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ONTARIO OPENING MORE TEMPORARY ROAD TEST CENTRES

In the coming weeks, the Ontario government will open additional temporary road test centres in Burlington, Markham, and East Gwillimbury to increase the number of passenger road tests (class G2/G) available in areas where demand is highest. These temporary road test centres will help increase testing capacity across the DriveTest network and help people who need a road test book sooner. "Our government is making tremendous progress to clear the road test backlog at Ontario DriveTest centres," said Caroline Mulroney, Minister of Transportation. "We're getting Ontario back on track with our aggressive plan to open additional temporary centres, hire additional temporary driver examiners, and offer road tests with extended weekday operating hours for passenger road testing, including weekends."

Throughout efforts to clear the backlog, the health and safety of DriveTest customers and staff will be of utmost concern. Customers will be required to wear face masks inside centres and during road tests, sanitize their hands, complete the Patron/customer screening developed by the province and share their "passed" results prior to the road test or admittance to the centre. Starting Tuesday, September 7, 2021, DriveTest will offer class G2 and G road tests seven days a week between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., at temporary locations at Burlington GO Station and Mount Joy GO Station in Markham. And, on Monday, September 20, 2021, DriveTest will open a temporary road test centre at East Gwillimbury GO Station to offer class G2 and G road tests seven days a week between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.



Additionally, four more temporary road test centres will be opened in the coming weeks to serve Mississauga, southwestern Ontario, Niagara Region and the Ottawa area. More information on locations and hours will be available in the near future. These sites are in addition to the temporary road test centres that opened in August 2021. To book your road test, please visit DriveTest.ca – the only official channel for booking a road test. You should never give your driver's licence to a

third party or an unknown website. DriveTest will never charge you an additional fee to book or reschedule a road test. Quick Facts In addition to opening temporary centres, Ontario is hiring an additional 251 temporary driver examiners, extending weekday operating hours for passenger road testing and offering passenger road tests on Saturdays and Sundays at select locations to clear the backlog of road tests. Because of the high

demand for road test appointments, we are unable to prioritize customers with cancelled appointments. As measures to address capacity are implemented, additional road test appointments will be made available. Please continue to check DriveTest.ca for new blocks of road test appointments. If your road test was cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions, you will have a credit on the system to rebook your test. Road test applicants may be required to provide a contact phone number should contact tracing be required. Applicants may be required to keep vehicle windows open to ensure proper airflow. All DriveTest staff will wear appropriate personal protective equipment when serving customers, and driver examiners will also be equipped with face shields, sanitizer packages and seat covers

when conducting road tests. For inside services and road testing for other licence classes, customers will need to visit a permanent DriveTest location. "I'm pleased that Burlington GO Station was selected to host a temporary road test centre. This temporary centre will help clear up the demand for class G2 and G road tests here in Burlington and in Halton Region seven days a week starting September 7th." - Jane McKenna MPP for Burlington "Minister Mulroney's initiative to open temporary road test centres in high demand areas will help tackle the road test backlog caused by COVID-19 restrictions. The new temporary road test centre at Mount Joy GO Station in Markham will serve to enhance testing capacity and allow individuals to schedule their road tests faster." - Paul Calandra MPP for Markham-Stouffville

ONTARIO PROVIDING MORE SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES DURING COVID-19

REGION OF DURHAM 'The Ontario government is providing \$6,740,800 to help the Regional Municipality of Durham deliver critical services, create longer-term housing solutions and keep vulnerable people safe. Our Government is responding to the ongoing challenges of the pandemic by targeting \$ 6,740,800 million of the Social Services Relief Fund to the Region of Durham," said Lorne Coe, MPP for Whitby and Chief Government Whip. "This additional funding will help our community partners across Durham respond to local housing pressures and help vulnerable Whitby residents find - and keep - the housing they need." "This investment helps the most vulnerable in our community of Pickering-Uxbridge and across the Durham Region, including those experiencing or are at risk of homelessness," said Peter Bethlenfalvy, MPP for Pickering-Uxbridge. "As we continue to respond to the pandemic, we are ensuring municipalities are equipped

with the tools they need to face their most pressing social, economic, and financial challenges." "This new funding will build upon our previous investments in Durham Region to help Brock Township support local shelters and help vulnerable community members affected by COVID-19," said Laurie Scott, MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock. Today's announcement is part of the province's additional \$307 million investment to help municipalities and Indigenous community partners respond to COVID-19. This investment builds upon the \$765 million dollars of Social Services Relief Funding (SSRF) announced in 2020-2021, for a total support to communities of over \$1 billion. "Municipalities have been on the frontlines of Ontario's pandemic response and vaccine rollout, while continuing to protect our most vulnerable populations, including homeless populations" said Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal

Affairs and Housing. "Our government is committed to ensuring municipalities have the resources they need to keep their communities safe, and today's funding will help our local partners deliver critical services, support vulnerable people, and unlock affordable housing in their communities" "Partners like Northumberland County Community & Social Services are doing critical work to help the most vulnerable populations in our community. This additional investment continues to ensure our municipal service manager is able to have the resources they need to keep their communities safe, respond to local needs, to protect and serve our most vulnerable populations, and support long-term measures that will boost our collaborative and coordinated response to homelessness. The plan for these funds have been well thought out by Social Services staff and system partners, and really focus on creating sustainable local solutions."

"Delivering critical services to keep our most vulnerable safe remains our Government's priority" said Rod Phillips, MPP for Ajax and the Minister of Long-Term Care. "The additional investment of \$6,740,800 in the Social Services Relief Fund will create longer-term housing solutions to aid those who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness, find the more permanent housing they require here in Ajax and across the Durham Region." Municipalities and Indigenous community partners can use

the funding to protect homeless shelter staff and residents, add to rent banks, build affordable housing, and support plans to prepare for potential future outbreaks and/or emergencies. QUICK FACTS Ontario launched the Social Services Relief Fund in March 2020 to help protect the health and safety of the province's most vulnerable people during COVID-19. Today's province-wide investment includes \$21 million of funding under the previously announced Canada-Ontario

Community Housing Initiative (COCHI) that is being allocated to help support community housing. As part of its Community Housing Renewal Strategy and response to COVID-19, Ontario is investing approximately \$1.3 billion in 2021-2022 to help sustain, repair and grow community housing and help end homelessness. This includes the Social Services Relief Fund.

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