

COVID-19 Information Bulletin #136

Date issued: November 18, 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 cases in WDG can be found on our website.
- Information about <u>vaccination progress in WDG</u> can be found on our website
- Information about institutional outbreaks can be found in the <u>Retirement and Long-Term</u>
 Care Outbreak Bulletin

New and Amended Ministry Guidance and Resources

- COVID-19: Health, Safety and Operational Guidance for Schools (2021-2022)
 (November 18)
- <u>Proof of Vaccination Guidance for Businesses and Organizations under the Reopening</u>
 <u>Ontario Act</u> (November 16)
 - Questions and Answers (November 16)
- COVID-19 Provincial Testing and Clearance Guidance (November 10)
- Guidance on Testing of Asymptomatic Persons in Pharmacies (November 9)

COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance and Resources

- <u>COVID-19 Vaccine Effectiveness Over Time What We Know So Far</u> (published November 16)
- COVID-19 Vaccine Administration (November 15)
- COVID-19 Vaccine Third Dose Recommendations (November 12)
- Myocarditis and Pericarditis Following COVID-19 mRNA Vaccines (published November 5)

Capacity Limits in Higher-Risk Settings

On November 10, the <u>Government of Ontario</u> announced a pause in the lifting of capacity limits in remaining higher-risk settings as outlined in <u>A Plan to Safely Reopen Ontario and Manage COVID-19 for the Long-Term</u>. Consequently, existing capacity limits and physical distancing requirements for higher-risk settings where proof of vaccination is required will remain in place. These higher-risk settings include <u>food or drink establishments that provide dance facilities</u>



such as night clubs and wedding receptions in meeting/event spaces where there is dancing.

COVID-19 Vaccine for Children Ages 5 to 11

<u>Health Canada</u> is reviewing a submission from Pfizer-BioNTech to authorize the use of Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine in children 5 to 11 years of age. Information for parents and caregivers looking to learn more about the COVID-19 vaccine for children is available on our website at: <u>wdgpublichealth.ca/vaccine-kids</u>.

For information about the regional plan to vaccinate children against COVID-19, in anticipation of Health Canada's approval, read WDG Public Health's <u>media release</u>.

Announcements and Changes to Services

- On November 18, the <u>Government of Ontario</u> announced it is enhancing COVID-19 testing by expanding the number of testing locations and making it more convenient to access publicly funded testing for those who need it.
- On November 18, the <u>Government of Ontario</u> announced it is providing school boards with access to the remaining portion of the \$1.6 billion in COVID-19 resources allocated for the 2021-22 school year.
- On November 16, <u>Health Canada</u> received a submission from Moderna to authorize the use of the Spikevax COVID-19 vaccine in children 6 to 11 years of age.
- On November 12, <u>Health Canada</u> authorized the use of the Moderna Spikevax COVID-19 vaccine as a booster shot.
- On November 9, <u>Health Canada</u> authorized the use of the Pfizer-BioNTech Comirnaty COVID-19 vaccine as a booster shot.

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
- 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:

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

Note: Call Centre hours may be affected by a holiday.

COVID-19 Vaccination Appointments

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

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: 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