



## COVID Emergency Measures

# Know Your Rights

More information at: [www.nlstoronto.org](http://www.nlstoronto.org)

## New Rules

### Provincial Orders

We are now on stage 2. This means some business and all outdoor recreation spaces are open including fields, fitness equipment, tables and benches. However a physical distance of 2 metres must be maintained by those not in the same social bubble.

You are allowed a social bubble of up to 10 people where you do not need to physically distance from. You are only allowed to be in one social bubble.

As it stands there is no way to register who is in your set social bubble.

When physically distancing you must remain 2 metres away from all except your social bubble for any interactions longer than "incidental" interactions (i.e. walking past someone).

Gatherings of more than 10 people are not allowed (including in private homes) unless they are members of the same household or social bubble .

**Penalty:** Fine of up to \$100,000 or up to one year in prison.

### You must

identify yourself if the police have reason to believe you broke these rules. There is a \$750 fine if you refuse to identify yourself if you are caught violating these rules.

### City of Toronto By-Laws

Any two people who do not live together, or are not in the same social bubble must stay at least 2 metres (6 feet) apart in a park or public square.

**Penalty:** Up to \$1000 set fine; up to \$5000 upon conviction in court.

## **What if an officer approaches me in a park or a public square for breaking an emergency rule?**

You may ask the officer to verify the offence that you are being charged with. If the offence you are charged with is NOT related to the COVID-19 emergency rules, you don't have to stop and answer the officer's questions, unless they have arrested you or detained you. Even then, you have a right to remain silent, a right to be told what is happening, and a right to speak to a lawyer.

## **What if an officer asks me to identify myself? Are there any consequences for refusing to do so?**

You should be cooperative. The emergency rules require a person to identify themselves (name, date of birth, address) if an officer has strong reason to believe they violated an emergency order. You may be fined \$750 or \$1000 for obstruction of justice.

## **What if I am out in public with other people from the same shelter?**

We believe that people living in the same shelter are part of the same household, but our opinion may need to be argued in court. If you are charged for gathering with people in the same shelter, visit [nlstoronto.org](http://nlstoronto.org) and click on "Covid-19 Resources" "Ticket Tracker" to notify us.

## **What if I get a ticket or summons, or get questioned by police?**

Keep your ticket, or give it to a worker you trust. If you get a ticket with a fine on it, you may have the opportunity to challenge it. If you are charged with a provincial offence, a court hearing will take place at the Ontario Court of Justice after the state of emergency ends. If you are found guilty, a Justice of the Peace will decide your sentence. You may not get a criminal record, but you can face serious fines or jail time. There will be future legal challenges to these tickets.

We are asking community members to notify us if they receive tickets or get stopped by police so that we can develop a response. If you receive a ticket, summons, or get stopped, let us know at [nlstoronto.org](http://nlstoronto.org) and click on "Covid-19 Resources" "Ticket Tracker".