

COVID-19 Information Bulletin #104

Date issued: March 23, 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: Orange-Restrict, (O. Reg 364/20)

Surveillance

- Information about <u>cases in WDG</u> 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

New and Amended Guidance

- WDGPH's COVID-19 Guidelines for Personal Service Settings (March 18)
- Ministry of Health's Considerations for Antigen Point-of-Care Testing (March 19)

Orange-Restrict Level and Restaurant Capacity Limits

On March 19, the Ontario government announced the move of WDG Public Health region to the Orange-Restrict level of the COVID-19 Response Framework: Keeping Ontario Safe and Open. The new level came into effect on March 22. It was also announced that for regions in the Orange-Restrict and Red-Control levels, capacity limits for indoor dining will be adjusted and based on a standard, scalable calculation that will allow for up to approximately 50 per cent capacity of the indoor dining area accessible to the public, subject to physical distancing rules. The total occupancy cannot exceed 50 patrons in Red-Control and 100 patrons in Orange-Restrict. Moreover, in Red-Control and Orange-Restrict, patrons may only be seated with members of their household, with limited exceptions for caregivers and people who live alone.

Announcements and Changes to Services

- On March 22, the <u>Government of Ontario</u> announced it is providing over \$1.2 billion to help Ontario's public hospitals recover from financial pressures created and worsened by COVID-19.
- On March 22, the <u>Government of Canada</u> announced that the deadline for new Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA) applications is being extended from March 31 to June 30, 2021.



- On March 19, the <u>Government of Ontario</u> announced it is providing \$106.4 million to help publicly assisted colleges and universities address the financial impacts of COVID-19.
- On March 18, the <u>Government of Ontario</u> announced it is extending temporary wage enhancements for personal support workers and direct support workers in publicly funded home and community care, long-term care, public hospitals, and social services sectors until June 2021 to attract and retain the workforce during the pandemic.
- On March 18, the <u>Government of Ontario</u> announced it is investing more than \$12 million in a new initiative to detect COVID-19 in wastewater.

Additional Resources

- WDGPH's High-Risk Contact Letter for Students (March 18)
- WDGPH's COVID-19 Vaccine Bulletin #15 (March 22)

Contact Information for Additional Support

WDGPH COVID-19 Call Centre

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

- o 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:

- o 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 <u>pre-register and book their appointments</u> 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.)

- o 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 <u>how to get your COVID-19</u> 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