November 23, 2020

To our U of T Engineering community

On Friday, the province of Ontario announced that Toronto and Peel Region would be in the Grey Zone (Lockdown) effective 12:01am on Monday, Nov. 23, 2020. The Provost sent a memo on what this means for the University, and I want to outline how it will affect us here in U of T Engineering.

Under these new measures effective Monday, Nov. 23, 2020:

Facilities

- Library service continues with pick-up services, and access to IT services for those who need it.
- All indoor and outdoor sport and recreation facilities, including pools and arenas, will be closed. Virtual programming will continue.
- Residences will continue to operate with safety precautions in place.
- Food service is pick-up only.
- University buildings will only be accessible to members of the University community and essential visitors.
- Masks remain mandatory in all common-use areas, and visitors to campus must complete a self-assessment using the online UCheck tool or paper-based equivalent.

Courses

- Our remote access guarantee remains in place for all students, in both undergraduate and graduate courses. Courses will continue to be executed through remote delivery.
- Only essential on-campus work required to deliver virtual instruction and programming will continue.

Research

- For on-campus lab research: all researchers may continue with their approved on-campus research plans as long as they continue to follow the public health measures already in place and the processes currently in effect, such as scheduling of time and people in the lab.
- As before, if researchers can work remotely they should continue to do so, only coming to the campus as necessary. Anyone coming to campus must complete a COVID-19 Self-Assessment via the University’s UCheck tool.
- For in-person human participant research: all research involving face-to-face in-person interaction between researchers and research participants must stop effective 12:01 am Monday and until further notice. COVID-19 research that has been approved by the Research Ethics Board may continue. A further message concerning human participant research will be posted on the VPRI Ethics webpage.

We will continue to update our Undergraduate FAQ and Graduate Student FAQ, and the U of T Engineering Hub for staff and faculty with the latest information.

Chris

Christopher Yip
Dean