



Media Contact:  
Corey Moore  
Communications & Economic  
Development Specialist  
cmoore@muskokalakes.ca  
(705) 765-3156 Ext 215  
www.muskokalakes.ca

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**Media Release**  
**For Immediate Release**  
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## **COVID-19 Update - Township Provides Update on Outdoor Recreational Amenities**

**MUSKOKA LAKES** – On Tuesday, May 19, 2020 the Province of Ontario officially entered the first stage of its [Framework for Reopening the Province](#). This includes permitting the reopening of some outdoor recreational amenities, including outdoor sports facilities and multi-use fields, outdoor picnic sites, benches and shelters in parks and recreational areas subject to certain restrictions.

Accordingly, effective Saturday, May 23, 2020 at 12:01 a.m., the Township will reopen permitted recreational amenities, such as benches, picnic areas, shelters, courts, fields, skateboard parks, diamonds, beaches, and docks at all parks, trails and picnic areas. Municipal boat launches remain open. Public washrooms will reopen effective Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 12:01 a.m.

Outdoor playgrounds, play structures and equipment will remain closed until further guidance regarding the reopening of these facilities is provided by the Provincial Government and the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit.

The public are asked to follow provincial guidelines on physical distancing by maintaining minimum of 2 metres between individuals and wash or sanitize your hands before and after each use. The Township reminds the public that Provincial Emergency Orders remain in place for social gatherings of 5 or more people and the use of closed outdoor recreational amenities.

The Township of Muskoka Lakes is working closely with the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit and other community partners to monitor the global situation regarding COVID-19, and to respond accordingly. The Township will continually update its website at [www.muskokalakes.ca](http://www.muskokalakes.ca) with any changes to Township services as a result of COVID-19.

Further information is available from the [Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit](#) or the [Government of Ontario COVID-19](#).

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For more information, please contact:

Ken Becking  
Director of Public Works

[kbecking@muskokalakes.ca](mailto:kbecking@muskokalakes.ca)

(705) 765-3156

[www.muskokalakes.ca](http://www.muskokalakes.ca)