

## Summary of Legislative Changes Related to COVID-19

### Context

The Ontario Hospital Association (OHA) has prepared the following list of key legislative changes announced by federal and provincial governments related to COVID-19. This list is non-exhaustive and focused on relevant legislative changes affecting the Ontario hospital sector. Additional directives and a non-exhaustive list of policy documents can also be found [below](#).

For further information on all COVID-19 resources, the OHA continues to update its [website](#) regularly with updates from government, including case counts and all relevant guidance documents for members, and will continue to do so as the situation evolves. Please note that this information provided is for general information purposes and does not constitute legal advice or opinion.

### Provincial

Effective Date	Title	Description	Links & Additional Info
April 16, 2020	Order regarding Work Deployment Measures for Municipalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the <i>Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act</i> (EMCPA) to allow municipalities to implement redeployment plans to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.</li> <li>Similar to previous work deployment orders under the EMCPA, this order permit municipalities to take “reasonably necessary” work deployment and staffing measures to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of COVID-19.</li> <li>All measures are subject to the conditions listed in the order. For further details, please refer to the attached links.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>
April 16, 2020	O. Reg. 159/20 ( <i>Ambulance Act</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The government has introduced a regulation amending O. Reg. 257/00 (the “Regulation”) under the <i>Ambulance Act</i> to allow for the following changes, among others: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 5 of the Regulation is amended to state that during a period when an emergency has been declared to exist throughout Ontario under the <i>Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act</i>, the operator of a land ambulance service may “employ or engage, or continue to employ or engage, a person who does not meet the requirements set out in clause 7 (4) (b), but who has successfully completed a program referred to in clause 7 (4) (a), to provide patient care as an emergency medical attendant on a full-time or part-time basis or as a full-time volunteer, and the</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">O. Reg. 159/20</a></li> <li><a href="#">Ambulance Act</a></li> <li><a href="#">Memorandum</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>

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		<p>operator may continue to employ or engage such a person for a period of 420 consecutive days after the completion of the program, even if the declaration of emergency has ceased to apply.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Section 6 of the Regulation is amended to remove the 12-month recertification requirement during a period “when an emergency has been declared to exist throughout Ontario under the <i>Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act</i>; and during the three-month period after the declaration of emergency has ceased to apply.”</li> <li>○ Section 7 of the Regulation is amended to expand the scope of who may be considered an “emergency medical attendant” to now include individuals currently registered as “a student in a paramedic program of a College of Applied Arts and Technology or an institution approved by the Director, during a period when an emergency has been declared to exist throughout Ontario under the <i>Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act</i> and during the six-month period after the declaration of emergency has ceased to apply.”</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For further details, please refer to the attached memo and links.</li> </ul>	
April 16, 2020	Order regarding Deployment of Employees of Service Provider Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Order under the EMCPA governing redeployment requests for contracted service provider organizations. Pursuant to section 2 of the order, the following rules apply for the duration of the order: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Despite any statute, regulation, policy, arrangement or agreement that provides otherwise, a local health integration network (LHIN) is authorized to request that a contracted service provider organization provide health care and related social services, other than community services within the meaning of the <i>Home Care and Community Services Act, 1994</i>, in a setting identified by the LHIN, and the LHIN is also authorized to fund those services.</li> <li>○ A contracted service provider organization is authorized to accept a request made by a LHIN and to deploy its employees to provide the requested services, despite any statute or regulation that provides otherwise.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Order</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ An employee of a contracted service provider organization is <u>not required</u> to agree to provide the requested services.</li> <li>• A “contracted service provider organization” is defined in the order as, with respect to the LHIN, a “person who provides homemaking services, personal support services or professional services within the meaning of the <i>Home Care and Community Services Act, 1994</i> purchased by the local health integration network”.</li> <li>• Despite anything in the order, LHINs and contracted service provider organizations are still required to comply with any other order issued under the EMCPA or with any order or directive issued under the <i>Health Protection and Promotion Act</i> as it relates to them.</li> <li>• For further details, please refer to the attached links.</li> </ul>	
April 16, 2020	Order Limiting Work to a Single Retirement Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Similar to the previous EMCPA order for long-term care homes, this order prevents employees working in a retirement home, as defined in the <i>Retirement Homes Act, 2010</i> (RHA), from working at multiple locations or at other health services providers.</li> <li>• The order requires employees to identify to their retirement home employer whether they have a job at any other health service provider (including a hospital) by <u>9:00am on April 20, 2020</u>.</li> <li>• As is the case with the previous EMCPA order, by <u>12:01am on April 22, 2020</u>, an employee of a licensee under the RHA cannot work for another site of the same retirement home employer, another licensee under the RHA, or any other health services provider (including a hospital).</li> <li>• Posting requirements are also included in the order. For further details, please refer to the attached links.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Order</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>
April 16, 2020	Order for District Social Services Administration Boards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Order under the EMCPA to facilitate the ability of “district social services administration boards” governed by the <i>District Social Services Administration Boards Act</i> to implement redeployment plans to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.</li> <li>• Similar to previous EMCPA orders, this order permits district social services administration boards to take “reasonably necessary” work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Order</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>

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		<p>deployment and staffing measures to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of COVID-19.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All measures are subject to the conditions listed in the orders. For further details, please refer to the attached link.</li> </ul>	
April 14, 2020	Order Limiting Work to a Single Long-Term Care Home	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA which restricts employees who have jobs with a long-term care provider from working at multiple locations or other health services providers, including retirement homes.</li> <li>The order requires employees to identify to their long-term care employer whether they have a job at any other health service provider (including a hospital) or retirement home by <u>5:00 p.m. on April 17, 2020</u>.</li> <li>It further requires that by <u>12:01 a.m. on April 22, 2020</u>, any employee who works for a long-term care employer cannot work for another site of the same long-term care employer, or any other health services provider (including a hospital) or retirement home.</li> <li>The order sets out protections for employees who by its effect are restricted to working for a single employer, including the provision of a leave of absence and protections from other obligations to their other place of employment.</li> <li>A long-term care provider is required to post a copy of the order in “a conspicuous and easily accessible location” in the long-term care home and in a manner that complies with the regulations made under the <i>Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007</i>.</li> <li>The order was released alongside the government’s <i>COVID-19 Action Plan: Long-Term Care Homes</i>. A copy of this publication, along with further details on the order, can be accessed at the attached links.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> <li><a href="#">COVID-19 Action Plan: Long-Term Care Homes</a></li> </ul>
April 14, 2020	Bill 189	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The government has introduced and passed Bill 189, <i>the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Support and Protection Act, 2020</i>.</li> <li>Bill 189 is focused primarily on education and municipal stakeholders, with targeted amendments to the <i>Education Act, Planning Act, Development Charges Act, Police Services Act</i> and the <i>Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities Act</i> in response to COVID-19.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Bill 189</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> <li><a href="#">Summary of Changes</a></li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevant to hospitals with involvement in current municipal planning projects, Schedule 4 of Bill 189 amends the <i>Planning Act</i> to allow the government to suspend certain planning decision timelines during a declared state of emergency. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>These changes will temporarily pause the need for municipalities and planning boards to make planning decisions within specified timelines without the risk of appeal.</li> <li>If municipalities choose to process planning applications, they may still do so by holding virtual/electronic public meetings and making decisions on planning matters during the COVID-19 outbreak.</li> </ul> </li> <li>For further details, please refer to the attached links.</li> </ul>	
April 14, 2020	Declaration of Emergency (Extension)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the advice of the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) and with the approval of the Ontario legislature, the government has extended the Declaration of Emergency under the EMCPA for a further 28 days, until <u>May 12, 2020</u>.</li> <li>For further details, please refer to the attached links.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>
April 14, 2020	Order for Service Agencies (Violence Against Women Residential Services and Crisis Line)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA to facilitate the ability of service agencies to implement redeployment plans to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.</li> <li>Similar to previous EMCPA orders, this order permits prescribed service agencies operating under the <i>Violence Against Women Support Services program</i> and the <i>Anti-Human Trafficking Community Supports program</i> to take “reasonably necessary” work deployment and staffing measures to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of COVID-19.</li> <li>All measures are subject to the conditions listed in the orders. For further details, please refer to the attached link.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> </ul>
April 14, 2020	Amending Order regarding Work Deployment Measures for Long-Term Care Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA amending existing order (O. Reg. 77/20) for work deployment measures in long-term care homes.</li> <li>Sub-paragraph of 3(i)(A) is revoked and the following substituted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>“Redeploying employees so that any particular employee is not providing services at more than one long-term care home operated or maintained by the health service provider.”</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Amending Order</a></li> </ul>

Effective Date	Title	Description	Links & Additional Info
April 11, 2020	Order Extending and Renewing Existing Orders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA extending all emergency orders that have been put in place to-date under s.7.0.2 (4) of the EMCPA until <u>April 23, 2020</u>.</li> <li>This extension includes, without limitation, the closure of outdoor amenities in parks and recreational areas, non-essential workplaces, public places and bars and restaurants, along with restrictions on social gatherings and the prohibition of price gouging.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order / Order</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>
April 9, 2020	Order for Temporary Health or Residential Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA exempting the construction of a “temporary health or residential facility, the conversion of all or part of an existing building or structure to a temporary health or residential facility and the use of a temporary health or residential facility” from the following statutory requirements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Obtaining a permit under section 8 or 10 of the <i>Building Code Act, 1992</i>.</li> <li>Complying with Ontario Regulation 332/12 (Building Code) made under the <i>Building Code Act, 1992</i>.</li> <li>Complying with any by-laws passed under section 34 or 38 of the <i>Planning Act</i>.</li> <li>Complying with section 41 of the <i>Planning Act</i> or section 114 of the <i>City of Toronto Act, 2006</i>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Additional conditions for occupancy following construction, among other rules, are set out in the order.</li> <li>This order is retroactive to March 17, 2020. For further details, please refer to the attached link.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> </ul>
April 9, 2020	Order regarding Agreements between Health Service Providers and Retirement Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA which applies in circumstances where a health service provider, including a hospital, and the licensee of a retirement home have, in response to the emergency, “entered into an agreement or any other arrangement to have the retirement home provide alternative space, accommodation or care services for patients of the health service provider, or former patients of the health service provider who were discharged during the emergency, on a temporary, short-term basis.”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If these circumstances are established, this order creates the following rules, among others: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The agreement or arrangement shall not impact whether the health service provider or the retirement home are considered to be a hospital for the purposes of the <i>Hospital Labour Disputes Arbitration Act</i>.</li> <li>The agreement or arrangement shall not impact whether the health service provider and the licensee of the retirement home are treated as constituting one employer for the purposes of subsection 1 (4) of the <i>Labour Relations Act, 1995</i>.</li> <li>The health service provider shall not, by virtue of the agreement or arrangement, be considered to have sold a part of its business to the licensee of the retirement home for the purposes of section 69 of the <i>Labour Relations Act, 1995</i>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>For further details, please refer to the attached link.</li> </ul>	
April 7, 2020	Order regarding Signatures in Wills and Powers of Attorney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA stating that for the duration of the declared emergency the following applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Wills</u> - a requirement under the <i>Succession Law Reform Act</i> that a testator or witnesses be present or in each other's presence for the making or acknowledgment of a signature on a will or for the subscribing of a will may be satisfied by means of audio-visual communication technology provided that at least one person who is providing services as a witness is a licensee within the meaning of the <i>Law Society Act</i> at the time of the making, acknowledgment or subscribing.</li> <li><u>Powers of Attorney</u> – a requirement under the <i>Substitute Decisions Act, 1992</i> that witnesses be present for the execution of a power of attorney may be satisfied by means of audio-visual communication technology provided that at least one person who is providing services as a witness is a licensee within the meaning of the <i>Law Society Act</i> at the time of the execution.</li> </ul> </li> <li>The term “audio-visual communication technology” is defined as “any electronic method of communication in which participants are able to see, hear and communicate with each other in real time.”</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> </ul>

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April 3, 2020	Order regarding Access to COVID-19 Status Information by Specified Persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA allowing specified persons, including various persons listed under the <i>Police Services Act</i> and the <i>Fire Protection and Prevention Act</i>, to request COVID-19 status information from specified custodians.</li> <li>“COVID-19 status information” means, in relation to an individual, the individual’s name, address and date of birth and whether the individual has had a positive test for the COVID-19 coronavirus.</li> <li>“Specified custodians” include, without limitation, laboratories licensed under the <i>Laboratory and Specimen Collection Centre Licensing Act</i>.</li> <li>Upon request, the specified custodians shall “take all reasonable steps to ensure that any COVID-19 status information that is within the custodian’s custody or control is disclosed in a timely manner to the person making the request” subject to the conditions listed in the order. For further details, please refer to the attached links.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>
April 3, 2020	Order for Service Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA to facilitate the ability of service agencies governed by the <i>Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act</i> to implement redeployment plans to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.</li> <li>Similar to previous EMCPA orders, this order permits service agencies to take “reasonably necessary” work deployment and staffing measures to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of COVID-19.</li> <li>All measures are subject to the conditions listed in the orders. For further details, please refer to the attached link.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> </ul>
April 3, 2020	Order regarding Essential Workplaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA updating the existing essential workplace order and requiring all businesses not listed on the essential workplace list to close effective 11:59 pm on Saturday, April 4, 2020.</li> <li>The closure will be in effect for 14 days, with the possibility of an extension as the situation evolves.</li> <li>Hospitals are included as essential workplaces pursuant to paragraph 39 of the listed entities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> <li><a href="#">List of Essential Workplaces</a></li> </ul>



Effective Date	Title	Description	Links & Additional Info
April 2, 2020	Orders for Retirement Homes and Boards of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Orders under the EMCPA to facilitate the ability of retirement homes and boards of health to implement redeployment plans to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.</li> <li>• Similar to previous health service provider and long-term care home orders, these orders permit retirement homes and boards of health to take “reasonably necessary” work deployment and staffing measures to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of COVID-19.</li> <li>• All measures are subject to the conditions listed in the orders. For further details, please refer to the attached links.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Order (Retirement Homes)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Order (Boards of Health)</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>
March 30, 2020	Order regarding Meetings of Corporations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Order under the EMCPA suspending operation of various <i>Corporations Act</i> and <i>Business Corporations Act</i> provisions to enable flexible meeting requirements. Changes include, without limitation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Permitting meeting by telephonic or electronic means and deeming attendance by same [OCA, subsection 125.1(1)]</li> <li>○ Extending the time for annual general meetings if the last meeting fell within the period of the declared emergency [OCA, subsections 293(1)-(3)]</li> </ul> </li> <li>• This order is retroactive to March 17, 2020. For further details, please refer to the attached link.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Order</a></li> </ul>
March 30, 2020	Order Extending and Renewing Existing Orders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Order under the EMCPA which extends various existing orders past their previously applicable revocation date.</li> <li>• A new revocation date (<b>April 13, 2020</b>) now applies to the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ O. Regs. 51/20 and 52/20 (Declaration and Emergency Closures) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Previous applicable revocation date (March 31, 2020)</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ O. Reg. 74/20 (Order for Health Service Providers) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Previous applicable revocation date (April 4, 2020)</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ O. Reg. 77/20 (Order for Long-Term Care Homes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Previous applicable revocation date (April 6, 2020)</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ O. Reg. 82/20 (Closure of Places of Non-Essential Businesses) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Previous applicable revocation date (April 7, 2020)</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ O. Reg. 95/20 (Order for Long-Term Care Homes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Previous applicable revocation date (April 10, 2020)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• For further details, please refer to the attached link.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Order</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>

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March 28, 2020	Order regarding Prohibited Public Events and Social Gatherings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA prohibiting organized public events and social gatherings of more than five people, effective immediately.</li> <li>The order does not apply to private households with five or more people, or to operating childcare centres supporting frontline health care workers and first responders provided the number of persons at each centre does not exceed 50 people.</li> <li>Funerals are permitted to proceed with up to 10 people at one time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>
March 28, 2020	Order for Long-Term Care Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA to ensure that staffing and resources are available to help care for and protect long-term care residents during the COVID-19 crisis.</li> <li>These temporary measures, further to the March 23, 2020 order, provide further flexibility for long-term care homes and allow homes to redirect their staffing and financial resources to essential tasks (see section 3 of the order for further details).</li> <li>Notwithstanding the order's contents, nothing in the order derogates from a licensee's responsibility under the <i>Long-Term Care Homes Act</i> to ensure a "safe and secure environment" for residents.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>
March 27, 2020	O. Reg. 91/20 & O. Reg. 92/20 (Supply Chain Management Act)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The government has introduced regulations under the <i>Supply Chain Management Act</i> (SCMA) to enable the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services and the Ministry of Health to centrally manage public sector supply chains.</li> <li>O. Reg. 91/20 designates hospitals as a "health sector entity" under the SCMA, while O. Reg. 92/20 requires hospitals and other health sector entities to provide the Ministry of Health with the following information, upon request: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>current inventories and future inventory requirements;</li> <li>current and future procurement activities;</li> <li>supply chain opportunities, contingencies and constraints;</li> <li>any other information related to supply chain management or vendor performance that the Deputy Minister or designee specifies.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">O. Reg. 91/20</a></li> <li><a href="#">O. Reg. 92/20</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pursuant to section 3(3) of O. Reg. 92/20, hospitals may continue to utilize existing arrangements for procuring a good or service if it considers it necessary or advisable to do so in response to coronavirus (COVID-19) and any issues related to the response to and recovery from coronavirus (COVID-19), provided hospitals comply with Ministry of Health reporting requirements, among other things.</li> </ul>	
March 27, 2020	Order regarding Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the <i>Health Protection and Promotion Act</i> (HPPA) which requires health care provider organizations, including hospitals, to provide information relating to their PPE inventories to Ontario Health on a daily basis.</li> <li>Appendix to the Order (the corresponding excel spreadsheet) sets out the categories of PPE (masks, eye protection, gloves, gowns, booties, hand sanitizer, disinfectant wipes and swabs) that hospitals must provide in three categories: regular inventory, pandemic inventory, and expired inventory.</li> <li>Order indicates that hospitals should submit the required information using the Daily Bed Census tool.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> <li><a href="#">Appendix (Spreadsheet)</a></li> <li><a href="#">Memo</a></li> </ul>
March 25, 2020	Bill 188	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The government introduced and passed Bill 188, <i>the Economic and Fiscal Update Act, 2020</i>.</li> <li>Bill 188 was announced alongside <i>Ontario's Action Plan: Responding to COVID-19</i>, which included approximately \$3.3 billion to support frontline health care workers and increase capacity in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.</li> <li>The OHA has prepared a non-exhaustive review of Bill 188 (see backgrounder).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Bill 188</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> <li><a href="#">Backgrounder</a></li> </ul>
March 24, 2020	Order regarding Essential Workplaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA announcing that effective 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, all non-essential businesses will be ordered to close for 14 days, and possibly longer.</li> <li>This order is made further to the emergency declaration on March 17, 2020 under the EMCPA.</li> <li>Hospitals are included as essential workplaces pursuant to paragraph 54 of the listed entities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> <li><a href="#">List of Essential Workplaces</a></li> </ul>

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March 23, 2020	Order for Long-Term Care Homes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA to facilitate the ability of long-term care homes to implement redeployment plans to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.</li> <li>Further details are provided in the order. This order applies to redeployment activities within or across facilities and locations of a long-term care provider. All orders under the EMCPA will be valid for 14 days unless revoked or renewed in accordance with the statute.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>
March 21, 2020	Order for Health Service Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA to facilitate the ability of health service providers, including hospitals, to implement redeployment plans to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.</li> <li>Specifically, the order states that regardless of any collective agreement, statute, regulation, order, policy, arrangement or agreement, the order authorizes health service providers to take “any reasonably necessary measure to respond to, prevent and alleviate the outbreak of the coronavirus for patients.”</li> <li>The order does <u>not</u> suspend all provisions of the collective agreement or employment agreement. Instead, it focuses on granting health service providers the authority to take the steps reasonably necessary to staff regardless of any provisions of a collective agreement, statute, policy, employment agreement and so on. All orders under the EMCPA will be valid for 14 days unless revoked or renewed in accordance with the statute.</li> <li>Further details are provided in the order.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>
March 20, 2020	Order suspending Limitation Periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Order under the EMCPA establishing the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>any provision of any statute, regulation, rule, by-law or order of the Government of Ontario establishing any limitation period shall be suspended for the duration of the emergency, and the suspension shall be retroactive to Monday, March 16, 2020.</li> <li>any provision of any statute, regulation, rule, by-law or order of the Government of Ontario establishing any period of time within which any step must be taken in any proceeding in Ontario, including any intended proceeding, shall, subject to the</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> </ul>

Effective Date	Title	Description	Links & Additional Info
		discretion of the court, tribunal or other decision-maker responsible for the proceeding, be suspended for the duration of the emergency, and the suspension shall be retroactive to Monday, March 16, 2020.	
March 20, 2020	Amending Regulation (Long-Term Care Homes Act)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prior to issuing the order in respect of LTC homes on March 23, the government made a number of enabling amendments to the General Regulation under the <i>Long-Term Care Homes Act</i> (LTCHA).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Amending Regulation</a></li> </ul>
March 19, 2020	Bills 186 and 187	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The government introduced and passed Bill 186, the <i>Employment Standards Amendment Act (Infectious Disease Emergencies)</i>, 2020, and Bill 187, the <i>Municipal Emergency Act</i>, 2020.</li> <li>Given its relevance for Ontario hospitals, the OHA prepared a non-exhaustive review of Bill 186 (see background).</li> <li>Bill 186 amends the <i>Employment Standards Act, 2000</i> (ESA) to address when emergency leave is available to employees in the case of infectious disease emergencies. Specifically, the changes to section 50.1 of the ESA create an unpaid leave of absence for employees unable to work due to the defined circumstances in the legislation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Bill 186 / Bill 187</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> <li><a href="#">OHA Background</a></li> </ul>
March 17, 2020	Declaration of Emergency (EMPCA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The government ordered the immediate closure of select establishments and prohibition on public gatherings over 50 persons, among other things, as detailed in the announcement.</li> <li>The emergency declaration shall remain in place until <u>March 31, 2020</u>, at which point it will be reassessed.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order / Order / Order</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> <li><a href="#">OHA Background</a></li> </ul>

### **Provincial Directives and Policy Guidance**

Additional directives from the Chief Medical Officer of Health (Ontario) and select policy guidance can be found below. A comprehensive list of guidance from Ontario Health, the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Long-Term Care can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

- April 17, 2020: [Memorandum on Temporary Physician Funding](#) / [Guidelines](#)
- April 17, 2020: [Memorandum on Hospital Supports for Long-Term Care](#)
- April 15, 2020: [CMOH Directive #3 for Long-Term Care Homes](#) / [Memorandum](#) / [Outbreak Guidance](#) / [Guidance on Mask Use](#) (updated)

- April 15, 2020: [Memorandum on Temporary Pause for Patient Transfers from Hospital to Long-Term Care and Retirement Homes](#)
- April 10, 2020: [CMOH Directive #5 for Hospitals on Personal Protective Equipment](#) / [FAQs](#) / [Technical Brief](#) / [Guidance](#) (updated)
- April 6, 2020: [Memorandum on the Use of Alternate Health Facilities and Temporary Structures](#) / [Checklist](#)
- April 4, 2020: [Ontario Health Guidance for Multi-Employer Health Care Workers](#) / [Work Refusals](#) / [Hospital Employee Sick Pay](#)
- April 2, 2020: [Memorandum on the Use of Hotels and Retirement Homes](#) / [Guidance](#)
- March 30, 2020: [CMOH Directive #4 for Ambulance Services and Paramedics](#) (updated)
- March 30, 2020: [CMOH Directive #1 for Health Care Providers and Health Care Entities](#) (updated)
- March 30, 2020: [Ministry of Health – Memorandum on Tracking and Payment for Uninsured Patients](#)
- March 30, 2020: [Ministry of Health – Hospital Classification under subsection 32.1\(1\) of the \*Public Hospitals Act\*](#)
- March 27, 2020: [Ministry of Health – Memorandum to Hospitals on LTC Admissions and Discharge](#) / [FAQs](#)
- March 26, 2020: [Ministry of Health – General Approval under subsection 4\(2\) of the \*Public Hospitals Act\*](#)
- March 20, 2020: [Ministry of Health - Ontario Drug Benefit Program Changes and Guidance](#)
- March 19, 2020: [CMOH Directive #2 for Health Care Providers](#)

## **Federal**

Effective Date	Title	Description	Additional Information & Links
April 11, 2020	Bill C-14 ( <i>COVID-19 Emergency Response Act, No. 2</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal government introduces and passes the <i>COVID-19 Emergency Response Act, No. 2</i>. Relevant details include, among other things:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Part 1</u>: amends the <i>Income Tax Act</i> to introduce an emergency wage subsidy as part of the response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).</li> <li>○ <u>Part 2</u> amends Part IV.1 of the <i>Financial Administration Act</i> to provide that certain provisions of that Act, as enacted by the COVID-19 Emergency Response Act, cease to have effect on the day after September 30, 2020.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Announcement</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Bill C-14 (COVID-19 Emergency Response Act, No. 2)</a></li> </ul>
April 7, 2020	Health Canada Regulatory Notice for N95 Respirator Reprocessing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health Canada has issued a regulatory notice stating that decontamination of single-use N95 respirators for reuse is being considered along with other conservation strategies to ensure the continued availability of these devices.</li> <li>• Health Canada is currently monitoring and assessing the acceptability of various decontamination and sterilization methods/strategies for the reprocessing of single use N95 respirators in the context of the COVID-19 outbreak.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Notice</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Background Information</a></li> </ul>

Effective Date	Title	Description	Additional Information & Links
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>With regard to reprocessing and decontamination on-site by hospitals, Health Canada will continue to respect the current oversight provided at the provincial / territorial level and guidance provided by the Public Health Agency of Canada.</li> <li>Health Canada will continue to update the notice as more information becomes available.</li> </ul>	
March 25, 2020	Self-Isolation Requirements under the <i>Quarantine Act</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal Health Minister Patty Hajdu has announced that as of midnight ET on March 25, 2020, all returning Canadian travelers must go into self-isolation. This measure will be enforced through measures in the Quarantine Act (with penalties including criminal sanctions or fines).</li> <li>Unclear if statutory exemptions for “essential” workers will be included; the OHA is currently seeking confirmation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Order</a></li> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> </ul>
March 25, 2020	Bill C-13 ( <i>COVID-19 Emergency Response Act</i> )	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal government introduces and passes the COVID-19 Emergency Response Act. Relevant details include, among other things, the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Part 1</a> implements, as part of the response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (i.e. COVID-19), certain income tax measures by (a) introducing a one-time additional payment under the GST/HST tax credit; (b) providing temporary additional amounts under the Canada Child Benefit; (c) reducing required minimal withdrawals from registered retirement income funds by 25% for 2020; and (d) providing eligible small employers a temporary wage subsidy for a period of three months.</li> <li><a href="#">Part 2</a> enacts the Canada Emergency Response Benefit Act to authorize the making of income support payments to workers who suffer a loss of income for reasons related to the coronavirus disease 2019.</li> <li><a href="#">Part 3</a> enacts the Public Health Events of National Concern Payments Act, which authorizes payments to be made out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund in relation to public health events of national concern. It also provides for the repeal of the Act on September 30, 2020.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">Announcement</a></li> <li><a href="#">Bill C-13 (COVID-19 Emergency Response Act)</a></li> </ul>

Effective Date	Title	Description	Additional Information & Links
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <u>Part 7</u> amends the Federal-Provincial Fiscal Arrangements Act to authorize additional payments to the provinces and territories for the fiscal year beginning on April 1, 2019.</li> <li>○ <u>Part 9</u> amends the Food and Drugs Act to, among other things, authorize the Governor in Council to make regulations, (a) requiring persons to provide information to the Minister of Health; and (b) preventing shortages of therapeutic products in Canada or alleviating those shortages or their effects, in order to protect human health.</li> <li>○ <u>Part 10</u> amends the Canada Labour Code to, among other things, create a regime which provides for a leave related to COVID-19 of up to 16 weeks. It also amends that Act to provide for the repeal of that regime and to provide for a quarantine leave under the medical leave regime.</li> <li>○ <u>Part 12</u> amends the Patent Act to, among other things, provide that the Commissioner must, on the application of the Minister of Health, authorize the Government of Canada and any person specified in the application to make, construct, use and sell a patented invention to the extent necessary to respond to a public health emergency that is a matter of national concern.</li> <li>○ <u>Division 1 of Part 18</u> amends the Employment Insurance Act to give the Minister of Employment and Social Development the power to make interim orders for the purpose of mitigating the economic effects of COVID-19.</li> <li>○ <u>Division 2 of Part 18</u> provides that every reference in any provision of the Employment Insurance Act and of regulations made under it to a certificate issued by a medical doctor or other medical professional or medical practitioner or by a nurse practitioner is deemed to be of no effect and that any benefit that would have been payable to a claimant had such a certificate been issued is payable to the claimant if the Canada Employment Insurance Commission is satisfied that the claimant is entitled to the benefit.</li> </ul>	



Effective Date	Title	Description	Additional Information & Links
March 18, 2020	COVID-19 Emergency Response Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal government announces financial help through the COVID-19 Economic Response Plan for Canadians and businesses facing hardship as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak.</li> <li>Details to be provided in upcoming legislation (see <i>COVID-19 Emergency Response Act</i>).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>N/A</li> </ul>