

Lifting of Emergency Response Measures Restrictions at a Regional Level

A regional application of the Ontario Framework for Reopening the Province will protect the health and well-being of individuals and families, support frontline health care workers, essential workers and businesses and provide support to protect people and jobs.

This is an example of a tool that could be used at the regional level to document capacity readiness criteria for both Public Health and Municipal Sectors.



This icon represents examples in the Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington area that have been positioned within the phases and steps in the Ontario Framework to demonstrate possible alignments.



This icon represents examples from the results of a rapid scoping review of research literature that have been positioned within the phases and steps in the Ontario Framework to demonstrate possible alignments.

Goals:

Primary goal

- Maintain a steady state of low-level transmission, to ensure sufficient public health and acute care capacity
- Reduce mortality due to COVID-19 and non-COVID-19 causes

Secondary goals

- Minimize unintended consequences of necessary public health measures (e.g. negative physical and mental health impacts, economic impact to the community)
- Minimize societal disruption, maintain public trust and reduce public panic

After each two-to-four-week period of stage implementation, the Medical Officer of Health may advise to:

- reapply or tighten certain public health measures in response to a surge in cases or outbreaks;
- maintain status quo and continue close monitoring of impacts; or
- progress to the next two-to-four-week stage.

The foundation to all phases and stages is the continued protection for vulnerable populations and continued practice of physical distancing, hand washing, respiratory hygiene and significant mitigation plans to limit health risks.

For this tool, geographic region may have to be scaled to a region with sufficient capacity to fulfill capacity requirements such as surveillance, detection, case and contact management, acute and critical care, communication and evaluation.

	Public Health Criteria can be scaled to a geographic region	Notes: KFL&A Current State of Readiness (Example only for demonstration purposes)	Public Health Criteria for Businesses, Employers, and Facilities must be scaled to the same region (Example only for demonstration purposes)	Notes: Municipal Partners Current State of Readiness
Phase 1: Protect and Support				
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A consistent two-to-four week decrease in the number of new daily COVID-19 cases • A decrease in the rate of cases that cannot be traced to a source • A decrease in the number of new COVID-19 cases in hospitals • Sufficient acute and critical care capacity, including access to ventilators, to effectively respond to potential surges • Ongoing availability of personal protective equipment (PPE) based on provincial directives and guidelines • Approximately 90 per cent of new COVID-19 contacts are being reached by local public health officials within one day, with guidance and direction to contain community spread • Ongoing testing of suspected COVID-19 cases, especially of vulnerable populations, to detect new outbreaks quickly • A shift to new and other ways of testing and contact tracing to promote widespread tracking of cases. 	<p>KFL&A's epidemic curve has been well below projections based on provincial modeling (insert date and appropriate model)</p> <p>KFL&A's cases have declined</p> <p>No deaths</p> <p>No ICU admissions</p> <p>No ventilator use</p> <p>Hospitals have created capacity (elective surgeries, bed space). Alternate healthcare facility planning underway.</p> <p>COVID-19 Assessment sites have been established.</p> <p>Emergency critical care capacity is planned (workforce, beds, ventilator, PPE)</p> <p>Lab requisition – average turn around time on testing</p> <p>Testing kits</p> <p>PPE</p> <p>Case and contact management capacity established</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement appropriate policies in accordance with municipal, provincial and federal regulations and guidance regarding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social distancing • Protective equipment • Screening assessment to enter work (potential temperature monitoring) • Sanitation • Testing • Ensure employees vaccination is up to date, including influenza • Monitor workforce for indicative symptoms • Do not allow symptomatic people to physically return to work until cleared by occupational health or a medical examiner • Develop and implement policies and procedures for workforce contact tracing following COVID-19 positive test result <p> Develop a plan for security services that minimizes the imposition of a restriction of liberty and emphasizes the altruistic choice of physical distancing and self-isolation</p>	

Public Health Criteria

can be scaled to a geographic region

Notes:
KFL&A Current State of Readiness

(Example only for demonstration purposes)

Public Health Criteria for Businesses, Employers, and Facilities

must be scaled to the same region
(Example only for demonstration purposes)

Notes:
Municipal Partners Current State of Readiness

Phase 1: Protect and Support



Ensure regional activities align with provincial level guidance of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Provincial Government and plans are in place to coordinate and cooperate easing restrictions with other provincial jurisdictions.



Convene a regional advisory council to conduct regular Risk Assessments and gain consensus on regionally specific factors that will guide decisions to ease or tighten restrictions.



Support consultation mechanisms with multidisciplinary stakeholders who have an understanding of the circumstances facing communities and the ability to identify downstream impacts of decisions around reopening. Stakeholders could include, for example, leaders from chambers of commerce or small business bureaus, faith-based communities, representatives from minority and underserved communities, and organizations that regularly work with vulnerable populations. These diverse perspectives will highlight the practicalities of easing restrictions will mean for their communities and will uncover opportunities for local leaders to provide additional support to those communities



Create a plan to support monitoring and evaluation activities to assess the impact of easing of restrictions.



Create a plan for managing infection prevention and control measures related to importation from travellers out of region, with special consideration to support supply chains



Consider stores currently restricted to alternative methods of sale under Section 15 of Schedule 2. (Hardware, vehicle parts and supplies, pet and animal supplies, office supplies and computer products/repair, safety supplies) may open



Consider permitting smaller renovation projects where maintaining physical distancing and sanitary facilities permit safe operations. Smaller local contractors typically do these smaller projects with a limited size of crew on site.



Consider opening offices of a certain size, or with a certain # of people in a way that maintains physical distancing and occupational health and safety

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Phase 2: Restart – Risk Assessments include epidemiological measures, health system capacity, public health capacity and incidence tracking capacity				
<p>Stage 1</p> <p>Open select workplaces, allow some small gatherings</p> <p>For businesses that were ordered to close or restrict operations, opening select workplaces that can immediately meet or modify operations to meet public health guidance and occupational health and safety requirements (e.g., curbside pick-up or delivery).</p> <p>Opening some outdoor spaces like parks and allow for a greater number of individuals to attend some events, such as funerals.</p> <p>Continued protections for vulnerable populations and the continued practice of physical distancing, hand washing and respiratory hygiene, and significant mitigation plans to limit health risks. Hospitals beginning to offer some non-urgent and scheduled surgeries and other health care services.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="389 341 1008 544">  Detect and isolate all cases, irrespective of severity and origin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoid gatherings of greater than (number to be determined) people where physical distancing is not possible <li data-bbox="389 568 1008 738">  Avoid non-essential travel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin to support hospitals to offer non-urgent and scheduled surgeries and other health care services <li data-bbox="389 771 1008 836">  Minimize outbreak risks in high-vulnerable settings <li data-bbox="389 868 1008 1079">  Design communication plans and implement with clear messaging to ensure communities are fully engaged and adhering to behavioural prevention measures and understand that individuals have key roles to play to protect the community <li data-bbox="389 1112 1008 1218">  Ensure communities are aware that new control measures may be implemented in the event of a new outbreak 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="1693 341 2298 511">  Consider parks, and outdoor recreation areas open with physical distancing signage, with the exception of playgrounds, splash pads, play structures and equipment, outdoor recreational amenities <li data-bbox="1693 552 2298 787">  Consider retail stores smaller than 800 sq.metres, provided main entrance is to outside (i.e. no indoor mall stores) could open while maintaining physical distancing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage remote work arrangements whenever possible and feasible <li data-bbox="1693 828 2298 917">  Strongly consider special accommodations for personnel who are members of a vulnerable population <li data-bbox="1693 958 2298 1096">  Consider businesses entailing primarily item drop-off and pickup, such as repair shops (e.g. watch repair, appliance repair, shoe repair) may operate <li data-bbox="1693 1136 2298 1307">  Consider businesses performing work on the exterior of buildings and structures (e.g. masonry repointing, window cleaning, exterior painting, gutter cleaning, siding installation) may operate <li data-bbox="1693 1347 2298 1404">  Consider all construction with strict physical distancing and sanitation protocols <li data-bbox="1693 1445 2298 1534">  Consider boat ramps and docks for the purpose of launching and landing boats and other watercraft may open, including marinas 	

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Phase 2: Restart – Risk Assessments include epidemiological measures, health system capacity, public health capacity and incidence tracking capacity

<p>Stage 2</p> <p>Open more workplaces and outdoor spaces, allow some larger gatherings</p> <p>Opening more workplaces, based on risk assessments, which may include some service industries, and additional office and retail workplaces.</p> <p>Opening more outdoor spaces and allowing some larger public gatherings.</p> <p>Continued protections for vulnerable populations and the continued practice of physical distancing, hand washing and respiratory hygiene, and significant mitigation plans to limit health risks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List capacity criteria here 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Consider businesses performing work on the interior of buildings and structures may operate (e.g. plumbing, electrical, painting for renovations and home improvements) • Restaurants and cafes providing service on outdoor patios with increased seating spacing to comply with Public Health social physical distancing recommendations ❖ Consider maintenance, repair and property management services for buildings and properties may operate ❖ Consider regulated health professionals for non-emergency visits, including dentists, optometrists, chiropractic services, ophthalmologists, physical and occupational therapists and podiatrists may operate ❖ Consider all outdoor picnic sites, benches and shelters in park and recreational areas, playgrounds, splash pads, play structures and equipment, outdoor recreational amenities, may open 	
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Phase 2: Restart – Risk Assessments include epidemiological measures, health system capacity, public health capacity and incidence tracking capacity

Stage 3 Further relax the restrictions on public gatherings, opening all workplaces responsibly Opening all workplaces responsibly Further relaxing the restrictions on public gatherings. Large public gatherings such as concerts and sporting events will continue to be restricted for the foreseeable future. Continued protections for vulnerable populations and the continued practice of physical distancing, hand washing and respiratory hygiene, and significant mitigation plans to limit health risks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List capacity criteria here 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆◆ Consider all retail stores may reopen ◆◆ Consider personal services (e.g. fitness facilities, salons, barbershops, spas) may operate ◆◆ Theatres, cinemas, and playhouses, that can provide increased seating spacing to comply with Public Health social physical distancing recommendations ◆◆ Galleries, exhibits and museums 	
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Phase 3: Recover

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List capacity criteria here 			
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