

April 8, 2020

Dear Recreational Camp Operators and Owners,

On March 17th, 2020, Premier Ford declared a state of emergency in Ontario so that immediate action could be taken to stop the spread of COVID-19 and protect the public and health of Ontarians. Following his declaration of a state of emergency, the province of Ontario ordered the closing of all [non-essential businesses](#). Recreational camps are not listed as essential businesses and, as such, are required to be closed.

As a result, the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit is notifying recreational camp operators of the following:

- Recreational Camps are **NOT** permitted to be open for operation which includes the use of campgrounds given that they are not deemed essential businesses and are ordered closed according to the Ontario Regulation [82/20](#) under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*
- Cease all recreational camp programming until the Provincial Order is revoked
- Playgrounds, communal facilities, outdoor swimming pools and parks on the site must be closed and gatherings should **NOT** be permitted under the provincial order.

At present time it is not possible to accurately predict the summer months in regards to virus transmission and the potential for physical distancing to still be necessary, whether ongoing or periodically. As such, it is at the discretion of recreational camp as to whether or not you proceed with planning, with the recognition that you may be required to cancel at a future time.

For further information on the requirements for operating and opening your recreational camp, please contact a Public Health Inspector 1-877-721-7520. Further information on the operation of your recreational camp can be found at <http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org>.

Regards,

Original signed by:

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