

COVID-19: Essential Services Update

January 13, 2021

The Ontario and Quebec governments have imposed stricter rules for residents as a measure to flatten the curve for the COVID-19 coronavirus.

Capital market participants, including IIROC-regulated investment firms, in both Ontario and Quebec, continue to operate as essential services. Deeming investment firms essential services means that they are able to access their facilities as required, to ensure continued service to clients, however work from home arrangements are strongly encouraged. Quebec residents are also required to [complete an attestation](#) to show that they are required to work past the 8:00 p.m. curfew.

IIROC, as a pan-Canadian regulator, remains fully operational in a work-from-home environment, and is an essential service carrying out all core and critical regulatory responsibilities. This includes the real-time oversight of all equity trading in Canada to ensure our markets operate in an orderly manner and with integrity. However, we have access to our facilities if required.

IIROC is in frequent contact with the Canadian Securities Administrators and key stakeholders -- marketplaces, investment firms and governments. As the situation develops, we will adapt our plans and issue further communication, where appropriate.