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**To:** Monica Hawkins  
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April 29, 2020

## **AMO COVID-19 Update – April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

### **Pandemic Pay Extended to Paramedics**

In a Letter of Thanks to Frontline Workers that went out late on April 28<sup>th</sup> from Minister Peter Bethlenfalvy, President of the Treasury Board of Ontario, and Minister Christine Elliott, Minister of Health, it was confirmed that the [pandemic pay, announced this past weekend](#) has now been extended. The letter said that this premium pay now also applies to respiratory therapists, mental health and addictions workers in hospitals and congregate care settings, **public health nurses**, and **paramedics**. We understand that provincial consideration is still ongoing for inclusion of long-term care home management who are not currently part of this program.

### **Province Expands List of Essential Workers That Can Access Free Emergency Child Care, including Municipal Workers**

The government expanded the list of essential workers able to access free emergency child care. The original list consisted of frontline health workers and first responders. In recent weeks, it was expanded by the government to include other employees including homeless service workers and energy power grid workers.

Today's expansion of eligible workers covers various occupations in the private and government sector such as truckers, grocery store employees, court employees, and auxiliary staff employed in long-term care homes such as cooks and cleaners. More information on the full list is found in the [Ontario Newsroom](#) and the [amendment](#) to Ontario Regulation 183/20 under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*.

AMO's [COVID-19 Resources](#) page is being updated continually so you can find critical information in one place. Please send any of your municipally related pandemic questions to [covid19@amo.on.ca](mailto:covid19@amo.on.ca).

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Association of Municipalities of Ontario  
200 University Ave. Suite 801, Toronto ON Canada M5H 3C6

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