

Simcoe-Muskoka Enters Red Zone: What this Means for You

On Friday December 11th, the Government of Ontario announced that increased COVID-19 restrictions for the Simcoe-Muskoka District will go into effect on Monday, December 14. This means a higher level of control measures for many businesses across the district, including Barrie.

Looking for Support?

Need help understanding the increased restrictions? [Sign up](#) for the virtual Ask an Expert session on changing health & safety regulations, happening December 15.

Looking for business support during COVID-19? [Visit](#) Invest Barrie's COVID-19 response page for information on how we can help or contact us at invest@barrie.ca.

Key New Regulations for Operating in the Red Zone

Local restaurants and bars must follow these additional restrictions, in addition to existing restrictions:

- Maximum number of patrons permitted to be seated indoors is 10.
- Outdoor dining, take out, drive through, and delivery is permitted, including alcohol.
- Patrons must be seated and there must be a two-metre minimum or impermeable barrier between tables. Limit of four people seated together.
- Screening of all patrons is required, and contact information is required for all seated customers. No buffet style service is allowed. Face coverings are required except when eating or drinking.

Retail stores must implement these additional restrictions:

- For malls, maximum number of patrons permitted to be seated indoors in mall food court is 10

Meeting/event spaces must implement these additional restrictions:

- Maximum of 10 people per facility indoors or 25 outdoors.

Performing Arts Facilities

- Closed to spectators
- Rehearsal or performing a recorded or broadcasted event permitted, with restrictions, which include:
 - Performers and employees must maintain 2 metres physical distance except for purposes of the performance
 - Singers and players of brass or wind instruments must be separated from any other performers by plexiglass or other impermeable barrier

Barrie Recreation/Community Centres and local sports/fitness facilities, as well as local sports teams, must implement these additional restrictions:

- 10 people indoors in each class/activity or 25 people outdoors in classes. 10 people indoors in areas with weights or exercise equipment.
- Team sports must not be practiced or played except for training (no games or scrimmage).
- Activities that are likely to result in individuals coming within two metres of each other are not permitted. No contact permitted for team or individual sports, with exemption for high performance athletes.

[View](#) the detailed list of Red Zone Provincial Guidelines to make sure you are prepared.

Invest Barrie can connect businesses, big and small, to the right resources that will provide you with advice and supports on how you can remain competitive in the wake of COVID-19. Please reach out to [705-728-9850](tel:705-728-9850) or email us at invest@barrie.ca.

The logo for Invest Barrie, featuring the word "invest" in a light blue, lowercase, sans-serif font, followed by "barrie" in a dark blue, lowercase, sans-serif font.