



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**Monday, January 24, 2022**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **City's recreation centres set to open Jan. 31 with 50 percent capacity**

(Barrie, ON) On January 20, the Government of Ontario [announced](#) plans to gradually ease public health restrictions beginning on January 31, 2022. Effective January 31, 2022 at 12:01 a.m., Ontario will begin the process of easing restrictions, while maintaining protective measures, including but not limited to:

- Increasing social gathering limits to 10 people indoors and 25 people outdoors.
- Increasing or maintaining capacity limits at 50 per cent in indoor public settings, including but not limited to:
  - Restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments without dance facilities;
  - Retailers (including grocery stores and pharmacies)
  - Shopping malls;
  - Non-spectator areas of sports and recreational fitness facilities, including gyms;
  - Cinemas;
  - Meeting and event spaces;
  - Recreational amenities and amusement parks, including water parks;
  - Museums, galleries, aquariums, zoos and similar attractions; and
  - Casinos, bingo halls and other gaming establishments
- Religious services, rites, or ceremonies.
- Allowing spectator areas of facilities such as sporting events, concert venues and theatres to operate at 50 per cent seated capacity or 500 people, whichever is less.

For a full list of restrictions, review the [Province's media release](#).

#### **How City services are impacted:**

##### **City recreation facilities:**

- Recreation Centres will reopen on January 31 and will operate at 50% capacity.
- Registered and Drop-in programs will resume with capacity limits.
- Rentals will resume with 50% capacity.
- Ice pads and pools will be capped at 40 people (due to changeroom capacities).
- Fitness Centres will be capped at 15 people.
- Spectators will be limited to 50% in the stands for sporting events.
- All users will be asked to come for their event 30 minutes before, and leave the building 30 minutes after their event.
- Pre-registration and a completed City of Barrie [COVID-19 screening form](#) is required for all activities.
- Anyone 12 years of age or older are required to show identification and proof of vaccination that includes a QR code to access indoor services and programs taking place at community centres, arenas, and pools. For more details about who needs to show proof of vaccination, visit [barrie.ca/ProofOfVaccine](http://barrie.ca/ProofOfVaccine).
- Online virtual programs such as fitness classes will continue. Learn more and register at [play.barrie.ca](http://play.barrie.ca).

##### **City Hall:**

- City Hall remains closed to the public, except for pre-booked appointments through the City's customer service centre, Service Barrie. Residents must call 705-726-4242 to book an appointment. Residents are encouraged to continue to use the City's [online services](#) to easily apply for small building permits, pay for parking or speeding tickets, and more.

##### **Development Services:**



## ***MEDIA RELEASE***

**Monday, January 24, 2022**

- The Planner of the Day is available to answer planning related questions online or by phone only. Email [planneroftheday@barrie.ca](mailto:planneroftheday@barrie.ca) or call 705-726-4242.

For the most up-to-date information on the status of City services, visit [barrie.ca/services](http://barrie.ca/services).

The City encourages residents to support local. To learn more about the supports available to businesses through the pandemic, visit [barrie.ca/SupportforBusiness](http://barrie.ca/SupportforBusiness).

For detailed and up-to-date information on the local vaccination plan, visit the [Health Unit's website](#).

### **Additional Resources:**

- Service Barrie: 705-726-4242 or [service.barrie@barrie.ca](mailto:service.barrie@barrie.ca)
- Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit: 705-721-7520 or [simcoemuskokahealth.org/](http://simcoemuskokahealth.org/)
- Ontario 211: Community and Social Services: call 211 or visit [communityconnection.ca](http://communityconnection.ca)
- Barrie Police Service Non-Emergency Line: 705-725-7025
- Canadian Mental Health Association: [cmha.ca](http://cmha.ca)
- Kids Help Phone: 1-800-668-6868 or [kidshelpphone.ca](http://kidshelpphone.ca)
- Barrie and Area Healthcare options: [barriehealth.ca/](http://barriehealth.ca/)

-30-

### ***For more information, please contact:***

Scott LaMantia  
Senior Communications Advisor  
[scott.lamantia@barrie.ca](mailto:scott.lamantia@barrie.ca)  
705-794-0517