

Good morning.

We are writing to provide you with advanced notice of some changes that will be happening in Ontario courthouses in the coming months.

As you may know, on February 14, 2022 Ontario updated its [provincial re-opening plan](#), that will cautiously and gradually ease public health measures sooner than anticipated, in response to positive COVID-19 health trends. As the plan outlines, on **March 1, 2022** the province will lift capacity limits in all indoor public settings.

As a result of this shift in Ontario – and the shift taking place around the world to ease public health measures – the Ministry of the Attorney General (MAG) may also be making some changes to the COVID-19 preventative measures currently in place in courthouses.

Throughout the pandemic, the ministry has consulted with advisors in the Chief Medical Officer of Health's Office (CMOHO) and the Ministry of Labour, Training, and Skills Development (MLTSD) to inform its decision making – we are continuing to do so now.

In consultation with our advisors, we are reviewing the existing preventative measures in place within operating court locations to determine the appropriate measures moving forward. We will be finalizing our plan, in line with the provincial re-opening plan and current health and safety advice and will communicate further details in the coming weeks.

In addition to these changes, we are pleased to inform you that the ministry is preparing to reopen road-access satellite court locations, targeting for **mid-April**. (Note that fly-in satellite court locations will require further engagement before they can reopen.)

In advance of in-person proceedings resuming in these locations, the ministry will engage with Joint Health and Safety Committees and undertake various readiness activities including cleaning and outfitting the spaces with any necessary health and safety measures. Satellite courts will be outfitted with current—as at the time of re-opening—required health and safety measures before opening, consistent with any changes being made in operating court locations.

As our recovery journey continues, we want to express our sincere thanks for your ongoing support, feedback, and patience. Together, we have been able to navigate these uncharted waters, and we look forward to our continued work together in the months ahead, as we return to increasingly more normal operations.

**Recovery Secretariat**