



MMAH Provides Clarity to Industry on Essential Construction Activities

On January 20, 2021, ARIDO participated in a stakeholder meeting held by Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) in order to provide the design and construction industry with clarity on the revised emergency orders and new restrictions impacting the industry which took effect January 12, 2021.

ARIDO identified several points of clarity that are not clear in the province's essential construction activities list that we feel important to share with our members. They are as follows:

- interior design services continue to be considered “relative services” to construction activities under the emergency orders.
- Construction activities or projects and related services for projects that fall under the essential construction activities listed in the emergency orders may continue to be carried out.
- Regarding residential projects:
 - o Construction activities or projects and related services may continue where a building permit was issued on or before January 13, 2021 for single family, semi-detached and townhomes.
 - o Construction activities or projects and related services for renovations to a residential project may continue where the work was started before January 12, 2021. This applies to all work that may or may not require a permit as long as the work started before January 12, 2021. The order does not differentiate between major or minor renovation work.
- Construction activities or projects and related services related to the preparation of a site for an institutional, commercial, industrial or residential development, including any necessary excavation, grading, roads or utilities infrastructure may be carried out. This includes pre-design services and other site preparation activities such as site measurement.
- Permit and inspection timelines for all project types listed on the essential construction activities list have not been impacted.

ARIDO is currently reaching out to the Ministry to obtain further clarity on construction activities or projects and related services for a condominium, mixed-use or other residential building. Once the ARIDO team has obtained greater clarity on the impact of the new restrictions and the impact on these projects in particular, we will communicate an update immediately.

It is recommended that ARIDO members reference this new information in tandem with the Emergency Orders and the legal interpretation provided by WeirFoulds, [found here](#), in order to determine if their projects may continue.