

ONTARIO COURT OF JUSTICE

THE HONOURABLE CHIEF JUSTICE)	WEDNESDAY, 25th
)	
LISE MAISONNEUVE)	OF NOVEMBER, 2020.
)	

ORDER

**PURSUANT TO SECTION 85 OF THE *PROVINCIAL OFFENCES ACT*
EXTENDING CERTAIN TIME PERIODS UNDER THE *PROVINCIAL OFFENCES ACT*
FOR PROCEEDINGS IN THE ONTARIO COURT OF JUSTICE**

WHEREAS, public health officials have recommended that measures be taken to reduce the amount of time individuals spend in large crowds or in crowded spaces to help reduce the transmission of COVID-19 in a community.

AND WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic is disrupting the ability of defendants to attend court and the availability of *Provincial Offences Act* court services.

AND WHEREAS, the Government of Ontario's order made pursuant to Ontario Regulation 73/20 under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* and the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020* suspending time limitations expired September 13, 2020.

AND WHEREAS, *Provincial Offences Act* proceedings and court services continue to be disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

AND WHEREAS, this Order is necessary to prevent prejudice to parties in *Provincial Offences Act* matters due to the limited availability of *Provincial Offences Act* court services.

AND WHEREAS, it would be impractical to require each affected party to request an extension of time under the *Provincial Offences Act* individually.

THIS COURT ORDERS that, pursuant to section 85 of the *Provincial Offences Act*, the time limits for proceedings in the Ontario Court of Justice prescribed under *Provincial Offences Act* in sections 5(6), 5.1(2), 5.1(12), 9(1)(a), 11(1), 11(4), 17(4.1), 17.1(6.1), 18.1(5), 18.2(1), 18.3(1), 19(1), 19(4), 66(1), 69(1), 116(2)(a), 116(3) and 135(2) of the *Provincial Offences Act*, and under sections 5(2) and 5(3) of the *Rules of the Ontario Court (General Division) and the Ontario Court (Provincial Division) in Appeals Under Section 116 of the Provincial Offences Act*, O. Reg. 723/94, are extended until February 26th, 2021.

THE COURT ALSO ORDERS any order previously given extending a time period in a matter beyond February 26th, 2021 is still in effect.

FOR GREATER CLARITY this order supersedes the Order made on March 15, 2020 extending timelines under the *Provincial Offences Act* until April 23, 2020 and the Order made on September 10, 2020 extending timelines under the *Provincial Offences Act* until December 1, 2020.

THIS COURT FURTHER ORDERS that this Order be posted in a visible place in all court offices dealing with *Provincial Offences Act* matters in the province of Ontario as soon as practicable.

Lise Maisonneuve
Chief Justice of the Ontario Court of Justice