



Media Statement

December 9, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOWN TO EXPAND ENFORCEMENT OF PRIVATE GATHERINGS, INCLUDING HOUSE PARTIES, DURING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

WHITCHURCH-STOUFFVILLE, ON – The Town of Whitchurch-Stouffville would like to remind residents that York Region continues to be under the Red Control Zone for COVID-19 restrictions.

Under these the Red Control restrictions,

- social gatherings, including those associated with a wedding, funeral, or religious service, are restricted to 5 people indoors and 25 people outdoors,
- trips outside of the home should only be for essential reasons (work, school, groceries/pharmacy, health care, assisting vulnerable individuals or exercise and physical activity)
- families should not visit any other household or allow visitors in their homes
- everyone should avoid social gatherings, and
- work remotely, where possible

Dr. Karim Kurji, York Region's Medical Officer of Health, confirms that the Region's majority of COVID-19 transmissions are sourced from public and private gatherings, not local business, institutional or school outbreaks.

At the recommendation of the Region and its Mayors, Whitchurch-Stouffville will therefore be stepping up enforcement of all private and public gatherings to stop the spread of the virus.

Effective immediately, By-Law Enforcement Officers and York Regional Police will monitor social gatherings, including house parties and organized get-togethers in private residences, and lay charges if orders have been broken.

Offenders face fines starting at \$750.

If you witness a private or social gathering which contravenes Red Control Zone restrictions, please call Whitchurch-Stouffville By-Law at (905) 640-1910 ext. 2229.

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