

Good Morning,

Last week, the Ontario Government declared an Emergency Stay-at-Home Order for the entire Province of Ontario, due to the accelerating spread of COVID-19. This order requires everyone to remain at home with few exceptions - going to the grocery store or pharmacy, accessing health care services, for exercise, or for work that cannot be done remotely. The [Stay-at-Home Order](#) will remain in effect for at least 28 days.

At OCWA, we continue to take all precautions to keep our staff and communities healthy and safe. Our priorities remain the safe and reliable operation of our clients' water and wastewater treatment facilities and protecting the health and safety of our employees. Through the provision of additional resources, appropriate planning (e.g. staggering of shifts) and implementation of additional health and safety protocols, OCWA has been fortunate to experience few COVID-19 cases. As an essential service, our employees understand how critical it is to stay safe and healthy, not only to protect themselves and their families, but also the communities they live in and serve.

This recent Emergency Stay-at-Home Order also lays out new restrictions on construction activity. In order to ensure we are doing our part to minimize movement within our communities and doing our utmost to protect our staff, we are in the process of assessing all our ongoing and upcoming third party supported activities to determine if they can be deferred to later in the year. All work that is critical to the short term reliable operation of the facilities will proceed.

We will also be ensuring staff who can work from home should do so and avoid coming onsite. Regular access to site will be limited to Operation and Maintenance Managers and frontline staff, with occasional access by support staff to ensure the continuity of operation.

We continue to monitor the outbreak and changing restrictions and are working with government and health authorities to ensure we are prepared for any situation that may arise. As we have been doing throughout the pandemic, we will continue keep you updated and will contact you immediately should the situation change with respect to your facilities.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to us should you have any additional questions or concerns about your facilities. We appreciate your support and thank you for placing your continued trust in OCWA.

Take care and stay safe,



Karen Lorente
Regional Hub Manager,
Georgian Highlands Region