

Ministry of the Solicitor General

Ministère du Solliciteur général



Chief Firearms Office

Bureau du contrôleur des armes à feu

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File Reference 677 50

March 19, 2020

**MEMORANDUM TO:**

ALL SHOOTING CLUBS AND RANGES

**Re: Ontario Enacts Declaration of Emergency to Protect the Public**

The global impact of COVID-19 is monumental. It is having an impact on the firearms community including shooting clubs and ranges.

On March 17, 2020, the government declared a provincial emergency through the authority granted under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* (EMCPA) and has enacted two Orders that will protect the public and reduce the harmful spread of COVID-19.

Based on expert advice received from the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the government will require the following establishments to be closed as of March 17, 2020, until March 31, 2020, unless the emergency is terminated earlier:

**Emergency Orders:**

ORDER 1

- all facilities providing indoor recreational programs;
- all public libraries;
- all private schools as defined in the Education Act;
- all licensed child care centres;
- all bars and restaurants, except to the extent that such facilities provide takeout food and delivery;
- all theatres including those offering live performances of music, dance, and other art forms, as well as cinemas that show movies; and,
- all concert venues

ORDER 2

Based on advice received from Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, all organized public events of over 50 people are hereby prohibited including parades and events and communal services within places of worship.

The Chief Firearms Office (CFO) has received enquiries from clubs and ranges seeking advice as to whether the Orders apply to a specific club or range. The role of the CFO is the approval of clubs and ranges and to ensure their continued compliance. The CFO is not in a position to provide advice with respect to the Orders.

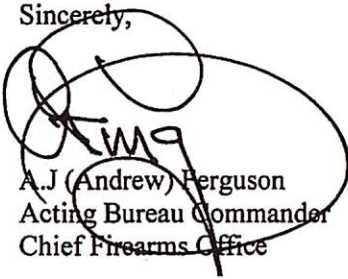
SHOOTING CLUBS AND RANGES

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Under section 7.0.11(1) of the EMPCA, every person who fails to comply with an order or who interferes with or obstructs any person in the exercise of a power or the performance of a duty conferred by an order under that subsection is guilty of an offence and that these offences apply to individuals, directors or officers of a corporation or corporations.

If you have any questions, please contact Sergeant Wayne Johnson at 1-800-731-4000 extension 7574.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "AJ Ferguson", is written over the typed name. The signature is somewhat stylized and overlaps the text below it.

A.J (Andrew) Ferguson  
Acting Bureau Commander  
Chief Firearms Office

/wj