

CEO/Registrar COVID-19 Update

➤ The home stretch?

BAO

Bereavement
Authority of
Ontario

Carey Smith
CEO/Registrar

June 30, 2021



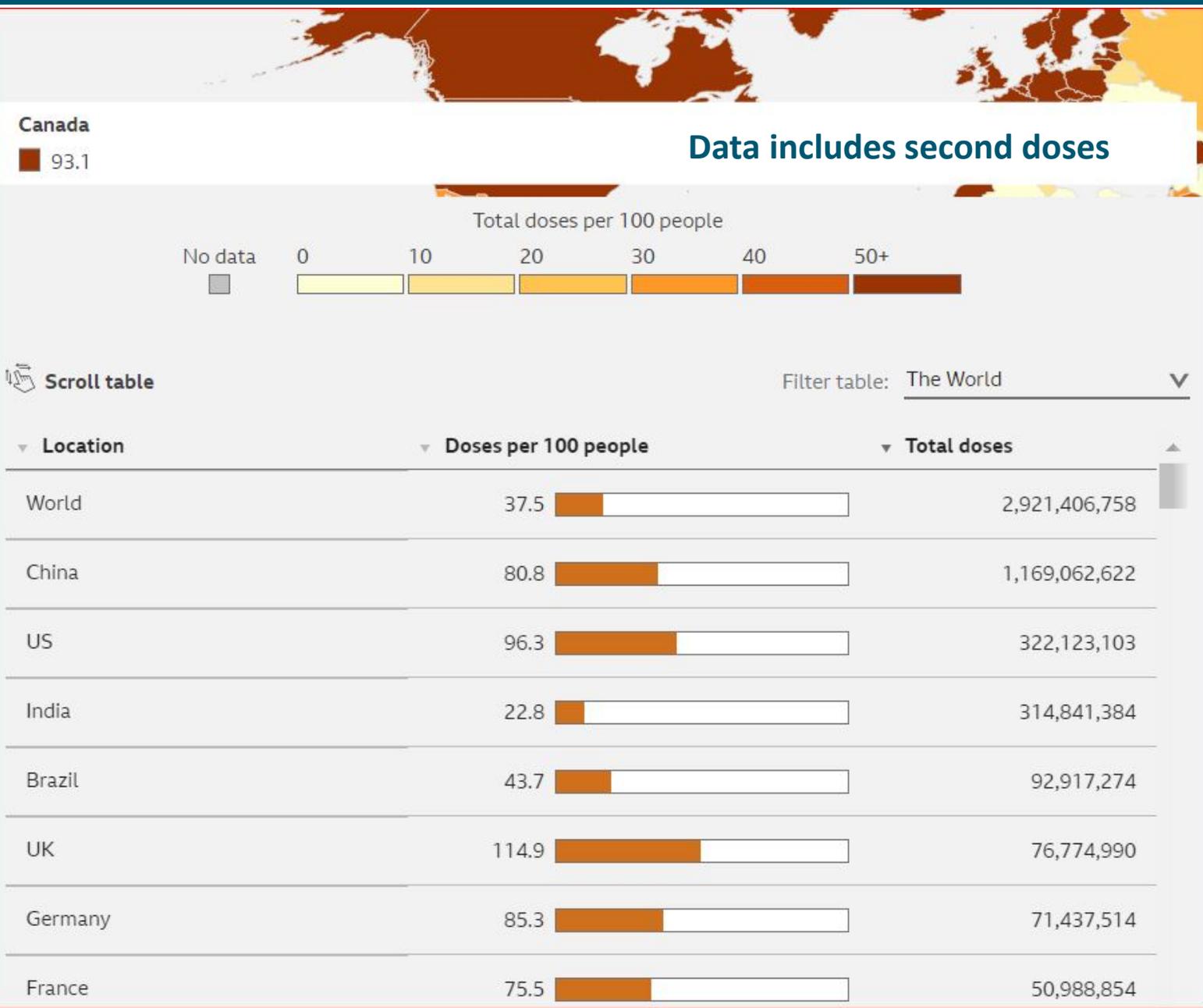
Agenda

1. Are we in the home stretch?
2. Deaths/Cases/Vaccinations:
 - World / Canada / Ontario
3. Step Two of ON GOV Roadmap to Reopening
4. Current BAO COVID restrictions
5. Changes to Regs – Reminders
 - Display on website - Price List / Licence # / BAO Consumer Information Guide
 - Cemetery care & maintenance funds and accounts
6. Potential changes to the FBCSA and/or its Regulations
7. HWIN Questionnaire

Are we in the home stretch?

- Things are looking better around the world, in Canada and Ontario
- Predicting COVID-19 and its several variants has proven to be elusive – even for the world’s best scientists
- **If** cases and deaths continue their steady decline, the Government of Ontario may move to reduce restrictions slightly ahead of their schedule
 - Let’s look at the world picture now and then focus on our province
 - Then we’ll review the government’s current schedule in its Roadmap to Reopen
 - Plus - Review the current BAO COVID restrictions

World – Vaccination rate



Deaths/Cases

Coronavirus around the world

Total deaths

3.9 million

Latest daily figure

6,227

new deaths

56-day trend



Total confirmed cases

181.1 million

Latest daily figure

313,598

new cases

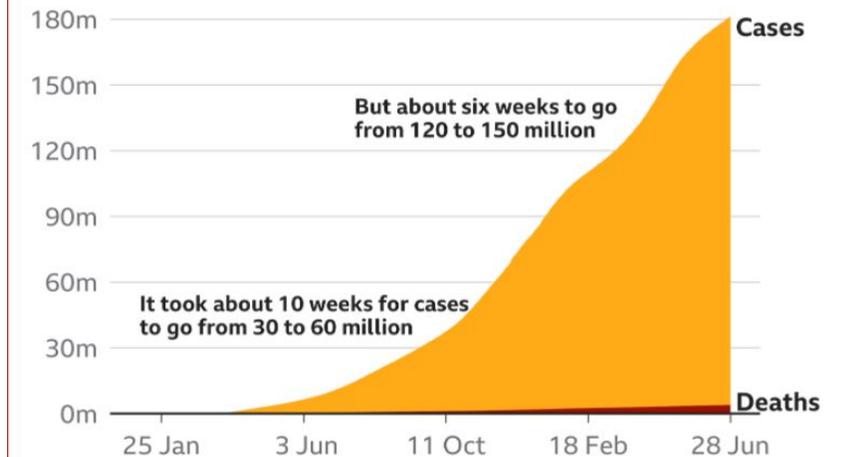
56-day trend



Source: Johns Hopkins University, national public health agencies, 28 Jun **BBC NEWS**

The US, India and Brazil have seen the highest number of confirmed cases, followed by France, Turkey, Russia and the UK.

More than 180m coronavirus cases worldwide

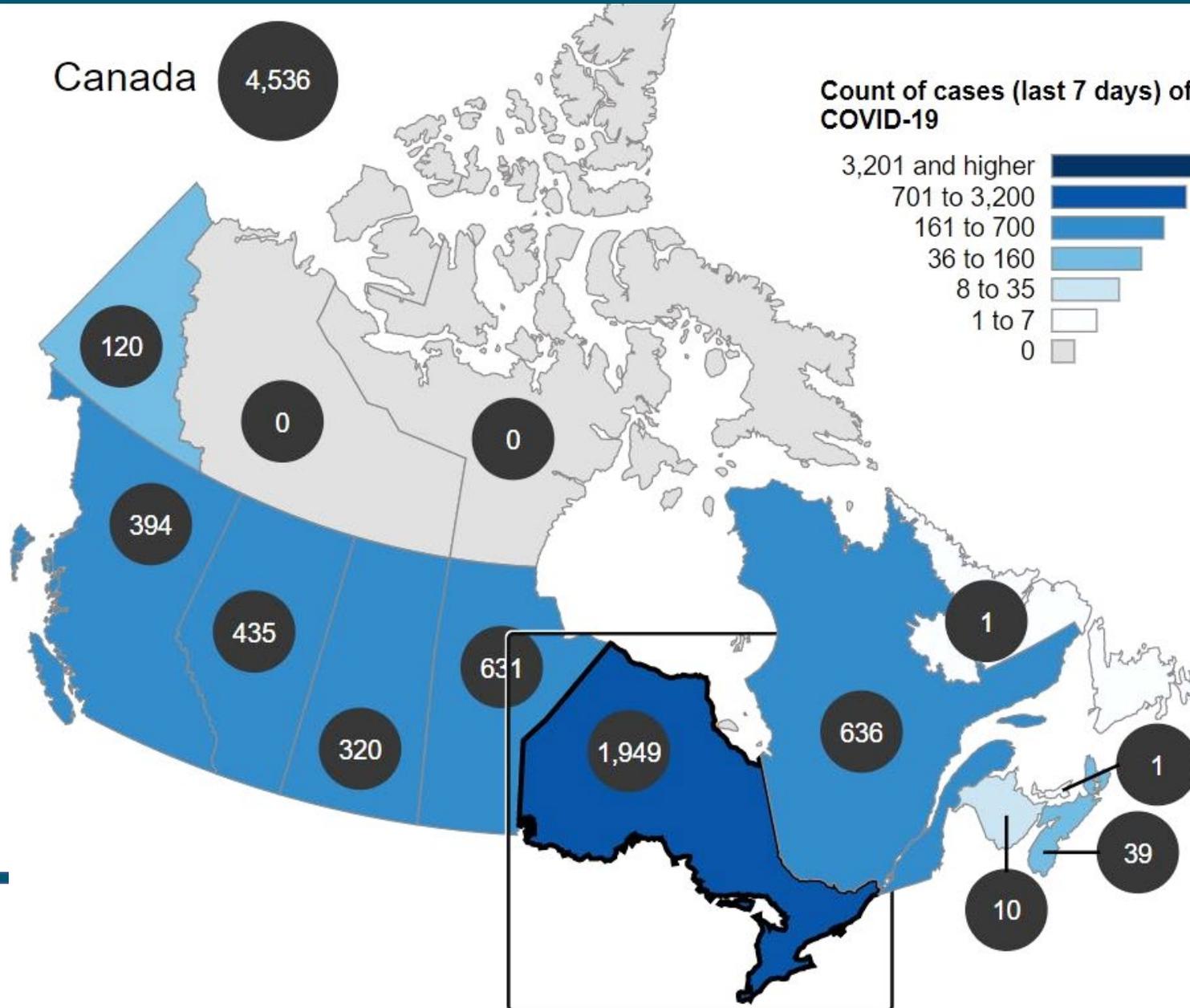


Source: Johns Hopkins University, data to 28 Jun

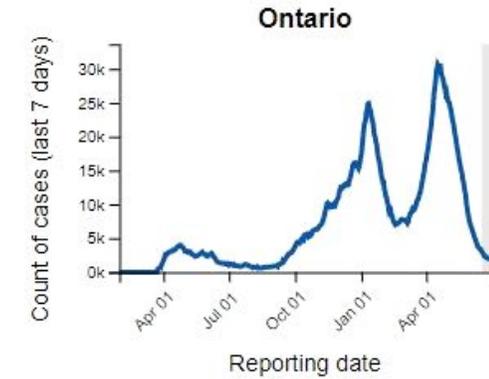
BBC

Deaths have also been rising, however official figures may not fully reflect the true number in many countries.

Canada / Ontario – Cases

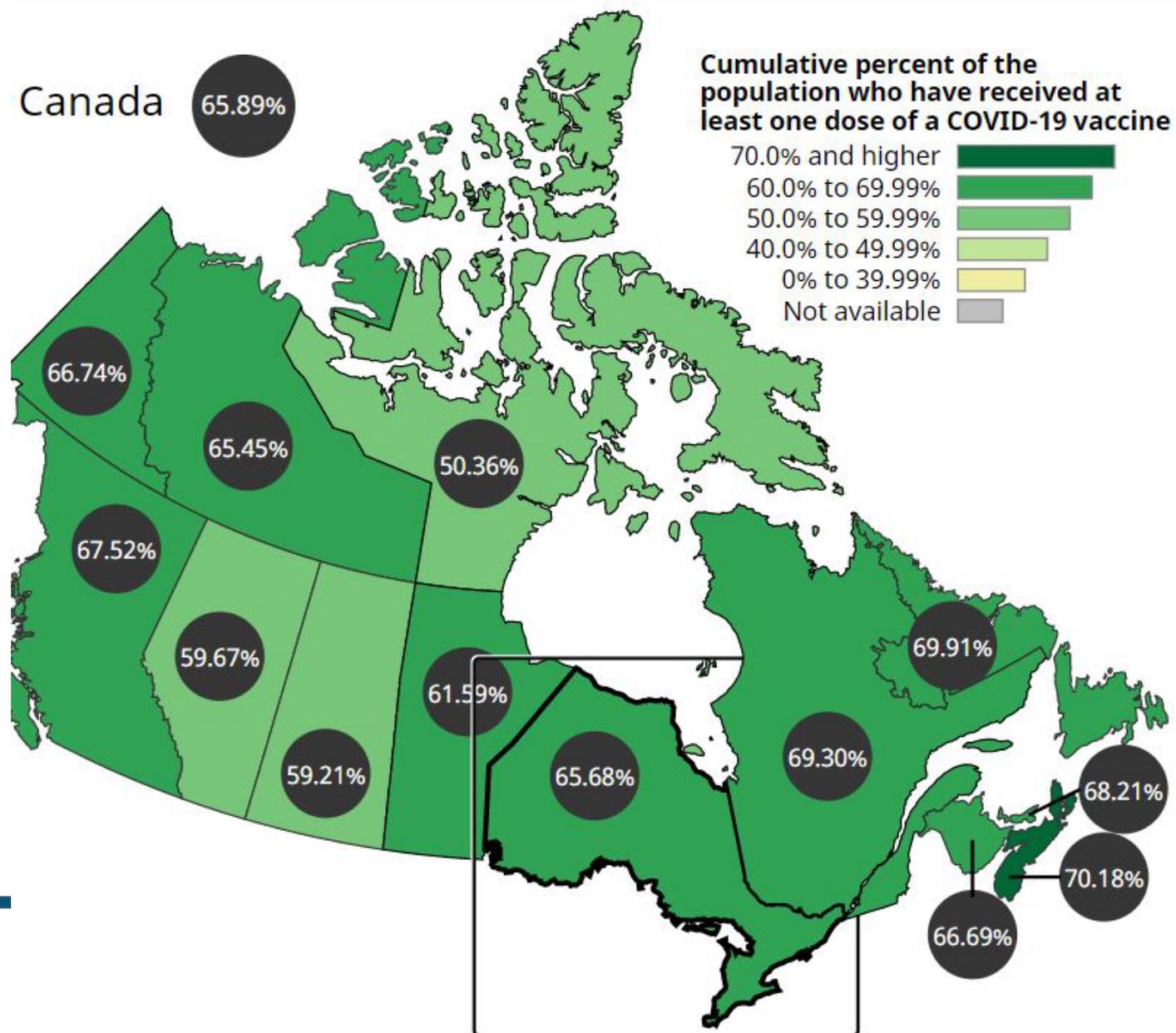


The number of cases (last 7 days) of COVID-19 in **Ontario** was **1,949** as of June 29, 2021.

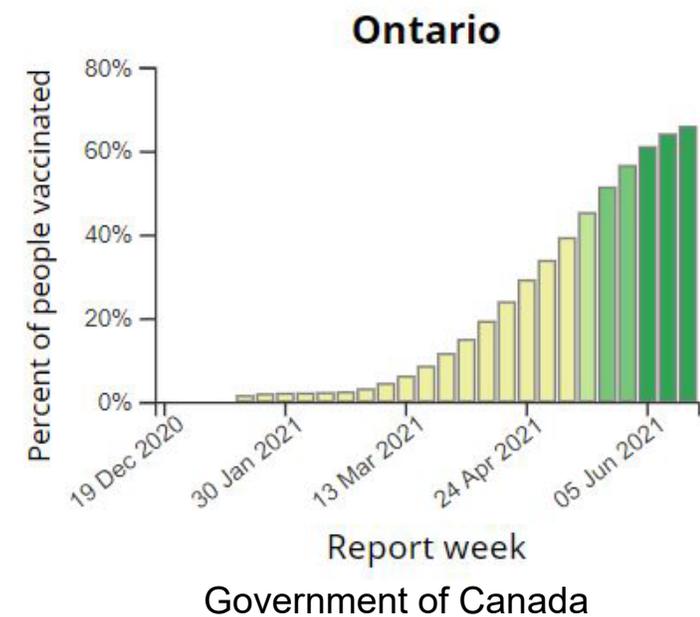


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Canada / Ontario – Vaccination rate



The cumulative percent of the population who have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine in **Ontario** was **65.68%**, as of June 19, 2021.



'So good being back': Ontario sees 184 new COVID-19 cases as province enters Step 2 of reopening



Vaccination targets for Step 3 met, but top doctor warns delta variant still a concern

CBC News · Posted: Jun 30, 2021 8:38 AM ET | Last Updated: 8 minutes ago



Outdoor dining capacity is expanding to six people per table on Wednesday as Ontario enters into Step 2 of its reopening plan. (Nathan Denette/The Canadian Press)

Ontario is reporting 184 new COVID-19 cases on Wednesday — the lowest daily case count since mid-September — as the province moves into Step 2 of its reopening plan.

Vaccinations – Ontario

14,741,138

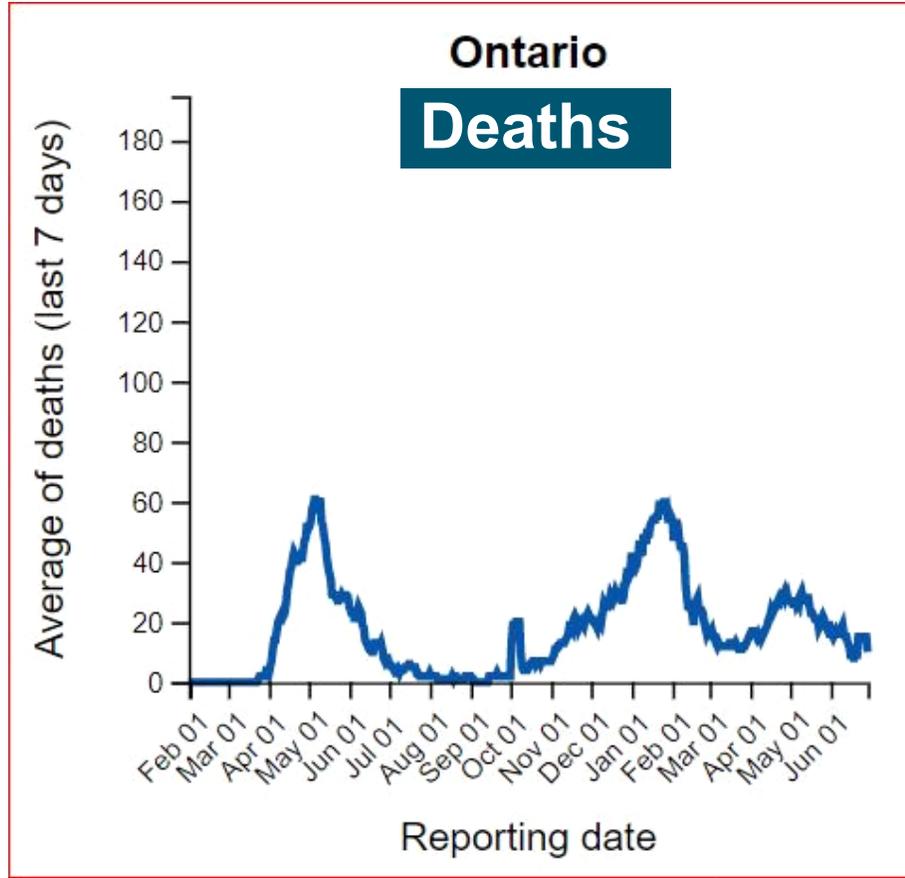
Total doses administered



June 30, 2021

4,808,170

People fully vaccinated



ON GOV Roadmap to Reopen schedule

Religious services, rites or ceremonies, including wedding services and funeral services (does not apply to receptions)



Step 1

15% capacity indoors of the room

Outdoor permitted with capacity limited to permit physical distancing of 2 metres

Step 2

Indoor permitted at 25% capacity of the room

Outdoor permitted with capacity limited to permit physical distancing of 2 metres

Step 3

Larger indoor religious services, rites and ceremonies

Outdoor permitted with capacity limited to permit physical distancing of 2 metres

**Step 2 starts today –
21 days to Step 3 is the government's plan**

- As you know, The BAO does often have more safety restrictions than the minimums set by government.

Current BAO COVID restrictions

- Starting today –
 - ❖ Except in Waterloo Region – Remains in Step One

Indoor Funerals



- 1. The lesser of 25 per cent capacity of the room*** or the number that can be maintained with physical distancing of two meters **to a maximum attendance of 75 people.** The maximum capacity of the room must be posted to be easily visible.

*25 per cent capacity is determined by taking the total square metres of the floor area accessible to the public, not including furniture or fixtures, dividing by 16 and rounding down to the nearest whole number. *O.Reg.263/20 s.3(3)*

- 2. Funerals are required to be staffed at a ratio of one (1) staff per 15 guests to a maximum of four (4) staff for 75.**

Current BAO COVID restrictions

Indoor Funerals

3. Multiple visitations are permitted, but they must be scheduled in complete groups with cleaning/disinfecting between visitations. **In the alternative, lining-up or cycling of guests is permitted only if the line is actively managed by a staff member to preserve two-metres physical distancing between guests (whether indoor or outdoor).**

4. Guests must be logged to enable contact tracing. Records must be kept for 30 days.

5. There must be passive screening of guests.

So, have COVID signage at the entrance for guests to self-assess.

COVID-19 Safety

Do not enter –

**If you answer ‘Yes’
to any of these questions**

Ontario 

Required Screening Questions

1. Do you have any of the following **new or worsening** symptoms or signs? *Symptoms should not be chronic or related to other known causes or conditions.*

- | | | |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Fever or chills | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Cough | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Sore throat, trouble swallowing | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Runny nose/stuffy nose or nasal congestion | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Decrease or loss of smell or taste | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, abdominal pain | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Not feeling well, extreme tiredness, sore muscles | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

2. Have you travelled outside of Canada in the past 14 days?
 Yes No

3. Have you had close contact with a confirmed or probable case of COVID-19?
 Yes No

If you answer ‘Yes’ to any of these questions: Do not enter; Public Health Ontario states that **you should go home to self-isolate immediately** and contact your health care provider, or Telehealth Ontario (1 866-797-0000), to determine whether you need a **COVID-19 test**.

Thank you.

COVID-19 Safety – Ready...together
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Authority of
Ontario
December 2020



(Here's a [link to the BAO's screening sign](#), found on our COVID-19 web section.)

Current COVID restrictions

Outdoor Funerals / Services at Cemeteries

1. **Attendance is limited** to the number that can be maintained **with physical distancing of two metres**, to a **maximum attendance of 75 people**.
2. **If the gathering is under the care of a funeral director** (if the funeral establishment was contracted to provide services at the cemetery) then the gathering must be managed by the funeral home to ensure physical distancing, with **staffing at a ratio of one (1) staff per 15 guests to a maximum of four (4) staff for 75**.
3. **Cemeteries may place further restrictions on access**. Funeral professionals should communicate with local cemeteries in advance to determine what further restrictions may be in place.



Changes coming: ON Reg. 30/11 *FBCSA*

Message from the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services

➤ July 1, 2021



Licence display requirements

The changes, which come into force on July 1, 2021, will:

- Remove the requirement that cemetery, crematorium, funeral establishment, and transfer service operators (bereavement service operators) display their licence or a copy of it near the main entrance of their establishment.
- Require that every bereavement service operator who maintains or makes use of a website to promote, or to enter contracts for, the sale or provision of a licensed supply or service to make available in a clearly visible place on that website their licence number and a description of their type of licence.

Changes coming: ON Reg. 30/11 *FBCSA*

Message from the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services

➤ July 1, 2021

Ontario 

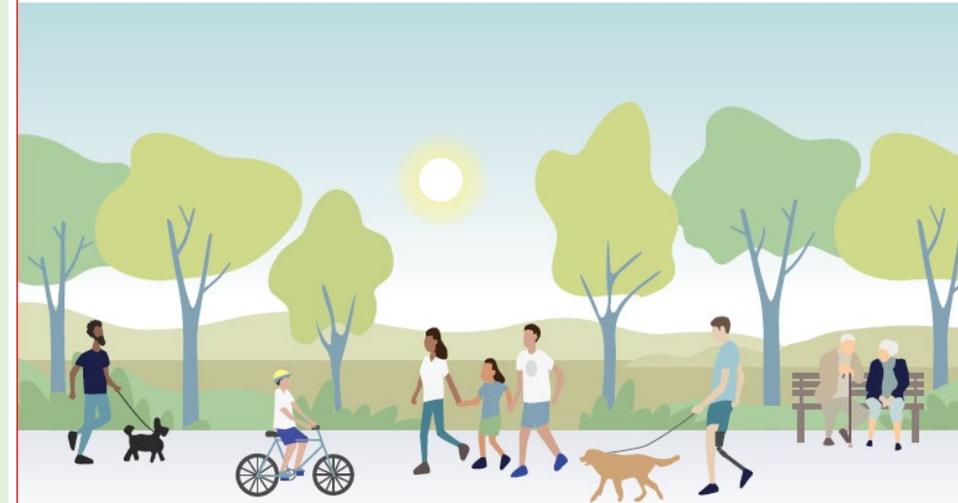
Price list and BAO Consumer Information Guide

The changes, which come into force on July 1, 2021, will:

- Require that every bereavement service operator who maintains or makes use of a website to promote, or to enter contracts for, the sale or provision of a licensed supply or service to make available in a clearly visible place on that website:
 - A free, printable electronic version of the operator's price list; and
 - A link to the **Consumer Information Guide** prepared by the Registrar of the BAO.

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**Consumer
Information
Guide**



A Guide to Death Care in Ontario
Everything you need to know.

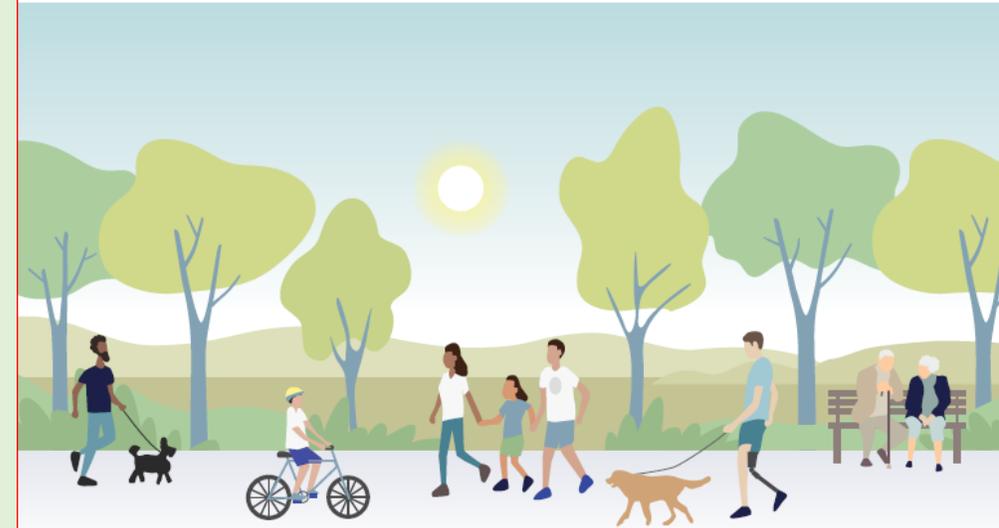
Changes coming: ON Reg. 30/11 *FBCSA*

Price list and BAO Consumer Information Guide

- 74% of consumers surveyed expect to view prices online
- 64% of consumers surveyed expect to see products online
- *Posting price lists is not only the law, it **enhances trust and transparency** for consumers*

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**Consumer
Information
Guide**



A Guide to Death Care in Ontario
Everything you need to know.

Speaking of online services...

Livestream = Mainstream

➤ Consumers have been further conditioned by COVID that anything they need can be obtained online.

❖ 44% of consumers expect webcasting to be a permanent option.

❖ 79% of consumers expect it to be included in the services provided.

➤ **BAO's advice:** Make livestreaming/webcasting a permanent service and do it well...

➤ Train staff, invest in good equipment and integrate it seamlessly.

➤ Realize that it is now an expectation of consumers.

➤ The BAO receives complaints about video and production quality.

Changes coming: ON Reg. 30/11 *FBCSA*

Message from the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services

➤ **January 1, 2022**

Ontario 

Cemetery care and maintenance funds and accounts

The changes, which come into force on January 1, 2022, will:

- Permit non-commercial cemetery operators to access the capital portion of a cemetery care and maintenance fund or account to increase the capacity of a cemetery. This is subject to approval from the Registrar of the Bereavement Authority of Ontario (BAO), under the condition that the capital is paid back into the trust fund or account.
- Increase minimum care and maintenance fund/account contribution amounts. (See the [table sent in the Notice.](#))
- Require the Minister to review the prescribed care and maintenance fund/account contribution amounts every five years.



Government consultation: Potential changes to the *Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002 (FBCSA)* and/or its Regulations

- Ministry of Government and Consumer Services consultation paper seeks feedback on potential changes to the FBCSA and/or its regulations to address recommendations made by the Auditor General as well as concerns raised by bereavement sector stakeholders.

Consultation topics:

- **A. Consumer protection measures**, including:
 - Transparency of price information
 - Displaying the Bereavement Authority of Ontario logo on bereavement service operator websites
 - Disclosure requirements for promotional materials
 - Taking steps to prevent upselling and/or aggressive sales practices
 - Not allowing the licensing of new disposition technology providers until safety of the technology can be confirmed

B. Compliance and enforcement tools

Government consultation: Potential changes to the *FBCSA* and/or its Regulations

- **C. Priority of persons with legal authority to make decisions regarding decedents**

- **D. Cemetery care and maintenance funds/accounts, including:**
 - Interest payment requirements on funds borrowed from the capital portion of cemetery care and maintenance funds/accounts
 - Potential to exempt municipal cemetery operators from care and maintenance fund/account requirements

- **E. Other cemetery-related proposals, including:**
 - Requiring municipalities to operate certain cemeteries that appear neglected or abandoned
 - Additional cemetery closure order application requirements

Government consultation: Potential changes to the *FBCSA* and/or its Regulations

Government analysis of regulatory impact:

- It is anticipated that there will be both administrative costs and benefits (or cost savings) to businesses and/or organizations associated with the potential changes, if made and approved. Administrative costs and benefits are anticipated to vary by topic and potential proposal under consideration.
- The consultation paper seeks feedback under each topic about potential new costs and/or cost savings associated with the potential proposals for Ontario businesses, organizations, or municipalities. Feedback provided on the consultation paper will be used to develop an analysis of the anticipated costs and benefits associated with the proposed changes, if made and approved.

HWIN Questionnaire

- Thanks those who have completed the mandatory questionnaire on hazardous waste disposal registration. (Sent June 14, + reminders June 21, 28)
- To those who haven't, here's another reminder that the questionnaire is mandatory for those who have these BAO licence classes — regardless of where your holding/embalming room is located:
 - **Funeral Establishment-1**
 - **Transfer Service Operator-1**
 - **Transfer Service Operator-2**
- The deadline is end of day today. (It takes four minutes to do.)
- If you have questions, email Compliance@TheBAO.ca

Questions

Thank you

- **Your vigilance and professionalism throughout the pandemic has minimized the risk to families and your staff.**
- A video of this presentation will be sent to you tomorrow and posted on our BAO website.
 - ❖ **COVID** - [TheBAO.ca/covid-19-update-links/](https://www.thebao.ca/covid-19-update-links/)
 - ❖ **FAQ** - [TheBAO.ca/covid-19-faq-for-bereavement-licensees-and-grieving-families](https://www.thebao.ca/covid-19-faq-for-bereavement-licensees-and-grieving-families)
- PS - Registrar's Updates do not count as part of continuing education.