



LANDSCAPE ONTARIO CONGRESS AND COVID-19

How things have changed in the short time since we were all gathered together to celebrate the start to a bright new decade at Congress.

The coronavirus pandemic is affecting everyone from our families, our businesses, our first responders to our medical communities who are selflessly staffing the front lines, putting themselves in danger to keep us safe. As this situation unfolds, we want to reach out with an update on how Landscape Ontario is supporting our members, customers, partners and employees.

LO TEAM

Members have stepped up to create a [COVID-19 TASK FORCE](#), meeting daily to support the green profession. Our LO staff team is working diligently in conjunction, sourcing, preparing and posting information to help companies cope with the challenges that lie ahead. We are conducting outreach and follow-up with members and clients, all while constantly updating our [LO RESOURCE HUB](#). Safety is paramount. Our staff team is doing our part in isolating while working remotely from home, phones are forwarded and emails are getting answered. This is a great time to reach out and ask 'that question' you may have had on your mind, or just to talk and let us know how you are doing. We are here to help if we can!

OUR MEMBERS, PARTNERS and CUSTOMERS

Our team is here to help you prepare for what may come, and while we're still taking care of business, it's not business as usual. Our first priority is working with members and clients to keep them informed. We just ran our first webinar, an informative outlook from a panel of business owners on how they are tackling the COVID-19 crisis. We are busy preparing additional business webinars and weekly Town Halls as well as emailing out update bulletins. Stay tuned. If you can't watch them live, they will be posted at the Resource Hub for viewing when you do have time. For exhibitors, Early Bird Booking rates have been extended with last year's rates in effect until at least May 24. Also, be sure to [UPDATE](#) your free Landscape Trades [SOURCE BOOK](#) listing; this is Canada's exclusive product and service directory for the landscape sector and it will be in production soon.

Above all else, our thoughts and prayers are with those affected by the virus, particularly those who have fallen ill. To them, we wish you a speedy recovery. While things are tough right now, we remain inspired by the many examples we see every day, volunteers helping the needy, our healthcare workers and first responders who are putting themselves at risk caring for others, essential service workers keeping us fed and safe, not only in Canada, but around the world. These are the true heroes and we salute them!

WHAT TO EXPECT

At Landscape Ontario, we are hard at work preparing for the season ahead. Our Industry Auction, Snowposium and LO Congress 2021 (January 12-14) are still on the schedule. In the weeks and months to come we will share how other companies are handling their recovery response to this pandemic, along with information on products and programs you can put to use when it's over — as we move past this and we're all back to business.

But for now, it's time to focus on family (both home and work), helping others who are less fortunate, taking care of business and staying as informed as you can be. Please make yourself familiar with the information on our Resource Hub and feel free to share it with others. Rest assured, this pandemic will end, and when it does, we look forward to working with you as we get our lives and businesses back on track!

Stay healthy, stay safe.

Heather MacRae and the Congress Event Team