

With COVID 19 and these unprecedented times, we feel that OOWA has explained our situation very well in their recent communication. With their permission we would to share it with all of you! Thank you. Please practice proper social distancing, stay home if possible and stay safe!



To help slow the spread of COVID-19, the Province of Ontario is ordering the closure of all non-essential stores and services. A list of what the province considers essential businesses was released last night. You can find the complete list by [following this link](#).

The order starts by stating:

For the purposes of this order, businesses include any-for-profit, non-profit or other entity providing the goods and services described herein. This does not preclude the provision of work and services by entities not on this list either online, by telephone or by mail/delivery. Note that teleworking and online commerce are permitted at all times for all businesses.

Listed below are the sections of the order that pertain and apply to our shared industry.

Supply chains

1. Businesses that supply other essential businesses or essential services with the support, supplies, systems or services, including processing, packaging, distribution, delivery and maintenance necessary to operate;

Institutional, Residential, Commercial and Industrial Maintenance

13. Businesses that provide support and maintenance services, including urgent repair, to maintain the safety, security, sanitation and essential operation of institutional, commercial industrial and residential properties and buildings, including, property management services, plumbers, electricians, custodial/janitorial workers, cleaning services, , security services, fire safety and sprinkler systems, building systems maintenance and repair technicians and engineers, mechanics, (e.g. HVAC, escalator and elevator technicians),

and other service providers who provide similar services

Construction

26. *Construction projects and services associated with the healthcare sector, including new facilities, expansions, renovations and conversion of spaces that could be repurposed for health care space;*

27. *Construction projects and services required to ensure safe and reliable operations of critical provincial infrastructure, including transit, transportation, energy and justice sectors beyond the day-to-day maintenance;*

28. *Construction work and services, including demolition services, in the industrial, commercial, institutional and residential sectors;*

29. *Construction work and services that supports health and safety environmental rehabilitation projects*

See an important note below about a free webinar to get further clarification about what the impacts of this order will be for the construction sector.

Resources

36. *Businesses that provide chemicals and gases to support the natural resource sector analytical labs and drinking water and wastewater sectors and other essential businesses;*

Environmental Services

40. *Businesses that support environmental management/monitoring and spill clean-up and response, including environmental consulting firms, professional engineers and geoscientists, septic haulers, well drillers, pesticides applicators and exterminators, management of industrial sewage/effluent (e.g. for mining operations), and environmental laboratories;*

Utilities and Community Services

41. *Utilities, and Businesses that support the provision of utilities and community services, including by providing products, materials and services needed for the delivery of utilities and community services:*

a. *Waste Collection, Waste/ Sewage Treatment and Disposal, operation of landfills, and Hazardous Waste Disposal;*

Important Note: A Free Webinar on Project Shutdowns and Risk Management Strategies, Claims, Dispute Resolution and Litigation is available for the following:

Contractors and Subcontractors on **Thursday, March 26 at 9 AM**

Owners and Consultants on **Thursday March 26 at 1 PM.**

In addition to the above-mentioned topics, the actual wording of the mandatory closure of non-essential workplaces in Ontario (announced yesterday) will have to be assessed to determine what jobs can or must proceed.

The webinars will be provided by Rob Kenneley of Kenneley Construction Law.

[To register and for more information please download this PDF form.](#)

COVID19 is a serious threat to the health of all of us especially to those in the [identified vulnerable communities](#). To stop the spread, to ensure that our health care system remains responsive, and to protect the health care providers working on front lines of this pandemic, we need to follow the directives that we are receiving from all levels of government at this time.

Consider how you can incorporate these critical measures into the daily operations of your business. Where appropriate, please allow staff to work remotely as one of the easiest actions you can take right away.

Kelly, OOWA's Operations Coordinator, has prepared some helpful tips on how staff can effectively work from home. [Click here to download them \(PDF\)](#).

If you are looking for additional information about COVID19, please go to only reliable government websites or the websites of your local health unit. You can [start here](#).

Avoid spreading misinformation on social media. If it seems sensational, it probably is.

We need to work collectively now to stop the spread of COVID19 so we can all get back to work and back to normal as soon as possible. Inaction now or disobeying guidance from health experts and government will only prolong and exasperate this unprecedented crisis.

**Federal Wage Subsidies are available for Small Businesses Dealing with
COVID19**

[Click here to get more information here and to see if you qualify.](#)



Questions? Call Bert today! We are here for you!

1-866-MAKE-WAY (625-3929)

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