

Premier Doug Ford  
Premier's Office  
Room 281 Legislative Building, Queen's Park  
Toronto, ON  
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October 29, 2020

Premier Ford,

I am writing to you to advocate for a targeted approach that is data driven and backed by evidence in order to maintain public support for public health guidelines. A continued use of restrictions on a geographic or blanket basis that arbitrarily shuts down entire sectors without explicit evidence of virus spread will erode buy-in from our residents and unnecessarily harm businesses that have been COVID-19 free by following our rules.

It remains unclear to the public which types of activities, businesses, or public spaces contributed to the spikes in cases in Ottawa, Toronto, Peel and York regions and what specific factors persuaded the Province to revert them back to a modified Stage 2. Sharing this vital information can help reinforce good behaviours in municipalities that are approaching a negative 7-day trend or that want to maintain their success. There should be empirical evidence and site-specific lessons that Public Health can share with all municipalities and their residents to aid everyone to avoid a move backwards to a modified Stage 2.

Sharing information that an area is on the cusp of being considered for a full closure has been helpful and you are encouraged to continue this kind of communication. Local Medical Officers of Health should continue to make specific and targeted restrictions to address high-risk activities that may increase transmission, as some have already done.

With a long timeline ahead before a COVID-19 vaccine we need to make sure support for restrictions and public health guidelines does not wane. We all need to be more particular and specific – more surgical – in how we deal with this pandemic including how we communicate with residents because we have such a long road ahead of us.

Sincerely,

Mayor \_\_\_\_\_  
Municipality of \_\_\_\_\_