

From: CASLPO <caslpo@caslpo.com>

Sent: May 14, 2020 5:00 PM

Subject: Clarification - Ontario Announcement - Phase 1 Reopening



College of Audiologists and
Speech-Language Pathologists of Ontario
Ordre des audiologistes et
des orthophonistes de l'Ontario

May 14, 2020

To: All CASLPO Registrants (*Please share with CASLPO Colleagues*)

CASLPO, like you, received the Ontario Premier's announcement today regarding the direction to move into Phase 1 of reopening the province in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, [Ontario Announces Additional Workplaces that Can Reopen](#).

Premier Ford identified businesses that may open as of May 15, 2020 and businesses that may open May 19, 2020. Of particular relevance to CASLPO registrants was the identification of some "health services", which can be found in [Detailed List of Stage 1 Openings](#). The following health services were described as,

"Allowing certain health and medical services to resume, such as in-person counselling and scheduled surgeries based on the ability to meet pre-specified conditions as outlined in A Measured Approach to Planning for Surgeries and Procedures During the COVID-19 Pandemic, as well as resuming professional services such as shifting Children's Treatment Centres from virtual to in-person."

For our registrants, it is clear that those who work at Children's Treatment Centres are able to return to work. We are seeking clarification from the Ministry of Health to determine if other health services, not specifically mentioned, are able to open and which ones.

However, the Premier cautioned that "businesses should open only if they're ready" and that health and safety remains the top priority". The College expects and supports our registrants in their endeavour to return to work only if appropriate health and safety measures are in place. We recommend the guidance regarding Personal Protective Equipment provided by Ontario Public Health, including the ["IPAC Recommendations for Use of Personal Protective Equipment for Care of Individuals with Suspect or Confirmed COVID-19 May 3, 2020"](#).

Further, in anticipation of businesses opening, we have been developing guidance documents for you that we anticipate we will be able to publish on Tuesday, May 19.

Guidance Topics:

1. General Infection Prevention and Control
2. Point of Care Risk Assessment
3. COVID-19 Screening
4. Personal Protective Equipment
5. Maintaining Physical Distance in the Clinic and Community
6. Additional and Continued Virtual Care
7. Office and Clinic Cleaning
8. Equipment and Materials Cleaning
9. Assessment and Treatment Adaptation

If you have questions, please contact us at: Practice Advice Team

As we work together in addressing COVID-19, we are here to help you.

Stay Safe. Stay Healthy!

Brian O'Riordan
Registrar

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CASLPO | 3080 Yonge Street | Suite 5060 | Toronto | Ontario | M4N 3N1 | Canada