



# DOWNEY DIGEST

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## A NOTE FROM DOUG

Ontario has entered into Step One of our Roadmap to Reopening. I know this is a relief to many residents in our riding and across our province. As we begin to round out the month of June, things look brighter each and every day.

As summer really begins, Canada Day 2021 is almost upon us. From coast to coast, Canada Day holds a special place in the heart of all those who call this great country home. Since 1868, July 1st has been a day of festivities across our nation. Regardless of how our celebrations look this year, the feeling of unity, pride and love for our country remains the same in each of us. I wish you and your families a very Happy Canada Day!

As well, I'd like to give a special shout out to all Graduates in the class of 2021, as well as each and every student and parent across the riding who have adapted to a number of changes this past year. Congratulations on a job well done!



# ROADMAP TO REOPEN

On June 11, 2021, Ontario entered Step One of the Roadmap to Reopen Plan.

In order to safely enter Step One of the Roadmap to Reopen, Ontario needed to have vaccinated 60 per cent of adults with at least one dose for two weeks or longer, ensuring the first dose offers a strong level of protection against COVID-19. As of June 6, 2021 at 8:00 p.m., 72 per cent of the 18+ population in Ontario had received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine with over 11 million doses now having been administered.



## STEP ONE REOPENING

**Step One of the Roadmap to Reopen includes but is not limited to:**

- Outdoor social gatherings and organized public events with up to 10 people;
- Outdoor religious services, rites, or ceremonies, including wedding services and funeral services, capped at the number of people that can maintain a physical distance of two metres;
- Indoor religious services, rites, or ceremonies, including wedding services and funeral services permitted at up to 15% capacity of the particular room;

## REOPENING CON'T

- Non-essential retail permitted at 15% capacity, with no restrictions on the goods that can be sold;
- Essential and other select retail permitted at 25% capacity, with no restrictions on the goods that can be sold;
- Outdoor dining with up to four people per table, with exceptions for larger households;
- Outdoor fitness classes, outdoor groups in personal training and outdoor individual/team sport training to be permitted with up to 10 people, among other restrictions;



## STEP ONE REOPENING

- Day camps for children permitted to operate in a manner consistent with the safety guidelines for COVID-19 produced by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health;
- Overnight camping at campgrounds and campsites, including Ontario Parks, and short-term rentals;
- Concert venues, theatres and cinemas may open outdoors for the purpose of rehearsing or performing a recorded or broadcasted concert, artistic event, theatrical performance or other performance with no more than 10 performers, among other restrictions;
- Outdoor horse racing tracks and motor speedways permitted to operate without spectators; and
- Outdoor attractions such as zoos, landmarks, historic sites, botanical gardens with capacity and other restrictions.



## EXTENDING WAGE INCREASE FOR PERSONAL SUPPORT WORKERS

The Ontario government is investing \$141 million to extend the temporary wage increase for personal support workers and direct support workers in publicly funded home and community care, long-term care, public hospitals, and social services sectors. This temporary wage increase will continue until August 23, 2021, and will help stabilize, attract and retain the workforce needed to provide a high level of care during the COVID-19 pandemic.



## EXTENDING WAGE INCREASE FOR PERSONAL SUPPORT WORKERS

The province has been providing a temporary wage increase since October 1, 2020, to over 158,000 workers who deliver publicly funded personal support services, including:

- \$3 per hour for approximately 38,000 eligible workers in home and community care;
- \$3 per hour for approximately 50,000 eligible workers in long-term care;
- \$2 per hour for approximately 10,000 eligible workers in public hospitals; and
- \$3 per hour for approximately 60,000 eligible workers in children, community and social services providing personal direct support services for the activities of daily living.

# PROTECTING ELECTIONS & DEFENDING DEMOCRACY ACT; BILL 307

We fundamentally believe the **outcome of elections** should be determined by **individual Ontario voters**, not wealthy special interest groups and American-style political actions groups.

Bill 307 was passed to **restore guardrails** that prevent big money interests and elite pop-up organizations from drowning out the essential voices of individuals who follow **clear and transparent election rules** when they support a candidate or political party.

Ontarians expect the opportunity to meaningfully **engage in the democratic conversation** - without being overshadowed by deep-pocketed special interest groups.

We are determined to **protect the essential role of Ontarians** in their elections. Each and every Ontarian is a driving force of our **democratic life** and its institutions.

Our elections **belong to the people** of this province.

We are proud to **stand up for individuals** and **defend democracy** in Ontario.

## SUMMER'S HERE!

### Local attractions and things to do this summer in our region:

- Elmvale Jungle Zoo
- Barrie Splashpads
- Downtown Patios
- The Wye Marsh
- Scenic Caves Nature Adventures
- Rounds Ranch (June 25)
- Santa's Village
- Chappel Farm
- Barrie Beaches
- Campgrounds & Ontario Parks
- Golf Courses
- Sunset Drive In
- Wasaga Adventure Park

& Many More! Visit [www.Ontario.ca](http://www.Ontario.ca) for more information on what businesses are allowed to open under Step One.