

COVID-19 Information Bulletin #102

Date issued: March 16, 2021

Purpose of bulletin: To keep local stakeholders informed about COVID-19 and its implications for Wellington County, Dufferin County and the City of Guelph (WDG).

All editions of this bulletin are posted on [our website](#).

Current WDG Zone Level: [Red-Control](#), ([O. Reg 263/20](#))

Surveillance

- Information about [cases in WDG](#) can be found on our website
- Information about institutional outbreaks can be found in the [Retirement and Long-Term Care Outbreak Bulletin](#)
- Information about [vaccination progress in WDG](#) can be found on our website

COVID-19 Vaccine Resources

- NACI's [Recommendations on the Use of COVID-19 Vaccines](#) (updated March 16)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Bulletin #14](#) (March 12)
- Ministry of Health's [COVID-19 Vaccine Approval Process and Safety](#) (March 11)
- Ministry of Health's [About COVID-19 Vaccines](#) (March 11)
- Ministry of Health's [COVID-19 Vaccine Information Sheet](#) (March 11)
- Ministry of Health's [What you Need to Know About your COVID-19 Vaccine Appointment](#) (March 11)

Updated Masking Requirements

As cases of COVID-19 variants of concern continue to grow across the province, the existing Section 22 Class Order on face coverings (September 18, 2020) has been amended to include common areas of multi-unit dwellings and temporary lodgings, as well as staff-only areas of commercial establishments.

Additionally, a new Section 22 Class Order has been issued to owners and operators of driver instruction vehicles or driver examination vehicles to require face coverings, eye protection, and screening. Both orders take effect on Monday, March 15 at 12:01 a.m. Orders can be viewed at <https://www.wdgpUBLICHEALTH.ca/your-health/covid-19-information-public/current-public-health-measures-and-restrictions/section-22>.

COVID-19 Vaccine Pre-Registration

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health will continue using the [local COVID-19 vaccine pre-registration system](#) rather than the new provincial booking system. Pre-registration for a COVID-19 vaccine appointment is currently open for Phase 1 and Phase 2 eligible groups in WDG. Vaccination appointments are not yet available for the general public.

AstraZeneca Vaccine

Concerns in the European Union that the AstraZeneca vaccine may be connected to adverse thromboembolic events (blood clots) in some recipients do not impact the safety or supply of this vaccine in Canada. Dr. Nicola Mercer, Medical Officer of Health and CEO of WDG Public Health is encouraging every resident of the region to get vaccinated as soon as it is their turn with whichever approved vaccine is available to them. For further clarification on this topic, read our [media release on AstraZeneca](#).

Information Sessions for Newcomers on COVID-19 Vaccination

Immigrant Services Guelph-Wellington and Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health are delivering a series of workshops that will assist newcomers in better understanding the vaccination process in Guelph. The workshops will be delivered in the top five languages and are intended to help newcomers better understand the vaccines and how to register for various vaccination clinics. For more information or to register, please view the flyer: <https://www.is-gw.ca/flyer-covid-19-vaccination-information-march2021>.

Local AstraZeneca Primary Care Pilot launches

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph has been chosen to participate in the Province's AstraZeneca Primary Care Pilot. This project is being delivered as a partnership between WDG Public Health and participating local Family Health Teams.

The pilot will see local physicians vaccinate healthy individuals 60-64 years old with the AstraZeneca vaccine at their primary care location. Members of the public should not contact their primary care provider. Participating physicians will contact eligible patients to book a vaccine. For more information read the [media release](#) on our website.

Announcements and Changes to Services

- On March 16, [WDG Public Health](#) announced the vaccine clinic at the Public Health office at 160 Chancellors Way in Guelph will move to the West End Community Centre (21 Imperial Road South, Guelph).
- On March 16, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced it is investing \$105 million to support non-profit tourism, culture, sport and recreation organizations recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and meet the needs of their communities.
- On March 15, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced it is investing \$30 million to help the retirement home sector cover COVID-19 related costs such as hiring, training and

testing additional staff, and sanitizing residences and purchasing supplies to prevent and contain the spread of infection.

- On March 12, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced it is investing \$2.5 million through the Unison Benevolent Fund's COVID-19 Relief Program and the Canadian Live Music Association.
- On March 12, the [Government of Canada](#) announced an investment of approximately \$25.2 million in 52 research projects to further improve our understanding of COVID-19 and tackle persistent evidence gaps linked to this disease.

Additional Resources

- PHO's [COVID-19 B.1.1.7 \(501Y.V1\) Variant of Concern – What We Know So Far](#) (updated March 11)
- PHO's [COVID-19 Overview of the Period of Communicability – What We Know So Far](#) (updated March 11)

Contact Information for Additional Support

WDGPH COVID-19 Call Centre

For health-related questions, including symptoms, close contacts or travel:

- Call 519-822-2715 ext. 7006
- Available Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

For non-health related questions, including business or workplace concerns, social distancing/face covering questions or non-emergency reporting questions:

- Call 519-822-2715 ext. 4020
- Available Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

For eligible priority groups needing vaccine registration and booking help: **(eligible priority groups are still strongly encouraged to [pre-register and book their appointments online](#) as much as possible as it will be the fastest way to get in the system. Call volumes to the Registration and Booking Help Line are extremely high. It may take 7-10 business days to receive a response. Please only call once and leave a message.)**

- Call 1-844-780-0202
- Available Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Please do not call Public Health for your COVID-19 test results. Visit [how to get your COVID-19 test results](#).

Local Assessment Centres and Testing

Visit our website for hours and information about [local assessment centres and testing](#).



Reliable Information Sources

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health: www.wdgpUBLICHEALTH.ca

Ontario Ministry of Health: www.ontario.ca/coronavirus

Public Health Agency of Canada: www.canada.ca/coronavirus

Ontario Emergency Information: www.ontario.ca/page/emergency-information