

## COVID-19 Information Bulletin #31

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**Date issued:** June 30, 2020

**Purpose of bulletin:** To keep local stakeholders informed of the quickly-evolving novel coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and its implications for Wellington County, Dufferin County and the City of Guelph (WDG).

**Due to the evolving nature of the situation, further updates may be forthcoming. For more information visit [www.wdgpUBLICHEALTH.ca](http://www.wdgpUBLICHEALTH.ca)**

### Surveillance

- Information about cases in WDG can be found on [our website](#) and information about institutional outbreaks can be found in the [Retirement and Long-Term Care Outbreak Bulletin](#).
- Information about local assessment centres and testing criteria is available on [our website](#).

### New or Amended Guidance Documents and Directives

- **Updated:** Ministry of Health's [COVID-19 Quick Reference Public Health Guidance on Testing and Clearance](#) [June 25]
- **Updated:** Ministry of Health's Summer Camp Guidance [to be posted soon]
- **Updated:** Government of Ontario's [Agriculture Sector Guidance](#) [June 26]
- **Updated:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Guidance for Taxi and Ride Supports](#) [June 26]
- **Updated:** Government of Ontario's [Construction Sector Guidance](#) [June 26]
- **Updated:** Government of Ontario's [Manufacturing Sector Guidance](#) [June 29]
- **New:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Guidance for Places of Worship](#) [June 29]
- **Updated:** Government of Ontario's [Restaurant and Food Services Sector Guidance](#) [June 29]
- **Updated:** PHAC's [Guidance for Providers of Services for People Experiencing Homelessness \(in the Context of COVID-19\)](#) [June 29]

### Ontario Extends Emergency Orders

The [Government of Ontario](#) has extended all emergency orders currently in force that were made under s.7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until July 10, 2020, while removing restrictions that were limiting access to certain sport training facilities. Please be aware that there is the potential for the Ontario government to extend the orders past this date, if deemed necessary.

Emergency orders include those allowing frontline care providers to redeploy staff to other areas, limiting long-term care and retirement home employees to working at one home, and enabling public health units to redeploy or hire staff to support the province's enhanced case management and contact tracing strategy. A full list of emergency orders can be found [here](#).

## Sports and Recreational Fitness Activities

Some facilities for indoor and outdoor sports and recreational fitness activities may open, if they comply with the conditions outlined in [Ontario Regulation 263/20 – Stage 2 Closures](#). For updates and further information, please continue to monitor the [Sports and Recreation Settings](#) section on our website.

**Gyms, yoga, dance studios and other fitness facilities remain closed.**

## Launch of Canada Student Service Grant

The [Canada Student Service Grant \(CSSG\)](#) was launched on June 25. This initiative will support post-secondary students and recent graduates as they volunteer to serve in their communities' COVID-19 response and gain valuable experience at the same time. The CSSG will provide volunteers with a one-time payment of between \$1,000 and \$5,000 based on the number of hours they serve. Students can use the new [I Want to Help](#) platform to find opportunities and more information.

## COVID-19 Testing

Please go to an [Assessment Centre](#) to get tested. Public Health **DOES NOT** provide testing. No referral is needed. **Bring your health card to the assessment centre** (if you have one). It is OK if it is expired. Presenting your health card allows you to:

- Check your test results online. Public Health only calls those who test positive.
- Be treated or prescribed medication for other respiratory conditions if needed and if this option is available at your assessment centre.
- Move through the testing process faster.

Further instruction will be provided by the clinician at the assessment centre based on individual assessment. Be prepared for increased wait times at the assessment centres. **Please check your local Assessment Centre for holiday hours on July 1 as they may be closed or have reduced hours.**

## Face Coverings Required for Commercial Businesses in WDG

Dr. Nicola Mercer, Medical Officer of Health, has issued an order under Section 22 of the *Health Protection and Promotion Act*.

What this means:

- A face covering is required for any customer, patron, employee or visitor when entering and while on the premises of any commercial establishment in the WDG region, effective 12:01 a.m. on June 12, 2020. The order will be in effect until rescinded.

For more details on the order and frequently asked questions, [visit our website](#) or contact our call centre at 519-822-2715 ext. 4020.

Individuals who may be exempted from this Order:

- Children under the age of two years.
- Children under the age of five years (either chronologically or developmentally) who refuse to wear a face covering and cannot be persuaded to do so by their caregiver.
- People whose ability to breathe in any way is inhibited by the face covering.
- People that have any other medical reason they cannot wear a face covering safely, such as, but not limited to, respiratory disease, cognitive difficulties or difficulties in hearing or processing information.

## Guidelines for Reopening

Don't forget to check out the ever-evolving updates about reopening on our website.

Quick Links:

- [General Workplaces and Businesses](#)
- [Food Premises and Events](#)
- [Child Care Providers](#)
- [Summer Day Camps](#)
- [Personal Service Settings](#)
- [Recreational Water Facilities](#)
- [Water Quality for Reopening Buildings](#)
- [Sport and Recreation Settings](#)



## Physical Distancing Floor Decals

- WDG Public Health has physical distancing floor decals available for community partners to use at their locations.
- If you would like decals, please contact Meghan Wiles via email at [meghan.wiles@wdgppublichealth.ca](mailto:meghan.wiles@wdgppublichealth.ca)

## Health and Safety Sector-Specific Guidance

Sector-specific guidelines and posters to help protect workers and the public from COVID-19 are available from the Government of Ontario. These [guidance documents](#) are being posted and updated as they become available, so check back regularly.

## Announcements and Changes to Services

- On June 29, the [Government of Canada](#) announced that the GST/HST and customs duty payment deferral is ending as planned on June 30. Businesses that continue to experience difficulty in remitting GST/HST and customs duty amounts owing can contact the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) to make a request for the cancellation of penalties and interest, and/or for a flexible payment arrangement with CRA.
- On June 27, the [Government of Canada](#) announced \$120 million in support of the Access to COVID-19 (ACT) Accelerator – with \$20 million of that total for the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI). The ACT Accelerator is a global collaboration to accelerate the development, production and equitable distribution of new COVID-19 diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines. Canada will also invest an additional \$180 million to address the humanitarian and development impacts of the pandemic.
- On June 26, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced that they are temporarily providing more stable electricity pricing for large industrial and commercial companies as they return to full levels of operation during the pandemic. Effective immediately, companies that participate in the Industrial Conservation Initiative (ICI) will not be required to reduce their electricity usage during peak hours, as their proportion of [Global Adjustment \(GA\)](#) charges will be frozen.
- On June 26, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced up to \$4 million for the Seniors Community Grant Program. This funding will help non-profit organizations, local services boards, or Indigenous groups develop programs for seniors that focus on combatting social isolation, promoting seniors' safety and well-being, improving financial security and making communities age-friendly.

## Additional Resources

- PHAC's [Help Reduce the Spread of COVID-19 and Protect Yourself, your Loved Ones and your Community](#) (information sheet)
- PHAC's [How to Care for a Child with COVID-19 at Home: Advice for Caregivers](#) (information sheet)
- PHAC's [People who are at High Risk for Severe Illness from COVID-19](#) (information sheet)
- PHAC's [Know the Facts About COVID-19](#) (information sheet)
- PHAC's [About COVID-19](#) (information sheet)
- PHAC's [Help Reduce the Spread of COVID-19](#) (information sheet)
- PHO's [You Were Tested for COVID-19: What You Should Know](#) (information sheet)
- Ministry of Long-Term Care's [Guide for Outdoor Visits](#) (poster)
- Ministry of Long-Term Care's [Outdoor Visits with Residents: a Checklist for Homes](#) (poster)
- Ministry of Long-Term Care's [Compassionate Care Visits](#) (poster)

## Contact Information for Additional Support

### WDGPH COVID-19 Call Centre

**Please note that the call centres will be closed on July 1, 2020.**

- **For health-related questions**, including symptoms, close contacts or travel:
  - Call 519-822-2715 ext. 7006
  - Available Monday – Saturday 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.

### Reliable Information Sources

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health: [www.wdgpublichealth.ca](http://www.wdgpublichealth.ca)

Ontario Ministry of Health: [www.ontario.ca/coronavirus](http://www.ontario.ca/coronavirus)

Public Health Agency of Canada: [www.canada.ca/coronavirus](http://www.canada.ca/coronavirus)