



To the Ontario race community,

Yesterday, the Ontario Government announced a province wide lockdown in an effort to stop the spread of COVID-19. Unfortunately, this decision forces ski hills across the province to close for a minimum of 14 days in northern Ontario and 28 days in southern Ontario.

This decision is devastating for Alpine Ontario (AOA), its member race clubs, for ski hill operators across the province and for all who safely enjoyed the opening days of the 2020/21 season. AOA stands united with our industry partners and we will look to be part of the solution in returning to the slopes as soon as possible, with the health and safety of every Ontarian as the #1 priority.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, AOA has worked with several snow sport PTSO's and NSO's to develop best practices for the challenges COVID-19 would inflict upon us this season, including: Return to Sport, Return to Competition and Return Learn action plans. We will continue these efforts in the coming days and weeks ahead, while consulting with AOA board of directors, AOA member clubs, sponsors, and stakeholders, with the goal to return to programming and ski racing post lockdown.

Throughout this whole experience it has always been our goal to provide safe programming for our athletes, coaches, and officials. This goal will remain.

For more information on how you can support the initiatives in place by the Ontario Snow Resorts Association, please visit [www.skiontario.ca](http://www.skiontario.ca). If you would like to make your voice heard in response to the current lockdown restrictions, please visit [www.saveourskiing.ca](http://www.saveourskiing.ca) and write a letter to your local MPP.

On behalf of AOA, we would like to wish you a safe and happy holiday season.

Kind Regards

Bill Reeves, AOA Executive Director

Linsey Ferguson, AOA Chair