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister announces Canada's Plan to Mobilize Industry to fight COVID-19 ([News Release](#)).
 - The Plan introduces new measures to directly support these businesses to rapidly scale up production or re-tool their manufacturing lines to develop products made in Canada that will help in the fight against COVID-19.
 - It focuses on domestic capacity building, innovative solutions and procurement of essential supplies.
- U.S.-Canada Joint Initiative: Temporary restriction of travellers crossing the U.S.-Canada border for non-essential purposes ([Public Safety Canada Statement](#)).
 - Irregular migrants/asylum seekers will be turned back — a move described as unprecedented ([CBC](#)).
 - Supply chains, including trucking, will not be impacted by this new measure.
 - This decision will be implemented on March 21, 2020 (midnight).
- Government of Canada announces additional measures to support continued lending to Canadian consumers and businesses ([Department of Finance](#)).
 - Minister of Finance Bill Morneau announced amendments to mortgage insurance eligibility criteria, set out in regulations made under the *National Housing Act* and *Protection of Residential Mortgage or Hypothecary Insurance Act*.
- The Canadian military is preparing to respond to multiple waves of the COVID-19 pandemic, which could stretch out over a year or more, the country's top military commander said in his latest planning directive.
 - Gen. Jonathan Vance, the chief of the defence staff, warned in a memo on Thursday that requests for assistance can be expected "from all echelons of government and the private sector and they will likely come to the Department [of National Defence] through multiple points of entry." The directive notes the federal government has not yet directed the military to move into response mode, but if — or when — it does, a single government panel, likely a deputy-minister level inter-departmental task force, will "triage requests and co-ordinate federal responses" ([CBC](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- Mutual agreements with Canada and Mexico to restrict non-essential travel across our northern and southern borders ([Fact Sheet](#)).
- Gov. Andrew Cuomo ordered all nonessential workers to stay home as the [NY] state dramatically escalated its efforts to curb the coronavirus pandemic ([Statement](#)).
 - New restrictions go into effect on Sunday evening.
 - Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker is expected to make a similar announcement soon.

Alberta

- The *Emergency Management Amendment Act, 2020* ([Bill 9](#)) was tabled today. The bill is currently at third reading and awaiting Royal Assent (when it will be officially enacted as law).

British Columbia

- Select day-use services and facilities are currently still available at B.C. provincial parks ([News Release](#)).
- Government liquor stores remain open with readjusted hours of operation ([News Release](#)).

Ontario

- Ontario is waiving the three-month waiting period for Ontario Health Insurance Plan (OHIP) coverage. Additionally, the province will cover the cost of COVID-19 services for uninsured people who do not meet the criteria for OHIP coverage ([News Release](#)).
- Ontario is launching an online portal for students who can't go to class ([CTV](#)).
- 308 confirmed cases; 51 more than yesterday.

Quebec

- Government announced it's making C\$2.5-billion available for businesses, much of that to be delivered in the form of loans and loan guarantees, Economy Minister Pierre Fitzgibbon said ([CBC](#)).
- François Legault has announced that in the coming days infrastructure projects will be accelerated to curb layoffs in the construction industry ([Press Conference](#)).
- 139 confirmed cases; 18 more than yesterday.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Statement from the Commissioner of Competition regarding enforcement during the COVID-19 coronavirus situation ([Competition Bureau Canada Statement](#)).
 - The Bureau will scrutinize any evidence that companies or individuals have violated Canada's competition laws, including: deceptive marketing practice and collusion by competing businesses.
- Ottawa finalizing plan to boost production of pandemic supplies; Prime Minister expected to make the announcement today ([CBC](#)).
 - Both the Automotive Parts Manufacturers' Association and Aerospace Industries Association of Canada said they have spoken to officials from Ottawa.
 - The Prime Minister said Canada might also use its military procurement policy to get medical equipment.
- The federal government is preparing a multibillion-dollar bailout package for Canada's oil and gas sector that is expected to be unveiled early next week ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau expected to speak at 11:15 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- The United States is expected to announce restrictions on travel across the border with Mexico; the restrictions are expected to be revealed sometime today ([Reuters](#)).

- Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf has mandated that all law firms and other legal services close their physical offices, as part of a larger order specifying that non-life-sustaining businesses must close ([PA.gov](#)).
- California ordered its 40 million residents to stay at home except for essential activities ([Wall Street Journal](#)).

Alberta

- 146 confirmed cases; an increase of 27 since yesterday. Cases have been identified in all zones across the province: 101 cases in the Calgary zone, 29 cases in the Edmonton zone, 10 cases in the North zone, 3 cases in the Central zone, 3 cases in the South zone.
 - First confirmed COVID-19-related death in the province (the individual was a male in his 60s who had been admitted to ICU in the Edmonton zone on March 12 and had pre-existing conditions).

British Columbia

- 271 confirmed cases; an increase of 40 since yesterday, 1 death (connected to the Lynn Valley Care Centre). Confirmed cases by region: Vancouver Coastal Health: 152, Fraser Health: 81, Island Health: 22, Interior Health: 12, Northern Health: 4.
- The government is waiving the Medical Services Plan (MSP) coverage wait period for people moving back to B.C. from COVID-19-impacted areas. In addition, the B.C. government is planning to provide health coverage to British Columbians who are out of province and unable to return ([MSP](#)).

Ontario

- Doug Ford has called upon the auto industry to manufacture ventilators and other medical equipment. He announced that talks are ongoing between the government and companies such as Linamar, GM, etc. ([Financial Post](#))
 - Ford said he has also been in touch with the CEO of Magna International, another auto parts manufacturer, to help with ventilator production ([CTV](#)).
- Premier Ford, Minister Elliott and Minister Lecce to make an announcement at Queen's Park at 12:30 p.m. (EDT).

Quebec

- Hotels are being asked to clear their beds in case public health needs the space to accommodate patients not infected with COVID-19 ([CBC](#)).

March 19, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said he expects new restrictions on non-essential travel at the Canada-U.S. border to take effect Friday night. Both sides are still fine-tuning the agreement. Essential supplies will still flow ([CBC](#)).
 - Travellers crossing the border for recreational and tourism purposes will be stopped; Canadian citizens and permanent residents will still be able to get home.

- Public Safety Minister Bill Blair said international students, workers on visas and temporary foreign workers will also be able to enter Canada, with the expectation that they'll self-isolate for 14 days.
- Bill Morneau said Parliament could be recalled this weekend or early next week to pass the legislation required to distribute the money.
- Government of Canada funds 49 additional COVID-19 research projects ([News Release](#)).
 - The investment will support 49 researchers across the country whose teams will focus on developing and implementing measures to rapidly detect, manage and reduce the transmission of COVID-19.

U.S. – Federal

- The Trump administration plans to increasingly emphasize social distancing as the primary method to contain the new coronavirus, a shift away from its recent focus on accelerating widespread testing as a containment tool, according to officials ([Wall Street Journal](#)).

Alberta

- Pharmacists to assess Albertans for COVID-19, manage drug supply ([News Release](#))
 - Alberta government-sponsored Coverage for Seniors and Non-Group Coverage programs will pay a lower co-payment for prescriptions.

British Columbia

- No new updates.

Ontario

- Emergency sitting sees two critical pieces of legislation receive unanimous consent ([News Release](#)):
 - *Municipal Emergency Act, 2020* (S.O. 2020, c. 4, [Bill 187](#)), in force March 19, 2020.
 - *The Municipal Act, 2001* and the *City of Toronto Act, 2006* are amended to provide that, during emergencies, members of councils, local boards and committees who participate electronically in open and closed meetings may be counted for purposes of quorum.
 - *The Municipal Act, 2001* is also amended to allow regulations be made imposing limits and conditions on the powers of a municipality.
- *Employment Standards Amendment Act (Infectious Disease Emergencies), 2020* (S.O. 2020, c. 3, [Bill 186](#))
 - Provides job-protected leave to employees in isolation or quarantine, or those who need to be away from work to care for children because of school or daycare closures or to care for other relatives.
 - Applies to most employees and employers in Ontario and not people in sectors that fall under federal jurisdiction, including employees working for banks, airports, inter-provincial and international rail, and federal crown corporations.
 - These measures are retroactive to January 25, 2020 ([Background](#)).
- Ontario courts and tribunals are limiting in-person proceedings ([Statement](#)):
 - The Superior Court of Justice and Small Claims Court has suspended all regular court operations.
 - Ontario Court of Justice has established procedures to reduce the number of people who attend court in-person for criminal and family matters. All non-urgent matters have been adjourned.

- The Court of Appeal has suspended all scheduled appeals until April 3, 2020 (urgent appeals will be heard based on either the written materials or remotely).
- The validity period of driving products, services and health cards has been extended ([News Release](#)).
 - These new regulations include extensions for driver licences, licence plate validation and Commercial Vehicle Operator Registration certificates, among others.
- 257 cases now confirmed, an increase of 43 since yesterday; second death confirmed in Halton (a man in his 50s).

Quebec

- When it is not essential, François Legault has advised not to travel from one Quebec region to another ([Press Conference](#)).
- 121 cases now confirmed, an increase of 27 since yesterday.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Trudeau is set to address the public today – at 11 a.m. (EDT).

U.S. – Federal

- President Trump said he will expand the nation's diagnostic testing capacity and deploy a Navy hospital ship to New York City, which is rapidly becoming an epicenter of the pandemic ([CBC](#)).

Alberta

- Total confirmed cases now 119; 22 new cases since yesterday.
 - 83 cases in the Calgary zone; 27 cases in the Edmonton zone; four cases in the North zone; three cases in the Central zone; two cases in the South zone.
- New funding and supportive measures will provide immediate financial relief to Alberta's families, vulnerable populations, local businesses and employers ([News Release](#)).
 - Small business customers, in addition to payment deferrals on loans and lines of credit, will be provided access to additional working capital.

British Columbia

- Total confirmed cases now 231; 45 new cases since yesterday; seven deaths; five recovered.
 - Confirmed cases by region: Vancouver Coastal Health: 144, Fraser Health: 58, Island Health: 16, Interior Health: 9, Northern Health: 4.
- Ferries are reducing food and retail services to minimal levels on board ships and at our terminals effective March 18, 2020 ([News Release](#)).
- Chief inspector of mines has communicated to all major mines, sand and gravel and placer operations in B.C. to ensure they are complying with the orders and directives issued by the provincial health officer ([News Release](#)).
- Insurance brokers will be able to conduct ICBC business, such as vehicle insurance renewals, by phone and email ([Insurance Corporation of B.C.](#)).

Ontario

- All provincial parks will be closed to the public from March 19, 2020, until April 30, 2020.

- The Ontario government is expected to pass emergency legislation today aimed at protecting workers who are forced to stay home ([CBC](#)). The Legislature is scheduled to sit at 1 p.m. (EDT).
 - The house leader says he expects the bill to pass with unanimous consent from all parties.
- Ford and several cabinet ministers will take questions from media at Queen's Park at 12 p.m. (EDT).
- The TTC reported this morning that one of its workers has tested positive for COVID-19. The employee works at the agency's Duncan Shop, where buses are repaired and overhauled.

Quebec

- Teachers across Quebec say they are worried after receiving a notice stating their assignments, schedules and workplaces could be modified at any time because their collective agreements are no longer considered binding ([CTV](#)).

March 18, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Canada's COVID-19 Economic Response Plan: Support for Canadians and Businesses ([Department of Finance](#)).
 - **Support for businesses:** The measures introduced today include a deferral of payment of income tax until after August 31, 2020, an increase in the available credit for businesses and farms, and the launch of a program to purchase up to C\$50-billion of insured mortgage pools through CMHC to provide stable funding to banks and mortgage lenders and support continued lending to businesses and consumers.
 - **Support for workers:** Several measures were announced to provide support for workers, including Emergency Care Benefits and Emergency Support Benefits, waiver of certain EI requirements, extension of the tax filing deadline, provision of a 10 per cent wage subsidy for the next 90 days for eligible small businesses, and increased flexibility to lenders to defer mortgage payments on homeowner government-insured mortgage loans.
- The government is not legally ordering a curfew/isolation under the *Emergencies Act* or limiting domestic travel yet.

U.S. – Federal

- Senate passes [Bill to Combat Pandemic](#) as administration proposes direct payments to Americans ([Wall Street Journal](#))
 - It will provide free testing for the COVID-19 disease and require smaller employers to provide at least two weeks of paid sick leave to many of those affected by the crisis.
 - It will also increase Medicaid funding, expand unemployment insurance, and provide more money for food stamps, aiming to provide an initial safety net as layoffs begin and coronavirus cases hit every state.

British Columbia

- 186 confirmed, including seven deaths and five cases listed as resolved.

Alberta

- 97 now confirmed.

Ontario

- 212 confirmed cases, up by 22 today, including one death.
- The Ontario legislature has been recalled for an emergency one-day session tomorrow (at 1 p.m. EDT) to allow the province to pass two pieces of legislation designed to give Ontarians relief during the provincial state of emergency ([Queen's Park](#)).
 - After the one-day sitting, the legislature will resume on March 25, when Finance Minister Rod Phillips is expected to deliver a pared down version of the 2020 Ontario budget, which will include a fiscal and economic update.
 - The Ford government is also spending C\$300-million in surge funding to help the fight against COVID-19.
- Chief Medical Officer of Health has recommended that licensed retirement homes only allow essential visitors ([Statement](#)).

Quebec

- 94 confirmed, including 20 new cases announced today, and the first death (an elderly person in the Lanaudière region).
- Harmonization with the federal government for the income tax remittance and provisional accounts delayed to August 31 ([Press Conference Transcript](#)).
- Quebec's largest farmers' union is asking the federal government to let temporary foreign workers into the country, saying they are essential to keep Quebec's agricultural industry afloat ([CBC](#)).

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Canada, U.S. to close border to non-essential travel ([The Globe and Mail](#)).
- Poloz press conference fuels Bank of Canada rate cut speculation
 - Bank of Canada Governor Stephen Poloz will speak to reporters Wednesday in a joint press conference with Finance Minister Bill Morneau, stoking speculation the central bank will cut interest rates again. Poloz and Morneau will hold a news conference at 11:15 a.m. (EDT), according to an advisory from the Ministry of Finance. Morneau is expected to release a stimulus package of about one per cent of GDP in a bid to help stave off a recession as Canada grapples with fallout from the coronavirus pandemic and a sharp drop in oil prices ([Advisory](#)).
- Effective at 12:01 a.m. on Thursday, March 19, 2020, Parks Canada is temporarily suspending all visitor services in all national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas across the country until further notice ([News Release](#)).

U.S. – Federal

- Stocks, bonds and commodities fell Wednesday in a simultaneous sell-off that suggests investors and companies are trying to raise cash as rapidly as possible to cope with the economic disruption sparked by the coronavirus pandemic ([Wall Street Journal](#)).

Alberta

- Alberta Order declaring a state of public health emergency: [O.C. 80/2020](#); and [O.C.64/2020](#) Employment Standards (COVID-19) Leave Regulation.

British Columbia

- The provincial health officer has declared a public health emergency (as at 5:50 p.m. (PDT) yesterday evening) ([News Release](#))
 - 83 new cases of COVID-19, for a total of 186 cases; of the total cases, 116 are in Vancouver Coastal, 47 are in Fraser, 12 are on Vancouver Island, seven are in Interior and four are in northern health regions.
 - Effective immediately, businesses with liquor primary licences, such as bars, pubs and night clubs, must close.

Ontario

- Ontario taking another step to integrate the health-care system ([News Release](#)).
 - Christine Elliott, Deputy Premier and Minister of Health, issued a transfer order (this morning at 9:30AM) under the *Connecting Care Act, 2019* to transfer the Ontario Telemedicine Network (OTN) to Ontario Health, the province's new health agency. The transfer will take effect on April 1, 2020.

Quebec

- State of emergency has been declared [O.C. 177-2020](#); cases rise to 74.
- Premier Francois Legault is scheduled to speak around 1 p.m. (EDT).

March 17, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is looking into recalling Parliament for a brief period in order to pass additional emergency legislative measures, such as changes to employment insurance, as Canada continues to ratchet up its response to COVID-19 ([CBC](#)).
 - "Tomorrow we will be making another major announcement on economic actions to support Canadians. By the end of the week, we will have more to say about changes for the upcoming tax season."
 - "The government is also examining the Emergencies Act to decide if it should be invoked, or if there are other ways for the government to take steps to protect the public...."
 - "This crisis could last weeks, months...."

U.S. – Federal

- White House seeks US\$850-billion from Congress in coronavirus relief push ([Wall Street Journal](#)).
 - White House stimulus package now estimated at US\$1-trillion, including initial US\$250-billion in direct payments to Americans – official says administration will push additional direct payments in coming weeks if needed.
 - U.S. stocks jumped higher after a punishing selloff Monday as the Federal Reserve and White House moved to soften the economic blow of the coronavirus pandemic.
 - The stimulus plan will include roughly US\$50-billion for the airline industry, as well as billions of dollars in general stimulus that could include a payroll tax cut.

- Government will postpone the April 15 tax-payment deadline for millions of individuals; the IRS will waive interest and penalties.

Alberta

- The government will declare a state of public health emergency later today, empowering authorities under the *Public Health Act* ([Alberta Update](#)).
 - Alberta's Provincial Operations Centre has also been elevated from a level 3 to a level 4, the highest level.
 - Effective immediately and until further notice, the Alberta government is implementing additional measures, including cancelling events that have more than 50 people; until further notice, all Albertans are restricted from attending bars and nightclubs.
 - Municipalities, charitable and non-profit organizations providing social services support will immediately see C\$60-million to support their COVID-19 response.

British Columbia

- K-12 schools are now suspended, news comes as four deaths and 103 cases now reported; gatherings of more than 50 people ordered to be cancelled.
- B.C. Centre for Disease Control said its supply of swabs used to test for COVID-19 has become "critically limited" ([CBC](#)).
- The B.C. premier and the ministers of education and finance are holding a news conference at noon (PDT).

Ontario

- Death in Ontario (Barrie) potentially related to COVID-19; individual was a 77-year-old man ([News Release](#)).

Quebec

- Press conference with Mr. François Legault, Prime Minister and Ms. Danielle McCann, Minister of Health and Social Services (only available in French) ([Press Conference](#)).
 - Now 63 cases, 3,500 under investigation; 22 designated clinics, 31 very soon.
 - Legault met with the three opposition leaders and agreed together to adopt the appropriations, the budget and certain bills. "For example, there were bills that affected pharmacists, nurses, so we passed these bills there, and we close the Assembly until April 21."
 - In the coming days, Pierre Fitzgibbon will announce measures to help all businesses that have liquidity problems.
 - Confirmation that income tax returns for individuals are postponed to June 1; confirmation that all income tax remittance and provisional account postponed to July 31.

Last updated at 10 a.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Bank of Canada unveils new measures to support financial system, mortgage markets (Globe and Mail article is attached).
 - The bank issued a notice Monday that it will broaden the eligible forms of collateral under its term repo facility, under which the central bank temporarily buys treasury bills from dealers as a means to provide a "backstop" for financial institutions' funding needs.

U.S. – Federal

- President Donald Trump said the crisis could stretch into August, adding the administration may look at locking down “certain areas” ([White House Briefing](#)).
 - The White House aims to deploy at least US\$800-billion in aid in the coming weeks to prop up the U.S. economy, as retailers, restaurants, sporting events and other businesses shut down and Americans slow their spending while staying home to guard against the coronavirus pandemic. Among the administration’s targets this week: providing relief in the form of tax deferments, loans or even direct payments to airlines, the hospitality industry and small-to-medium businesses crippled by plunging demand ([Politico](#)).
 - The possibility of nationwide curfews continues to be debated. Many cities and states have already taken aggressive steps toward curbing social gatherings as the coronavirus outbreak progresses in the United States. For example, New Jersey residents are no longer allowed to travel from 8 p.m. to 5 a.m.

Alberta

- 18 additional cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in Alberta, bringing the total number of cases in the province to 74. Cases have now been identified in all zones across the province. One Edmonton zone and one Calgary zone case have been confirmed to be the result of community transmission ([Full Update](#)).
- 52 cases in the Calgary zone; 18 cases in the Edmonton zone; two cases in the Central zone; one case in the South zone; one case in the North zone.
- The Provincial Court of Alberta and Court of Queen’s Bench are limiting operations.

Ontario

- Ontario enacts declaration of emergency to protect the public as a result of this declaration and its associated orders; the following establishments are legally required to close immediately ([News Release](#)):
 - All facilities providing indoor recreational programs
 - All public libraries
 - All private schools as defined in the *Education Act*
 - All licensed childcare centres
 - All bars and restaurants, except to the extent that such facilities provide takeout food and delivery
 - All theatres, including those offering live performances of music, dance, and other art forms, as well as cinemas that show movies
 - Concert venues
- All organized public events of over 50 people are also prohibited, including parades and events and communal services within places of worship.
- Ontario is also investing up to C\$304-million to enhance the province's response.

Quebec

- Starting today, Quebec will try to increase its testing capacity from 1,600 to 6,000 daily ([Gazette](#)).
 - Quebec is creating a new program for employees who must self-isolate but are not eligible for the employment-insurance benefits from Ottawa.
 - Quebec now has 50 cases confirmed; nearly 3,000 people have tested negative.

March 16, 2020

Last updated at 5 p.m. (EDT)

Canada – Federal

- Today, Justin Trudeau announced the closure of the Canadian border (air/land/water) to all non-Canadians and permanent residents, with the exception of U.S. citizens, diplomats, crew and immediate family members of citizens. The closure does apply to commerce/trade. He also mentioned that an announcement will be made tomorrow regarding employment insurance and other worker benefits ([CBC](#)).

British Columbia

- Join statement on B.C.'s COVID-19 response ([News Release](#)).
 - Three deaths, 30 new cases of COVID-19 for a total of 103 cases in British Columbia.
 - Several of the new cases are related to the Pacific Dental Conference 2020 held at the Vancouver Convention Centre on March 6 and 7, 2020.
 - All public gatherings of more than 50 people prohibited.

Alberta

- COVID-19 pandemic in Alberta ([News Release](#)).
 - Student attendance at schools is now prohibited; in-person post-secondary classes are cancelled. Campuses will remain open.
 - All licensed childcare facilities, out-of-school care programs and preschool programs are closed indefinitely.
 - All long-term-care and other continuing-care facilities are advised to limit visitation to essential visitors only.
 - 17 additional cases of COVID-19 have been confirmed in Alberta, bringing the total number of cases in the province to 56. Three of the new cases are in the Edmonton zone and 14 are in the Calgary zone.
 - At least two cases identified in the last two days appear to have been acquired through community transmission from an unknown source, and seven cases occurred as a result of a single gathering in the Calgary zone.

Ontario

- Premier Ford announces job protection for workers during the COVID-19 situation; Ontario budget has also been postponed ([News Release](#)).
 - The government intends to introduce legislation that, if passed, would immediately provide job-protected leave to employees in isolation or quarantine or those who need to be away from work to care for children because of school or day care closures.
 - They are also reviewing current access and eligibility to emergency assistance.

Quebec

- Quebec government to provide update on new financial measures to deal with COVID-19 impact (news conference in progress):
 - Quebec will provide C\$573 per week for workers in isolation who don't qualify for other income compensation measures.
 - 50 confirmed cases in Quebec on Monday, up from 39 on Sunday. The first COVID-19 patient detected in Montreal has recovered.

- Increased screening coming at Montréal's Trudeau airport.
- Recreational and leisure sites are closed until further notice, including bars, gyms and movie theatres.