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Friday, January 15 Update

Dear Neighbour,

I hope you are doing okay as we begin these new lockdown measures. We know all of us must do our part to stop the spread of COVID-19, but [top health officials](#) are also telling us lockdown measures alone won't do enough. In order to protect our health care sector and save lives, the province must also implement supports for workers, families and small businesses.

Measures like paid sick leave, a residential eviction ban that leaves no one out, and direct financial relief for families and small businesses to cover costs like rent, help ensure we can all stay home without going into debt.

We also need to open more self-isolation centres, improve testing and contact-tracing capacity in workplaces and hot-spot neighbourhoods, recruit thousands of long-term care workers with higher wages and improve vaccine distribution. There is so much to do.

I am hearing from many of you about the challenges your family is facing with schooling, as well as questions and concerns you have about the vaccine rollout and when you will be eligible. We will be working on these issues in the coming days.

Please reach out to our office if you have questions or concerns.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jessica Bell'.

Jessica Bell (MPP for University-Rosedale)

My newsletter for this week includes:

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State of emergency in effect

This week Doug Ford declared a second provincial state of emergency in response to growing COVID-19 case numbers.

The stay-at-home order, which began yesterday is expected to last at least 28 days. The order requires everyone to remain at home with exceptions for essential purposes, such as going to the grocery store or pharmacy, accessing health care services, for exercise or for essential work.

In addition to the stay-at-home order, new government restrictions state all non-essential stores and those offering curbside pickup or delivery, must open no earlier than 7 a.m. and close no later than 8 p.m. These restricted hours of operation do not apply to stores that primarily sell food, pharmacies, gas stations, convenience stores, and restaurants for takeout or delivery.

In addition, schools in Toronto will not return to in-person teaching until February 10th. Child care centres for non-school aged children will remain open, and emergency child care for school-aged children will end when elementary schools return to in-person learning.

[You can see full details here.](#)

New lockdown measures disproportionately hurt BIPOC folks

Since Doug Ford's announcement on Tuesday, our office has received dozens of phone calls and emails calling the new lockdown measures vague, confusing, and contradictory.

The new, stricter measures give police and bylaw officers the power to enforce the stay-at-home order and issue tickets to rule-breakers, but [Doug Ford has yet to give details on how enforcement will play out in practice.](#)

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concerned the new enforcement orders will be used to disproportionately target those who are low-income, Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour (BIPOC). This is because vague, confusing, and contradictory enforcement protocols could increase the kind of carding and racial profiling that has long targeted BIPOC folks in Ontario, and still continues to this day.

The Ford government must act immediately to ensure COVID-19 restrictions are completely clear so that enforcement can be fair, proportional, and documented. There needs to be a clear process for recourse. BIPOC folks and those from other over-policed communities deserve a guarantee the stay-at-home order won't result in them being treated differently.

If you have questions or concerns regarding the new lockdown measures please do not hesitate to contact our office at jbelle-co@ndp.on.ca.

Residential eviction ban marred by loopholes

This week Doug Ford also announced a temporary moratorium on residential evictions. The announcement comes after months of [organizing and protesting](#) by tenants and tenant advocates calling for a ban on residential evictions throughout the pandemic as well as calls for landlords and the province to provide rent relief and forgiveness to residents who've lost income as a result of COVID-19.

Despite the temporary pause on evictions, since Tuesday's announcement the Ford government has clarified Ontario's Landlord and Tenant Board (LTB) will continue to hold hearings and issue eviction orders for residential tenancies during the province's eviction moratorium. This means while sheriffs will not actively enforce evictions for the next 28 days, landlords can still seek eviction orders, hearings will still be held, and tenants will presumably be removed from their homes as soon as the moratorium is lifted.

This comes amongst concerns virtual proceedings at the LTB are making it very difficult for tenants to participate fairly. The LTB's virtual operations have been increasingly reported for systematic procedural unfairness, particularly impacting people with disabilities, those lacking access to technology and those facing language barriers.

In order to ensure every Ontarian has a safe place to stay during the pandemic, the eviction ban must include eviction notices, hearings and orders. The Ontario government must also include direct rent relief so tenants can pay their rent on time.



It's time for permanent paid sick leave

During Tuesday's COVID-19 modeling update, [Dr. Barbara Yaffe](#) and [Dr. Adalsteinn Brown](#) told Ontarians that without paid sick days and support for workers, it would not be possible to control the virus. Despite repeated calls from public health experts, mayors, advocates and groups representing

The [Decent Work and Health Network](#) estimates at least 60 percent of all workers in Ontario do not have paid sick days, which disproportionately consists of folks working lower-wage jobs, women, migrant workers, as well as Black, and Indigenous people. For many, calling in sick means losing income they just can afford.

In December, NDP MPP Peggy Sattler introduced the [Stay Home If You Are Sick Act](#) in the Ontario legislature. The bill creates a framework for providing paid sick leave for all Ontario workers, during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. Sattler's bill would guarantee 10 personal emergency leave days per year for every worker, seven of which are paid.

Alongside paid sick days, the NDP is fighting for family care days so parents can stay home if their children have to isolate because of COVID-19.

[Click here to support MPP Sattler's bill.](#)

Ford must pay municipalities to cap ridership on transit

As community spread continues to rise and public health experts urge physical distancing, I am hearing from essential workers who depend on public transit to go to and from work physical distancing is becoming increasingly difficult on overcrowded transit lines.

In response to overcrowding, the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) has called on Premier Doug Ford to initiate a cap on the number of people allowed on buses in order to keep both drivers and passengers safe. This week I joined Ontario NDP MPPs in support of the ATU and transit riders, urging the Ford government to provide funding for municipalities to cap bus ridership at safer levels to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in our communities.

[Click here for more details.](#)

Ontario program for small businesses up and running

Applications are now open for the [Ontario Small Business Support Grant](#), which aims to help small businesses required to close or significantly restrict their services under the Provincewide Shutdown.

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April 2019 and April 2020. New businesses established since April 2019 are also eligible provided they meet the other eligibility criteria.

[See here for additional details, including how to apply.](#)



Trustee Chris Moise

Ward 10, University-Rosedale and Toronto Centre

Ward 10 school/student councils, parents/caregivers, community members, & school staff
Please join me at my next ward forum on:

Equity

Thursday January 21, 2021 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Meeting Agenda

- Equity Discussion with TDSB Equity, Anti-Racism, and Anti-Oppression Staff
- Election of Ward Representative (and Alternates) for the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee and the French as a Second Language Advisory Committee
- Superintendent and Trustee Updates

How to Join the Ward Forum

- To be able to join, please fill out the **Registration Form** at <https://www.chrismoise.ca/ward10forum>, 24 hours before the meeting.
- When registering, you will be able to submit your question(s) in advance.
- Meeting links and dial-in numbers will be sent to your email address on the morning of the ward forum.
- Need more info? Email Maxeen.Paabo@tdsb.on.ca or call 416-395-8787.

Opportunities for Feedback and Questions | Attend from Wherever You Are

Sign Up for My Newsletter at www.ChrisMoise.ca/getinvolved

Visit My Website at <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward10>



Chris Moise
Trustee, Ward 10, University-Rosedale and Toronto Centre
Tel: 416-395-8787 E-mail: Chris.Moise@tdsb.on.ca

Upcoming forum with TDSB Trustee Chris Moise

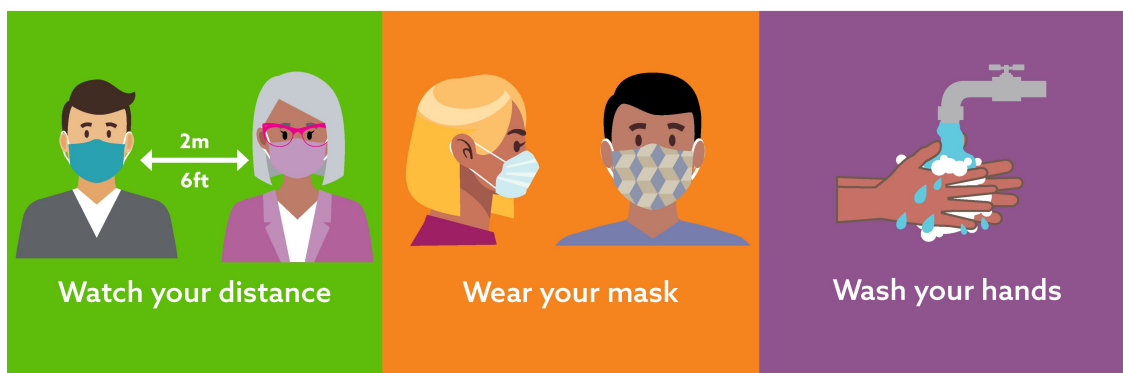
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TDSB Equity, Anti-Racism, and Anti-Oppression Staff, an election of Ward Representative (and Alternates) for the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee as well as Superintendent and Trustee Updates.

[Click here for event and registration details.](#)

3 STEPS FOR SELF-PROTECTION

We all have a role to play to reduce COVID-19 spread & keep our city safer:



[TORONTO.CA/COVID19](https://toronto.ca/covid19)

 **TORONTO** Public Health

Now is the time to follow public health guidelines

As COVID-19 cases climb in Ontario, please consider these reminders from Toronto Public Health to protect yourself and others from COVID-19.

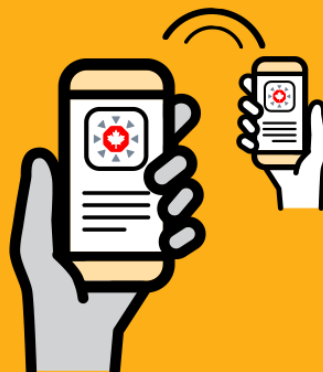
The best way to prevent infection is to avoid being exposed:

- Limit non-essential trips out of your home and follow [travel advice](#)
- Keep [two metres \(six feet\) distance](#) from others
- [Wear a mask or face covering](#) in indoor public spaces and when you can't keep physical distance
- Clean your hands often. Use soap and water or an alcohol-based (70-90 per cent) hand sanitizer
- Avoid touching your face with unwashed hands
- Cover your cough or sneeze with your elbow or a tissue. Immediately throw the tissue in the garbage and wash your hands.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick
- Stay home if you are feeling unwell

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downloaded the app and I encourage you to do the same.

**Protect your
community.
Download the
COVID Alert app.**

Health
CanadaSanté
Canada

Canada

**Note that this email and all previous COVID-19 updates are available
at: www.jessicabellmpp.ca/coronavirus**

As always, if you require urgent assistance from my office, please contact my
team at 416-535-7206 or email us at jbelle-co@ndp.on.ca



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