



caem CANADIAN ASSOCIATION
of EXPOSITION MANAGEMENT
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de GESTION D'EXPOSITIONS

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Ontario Government Increases Capacity Limits

The Canadian Association of Exposition Management (CAEM) is pleased with the Ontario Provincial Government's recent decision to increase capacity limits for meeting and event spaces, including conference/convention centres as well as banquet halls that host commercial events such as trade shows, consumer shows and exhibitions.

CAEM, represents 200 Ontario organizations - including producers of commercial events, exhibition venues and suppliers to the industry - contributing \$14 billion a year to Ontario's bottom-line and employing close to 100,000 people. However, with the pandemic and previous capacity limits of 1000, commercial event producers have not hosted shows for 18 months and therefore have had no means to earn revenue during this period.

In recent months CAEM has met with provincial government officials to urge Premier Ford, to follow the lead of other provinces - including British Columbia and Quebec - and increase capacity limits for all event venues using a percentage of capacity model determined by the size of the premises and the ability to implement health and safety protocols, including proof of vaccination.

CAEM is glad to see capacity limits increased to up to 50% capacity or 10,000 people (whichever is less) for indoor events.

Increasing capacity limits, ensures industry members will contribute to the post pandemic economic recovery and support thousands of small to medium sized businesses that depend on trade shows and consumer shows to market and sell their products.

Increasing capacity limits also motivates even more Ontarians to get vaccinated as CAEM's trade and consumer show members have a loyal following of attendees who are excited for the opportunity to support commercial events safely.

CAEM thanks the provincial government for increasing capacity limits for all event venues, their members, and the small and medium sized businesses they support, allowing them to prepare for shows into 2022 and begin the slow road to recovery.

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For questions and inquiries contact:

Bianca Kennedy, CAEM President
bkennedy@powersportservices.ca
514.299.0262

Jennifer Allaby, CAEM Executive Director
jallaby@caem.ca
416.305.2344