

COVID-19 Information Bulletin #135

Date issued: November 4, 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 <u>our website</u>. Bulletins are published on Thursdays, every other week.

Surveillance

- Information about <u>cases in WDG</u> can be found on our website.
- Information about vaccination progress in WDG can be found on our website
- Information about institutional outbreaks can be found in the <u>Retirement and Long-Term</u> <u>Care Outbreak Bulletin</u>

New and Amended Guidance and Regulations

- <u>Guidance for Immunization Services During COVID-19</u> (October 28)
- Ontario Regulation 364/20 Rules for Areas in Step 3 (amended October 28)
 - Amended to remove capacity limits for outdoor public events (e.g. holiday parades) so long as attendees wear masks when a physical distance of two metres cannot be maintained. Outdoor social gatherings remain capped at 100 persons.

Updated Screening Tools and Resources

- <u>COVID-19 School and Child Care Screening</u> (October 29)
- <u>COVID-19 Customer Screening Tool for Workplaces</u> (October 25)
- COVID-19 Employee Screening Tool for Workplaces (October 25)
- COVID-19 Signage Questions for Businesses and Organizations (October 25)

COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance and Resources

- <u>COVID-19 Vaccine Third Dose Recommendations</u> (November 3)
- <u>COVID-19: Requirements for Fully Vaccinated Travellers and Unvaccinated Children</u>
 <u>Less than 12 years of Age</u> (November 1)
- Focus On COVID-19 vaccines: mRNA Vaccines (updated October 20)

COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Doses

The provincial government has announced the expansion of eligibility for booster doses of the COVID-19 vaccine to additional groups of high-risk individuals starting November 6. A list of

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these additional groups and further details is available on our website at:

<u>https://wdgpublichealth.ca/news/media-release-province-ontario-announces-covid-19-vaccine-booster-doses</u>. For more information related to the provincial announcement read the <u>media</u> release.

Announcements and Changes to Services

- On November 2, <u>Transport Canada</u> announced it is easing the restriction on international flight arrivals.
- On October 29, the <u>Government of Canada</u> announced further details on new vaccine requirements.
- On October 29, the <u>Government of Ontario</u> announced that individuals who use an Apple mobile device can add their enhanced vaccine certificate with official QR code directly to their Apple Wallet.
- On October 28, the <u>Government of Ontario</u> announced increased access to low-barrier testing options to support in-person student attendance at school and reduce disruptions to families.
- On October 28, the <u>Government of Ontario</u> announced it is introducing legislation that would improve the well-being of residents in long-term care and retirement homes, and ensure they get the care they deserve.
- On October 26, the <u>Government of Ontario</u> announced it is continuing its plan to fix longterm care by investing \$20 million this year to hire 193 new inspections staff and launching a new and improved annual proactive inspections program in long-term care homes.
- On October 22, the <u>Government of Ontario</u> released <u>A Plan to Safely Reopen Ontario</u> <u>and Manage COVID-19 for the Long-Term</u>, which outlines the province's gradual approach to lifting remaining public health and workplace safety measures by March 2022.
- On October 21, <u>Transport Canada</u> announced new measures for the re-introduction of direct flights from Morocco on October 29.
- On October 21, the <u>Government of Canada</u> announced accelerated delivery of COVID-19 paediatric vaccine pending regulatory authorization

Additional Resources

- WDGPH's 2020 Community Report (November 2021)
- PHO's Environmental Scan: <u>COVID-19 Guidance for Youth Sports</u> (October 25)
- PHO's Evidence Brief: <u>"Test-to-Stay" SARS-CoV-2 Rapid Antigen Testing Strategies in</u> <u>K-12 Schools</u> (October 22)



Contact Information for Additional Support

Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre

Services are offered in 300 languages and include accessible services. For questions about COVID-19 vaccine, (not related to appointments or clinics) vaccine receipts, and vaccine passports:

- o Call 1-833-943-3900
- \circ Available 7 days a week, 8 a.m. 8 p.m.

WDGPH COVID-19 Call Centre

For health-related questions, and questions or concerns from the community beyond COVID-19:

- Call 519-822-2715 ext. 7006
- Available Monday Friday from 9 a.m. 4 p.m. and Saturday, November 6 from 9 a.m. – 3 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 a.m. 4 p.m.

COVID-19 Vaccination Appointments

<u>Book a vaccination appointment online</u> or drop-in to a clinic. Upcoming vaccine drop-ins are posted on our website at: <u>https://wdgpublichealth.ca/drop-ins</u>

COVID-19 Testing

Information about <u>local testing centres</u> is available on our website. Once you are tested you can access your results <u>online</u>. For more information visit <u>how to get your COVID-19 test results</u>.

Reliable Information Sources

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health: <u>www.wdgpublichealth.ca</u> Ontario Ministry of Health: <u>www.ontario.ca/coronavirus</u> Public Health Agency of Canada: <u>www.canada.ca/coronavirus</u> Ontario Emergency Information: <u>www.ontario.ca/page/emergency-information</u>