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## NEWS

# WEEKLY ROUNDUP: MASKING POLICY EXTENDED IN CERTAIN SETTINGS

**BAMBANG SADEWO**  
bsadewo@metroland.com

Halton residents will need to continue to wear a mask in some public settings, such as transit and hospitals, for at least another month.

The remaining masking mandate in Ontario was set to expire at the end of April, but the provincial government extended the masking policy in certain high-risk indoor settings to June 11. This includes public transit, health-care settings like hospitals and clinics, long-term care homes and retirement homes.

"To protect our progress in managing this latest wave, I am maintaining masking requirements in specific public settings where individuals who are, or may be, at increased risk of severe outcomes, are in close contact for extended periods of time," said Dr. Kieran Moore, Chief Medical Officer of Health, in a news release.

He said continuing to follow masking requirements and keeping up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations "are the best ways we can prevent transmission and protect our friends, families, and our communities."

In Halton, the number of people with COVID-19 in local hospitals was up by four to 41 compared to the previous week. As of April 29, there were 12 people being treated in Joseph Brant Hospital in Burlington. There were also 14 patients in Oakville hospital, 12 in Milton and three in Georgetown.

With four additional reported deaths, the death toll in the region now stands at 356.



**SCAN THIS CODE**  
to view COVID cases tracker.

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU**

**SUBMIT YOUR LETTER TO THE EDITOR TODAY!**

## legal matters | ESTATES & TRUSTS

### Can I make an estate plan with my partner if we are not married?



**M. Jasmine Sweatman**  
B.A., J.D., LL.M., TEP., C.S., EPC, CPCA

**Certified Specialist in Estates & Trusts**

Wills, Powers of Attorney, Trusts, Estate Litigation and Administration, Corporate, Real Estate

Yes. A revocable living trust can be established to allow you to specify how your assets are to be handled both during your lifetime and after your death. By transferring assets from your name as an individual to that of trustee of the trust, you avoid having the court make decisions for you should you become incapacitated or when you die.

Alter ego trusts are a tangible example of a revocable living trust. Such trusts are popular for ownership of assets that are needing protection as it reduces the likelihood your spouse would later transfer sole ownership to joint tenants with a new partner.

A joint partner trust is another example of a revocable living trust with the same qualifying criteria as an alter ego trust but it serves the interests of two settlors instead of one. Such a trust may benefit a couple (unmarried or married) who wish to transfer ownership of their assets to a trust to try prevent a future partner from seeking and obtaining property rights after death of one of the settlors.

**Thinking of implementing an estate plan... call us to discuss!**



LAW FIRM\*

145 Mill St., Georgetown  
905.337.3307

[www.sweatmanlaw.com](http://www.sweatmanlaw.com)

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