



# MARKHAM TENNIS CLUB

## Petition to the Province of Ontario to Open Tennis Courts



Dear MTC Members,

With the Provincial Government's announcement one week ago today, that included the closure of public, community club and private tennis courts across the province, there has been a huge public outcry to lift the ban on outdoor recreational amenities.

*"With over 6500 hours of open court time at the club last year, we had zero transmissions of COVID-19 - not even a tracing inquiry. A year ago we believed that we could safely provide our community with the opportunity for some mental and physical relief from the pandemic - 12 months later, the tennis industry has proven that to be true. Adults need recreation activities every bit as much as kids need playgrounds. We can provide this activity in a very safe, responsible manner." MTC President, Tasneem Gopeesingh, remarked when asked for her views on the tennis ban.*

The Ontario Tennis Association (OTA) is endorsing a petition that is requesting the province of Ontario to reverse its decision on closing tennis facilities. The Board and Staff at Markham Tennis Club are in support of this petition.

Please see the letter below from the President of the OTA Jim Boyce, and if you agree, please add your voice by clicking on the button below to access and sign the petition.

Thank you for your continued support to help us all get back on the courts.

Your MTC Board

Markham Tennis Club

I: @markhamtennisclub

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**Sign The Petition [HERE!](#)**



April 20, 2021

The Honorable Doug Ford  
Premier of Ontario  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto  
ON M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Ford;

In light of the announcement from the Province of Ontario on Friday, April 16, in which the government decided to force the closure of tennis facilities across the province, the Ontario Tennis Association wishes to issue the following statement on behalf of its 250 member clubs and their 85,000 players:

While the Ontario Tennis Association supports the Province of Ontario in its fight to control the spread of the Covid-19 virus, we respectfully ask that it reconsiders its decision with regard to the closing of the province's tennis facilities. In light of overwhelming evidence from the medical community that pursuing outdoor activities while practicing safe physical distancing is safer than remaining indoors when it comes to the spread of the virus; and given that the province's tennis clubs and academies have excelled in enforcing Covid-19 protocol over the past 12 months, the Association feels that the Province of Ontario should reverse its decision to force the closure of the province's tennis facilities ASAP.

Last season, our member clubs and academies proved that they were more than up to the task of providing a safe environment for their members to enjoy the outdoors, enjoy the sport they love and enjoy the mental, physical and emotional benefits derived from exercising. The clubs' Covid-19 protocol often exceeded the minimum standards set out by the Province and the OTA believes it is fair to allow them to open again this spring and demonstrate that they can continue to provide a safe, enjoyable environment for their players.

The Ontario Tennis Association and its 250 member clubs thank you in advance for your attention to this matter and look forward to your positive response.

Regards;

James N. Boyce  
President/CEO  
Ontario Tennis Association  
1 Shoreham Drive, Suite # 200  
Toronto, Ontario M3N 3A7

**Markham Tennis Club**

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