



Durham Region Health Department Facts about...



Restaurants & Bars during COVID-19 pandemic

COVID-19 is a new strain of coronavirus that can cause respiratory illness. For updated information about COVID-19, go to durham.ca/NovelCoronavirus

To effectively reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission, Ontario's Premier, Doug Ford has ordered measures to help contain the virus. These include the closure of all bars and restaurants, except those that may only offer takeout or delivery.

Direction to Restaurants and Bars with Seating

- Cease all sit-down service immediately.

Recommendations for Restaurants & Bars that are offering Take Out or Delivery:

- Post signs at all entrances directing those that are sick to not enter.
- Limit your operations to take-out, delivery and/or drive-thru options only.
- Reduce physical contact between patrons: stagger orders to prevent a crowd of people on the premises.
- Only single-use disposable containers can be used for take-out or delivery options.
- Clean and sanitize tables, chairs, menus and debit machines after each customer and clean and sanitize high touch surfaces (ex. door knobs) frequently.
- Items in the restaurant that can't be cleaned and sanitized must be disposed of after each use or removed from service.
- Increased handwashing by staff: wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Non-food handlers can use hand sanitizer if their hands aren't visibly soiled.
- Ill staff must stay away from work. Plan for staff absences.
- For questions on home isolation or COVID-19, please visit durham.ca/NovelCoronavirus

Personal protection measures recommended by the Durham Region Health Department:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Avoid close contact with people: keep a distance of 2m between people.
- Stay home when you are ill.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then immediately throw the tissue in the garbage and wash your hands.
- If you don't have a tissue, sneeze or cough into your sleeve or arm.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

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If you require this information in an accessible format, contact 1-800-841-2729.



- Prominently post [“Stop the Spread of Germs”](#) posters.
- Be aware of the most current, credible, public health information / recommendations and communicate these to your staff and customers.

If you are not able to follow all the recommendations listed above, you are to close your restaurant or bar to reduce the potential risks to your staff and customers.

References:

Public Health Agency of Canada, [Community-based measures to mitigate the spread of coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) in Canada](#)

Ontario Ministry of Health, *Enhanced Public Health Measures for COVI-19*, March 12, 2020

March 17, 2020

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