



October 14, 2021

The Honourable Doug Ford, MPP
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building
Room 281
Queen's Park
Toronto, ON
M7A 1A1

Dear Premier:

I am writing to thank you for increasing capacity limits for several venues in Ontario.

Your government's news release on Oct. 8, 2021, announcing the change in capacity limits, was welcome and a great way to start the weekend. Reaching this point speaks to the hard work of many.

However, I also write to encourage you to do more for our restaurant industry. As the industry has made clear, they deserve to be treated the same as large sports venues and concert halls, which can operate at 100 percent capacity, as long as vaccination requirements are enforced.

While restaurants do not have specific capacity limits, they must maintain two metres of distance between tables, which limits the number of people in an establishment. This is not fair.

If we can safely accommodate people inside large sports venues, such as Scotiabank Arena, we can allow restaurants to resume full operations, subject to the meeting of vaccination requirements.

There are 450,000 people employed in the Ontario restaurant business and this sector has endured considerable challenges during the pandemic. It is imperative that this industry get back on its feet.

I also understand from media reports your government is considering additional changes to support businesses and I look forward to hearing the details.

Thank you for your continued leadership, hard work, and I look forward to hearing from you on the above.

Sincerely,

Nina Bifolchi, Mayor
Town of Wasaga Beach

c: Warden George Cornell, County of Simcoe