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**FROM:** Kevin Finnerty  
Assistant Deputy Minister, Heritage, Tourism and Culture  
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**SUBJECT:** Clarification of Rules for Film and Television Production in  
Stage 2 Regions

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I am writing to clarify the rules for regions in Stage 2 under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*, with respect to film and television production.

When a film set operates as a workplace, the limits for organized public events and social gatherings under [Ontario Regulation 263/20](#) (Rules for Areas in Stage 2) would not apply.

In terms of feeding film and television workers on a set that is located in a restaurant in a Stage 2 region, the provisions related to restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments apply. This means patrons can only be served through takeout, drive-through or delivery service, or at an outdoor dining area that meets the conditions set out in regulation.

Film and television production activities and supporting activities, such as hair, makeup and wardrobe are permitted for regions in Stage 2, provided that the activities are conducted in accordance with all applicable requirements and comply with the following conditions:

- No studio audiences may be permitted to be on the film or television set;
- The set must be configured and operated in such a way as to enable persons on the set to maintain a physical distance of at least two metres from other persons, except where necessary for the filming of the film or television production;
- Persons who provide hair or makeup services must wear appropriate personal protective equipment; and,
- Singers and players of brass or wind instruments must be separated from any other performers by plexiglass or some other impermeable barrier.

Film and television production activities must operate in accordance with all applicable laws including: all applicable requirements of the Stage 2 regulation; and, in compliance with the advice, recommendations and instructions of public health officials, including any advice, recommendations or instructions on physical distancing, cleaning or disinfecting.

The Section 21 Film and Television Health and Safety Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development has published guidelines to productions to help identify and mitigate potential workplace risks related to COVID-19.

I hope this provides clarification of rules for film and television production in Stage 2 regions.

Sincerely,

*Original signed by*

Kevin Finnerty  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Heritage, Tourism and Culture Division