

COVID-19 Information Bulletin #66

Date issued: October 29, 2020

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). For more information visit www.wdgpUBLICHEALTH.ca.

Due to the evolving nature of the situation, further updates may be forthcoming. For more information visit www.wdgpUBLICHEALTH.ca.

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 local assessment centres and testing criteria is available on [our website](#)

New and Amended Guidance

- **Updated:** Government of Ontario's [Guidance for Meeting and Event Facilities During COVID-19](#) (October 27)

Guidance Documents and Resources for Child Care Providers

The [child care provider section](#) on the WDGP website has been updated with resources. Please be sure to bookmark the page to ensure you have the most up-to-date versions.

- [Child Care Positive Case Information](#) (letter to parents/staff)
- [Child Care Probable Case Information](#) (letter to parents/staff)
- [Symptomatic Child Information](#) (letter to parents)
- [WDGP Child Care Provider Guidance](#) (updated October 28)
- [WDGP Checklist for Before and After School Programs](#) (updated October 23)

Guidance Documents and Resources for Schools

The [school section](#) on the WDGP website will continue to be updated with resources as they become available and are developed. Please be sure to bookmark the page, rather than save documents, to ensure you have the most up-to-date versions. Minor revisions are made as needed. Check out the school-related [frequently asked questions](#).

New resources and updates:

- [Return to School Guidance for Staff](#) (October 28)

French Resources:

- [School and Bus Case Information \(letter to parents\)](#) (updated October 21)
- [Symptomatic Student Information](#) (letter to parents)
- [Return to School Guidance](#) (children)

The provincial school/child care screening tools have been translated into multiple languages and are available for download at: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/download-covid-19-school-and-child-care-screening>

Announcements and Changes to Services

- On October 28, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced it is providing up to \$1.05 billion in combined federal-provincial funding through the new COVID-19 Resilience infrastructure stream to build or renovate health and safety related projects in long-term care, education and municipalities.
- On October 28, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced it is providing municipalities and Indigenous community partners with over \$241 million to help more than 110,000 Ontarians affected by COVID-19, including those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.
- On October 27, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced it is providing \$116.5 million to create up to 766 more beds at 32 hospitals and alternate health facilities across the province.

Additional Resources

- [BounceBack Resources from CMHA](#)

Ongoing COVID-19 Action

Face Coverings

On October 2 ([see News Release](#)), the Ontario government announced that when you go out anywhere in Ontario, you must use a face covering (non-medical mask, such as a cloth mask) in public indoor spaces and whenever physical distancing is a challenge. This includes [public spaces, workplaces and vehicles that operate as part of a business or organization](#), with some exceptions.

Visit our [website](#) for frequently asked questions on this topic and further information.



COVID-19 Cases in Schools and Licensed Child Care Centres

The Government of Ontario has launched a [webpage to report COVID-19 cases in schools and child care centres](#) for parents and the public. This page will be updated every weekday with the most up-to-date COVID-19 information available, including a summary of cases in schools and licensed child care centres and agencies.

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 Anna Vanderlaan via email at anna.vanderlaan@wdgpublichealth.ca



COVID Alert App

The [Government of Ontario](#) is encouraging Ontarians to download [COVID Alert](#) on their smartphones. The free, nation-wide app notifies users of potential exposure to COVID-19. Users who test positive for COVID-19 will receive a one-time key from their health authority that they can enter in the app. When the key is entered, COVID Alert will notify other users who may have come in close contact with that person for at least 15 minutes in the past 14 days so they can contact their local public health authority for guidance.

The app uses strong measures to protect data and does not track a user's location or collect personally identifiable information. The Privacy Commissioners of Canada and Ontario were consulted on the development of COVID Alert to ensure the highest level of privacy for users.

COVID-19 Testing

Please check your local [assessment centre](#) for details on booking an appointment. 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.

If you are asymptomatic a list of pharmacies, currently providing testing, is available at the [Ontario COVID-19 testing locations finder website](#).

Please note: the phone number for booking appointments at the Headwaters Assessment Centre in Orangeville has recently changed to 1-833-442-2001.

Check Your COVID-19 Test Results Online

COVID-19 test results are available [online](#). If you receive a positive result you will have the option to report your information to Public Health through Contact +. Contact + is a voluntary, web-based service. **It does not replace the call you get from Public Health.** Contact + allows you to confirm your contact details as well as review and answer the questions that Public Health will ask you, in advance of your call. You may add this information for up to 48 hours after your positive test result is reported. For more information about Contact + visit the [testing and results](#) page.

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.

Share Your Story

WDGPH is exploring the effects and impacts that the pandemic has had on various individual and sector-specific roles. We're looking for a variety of individuals to share their personal and professional stories with us in a new blog series. If you are interested in taking part, please email Louise Brooks: Louise.Brooks@wdgpublichealth.ca

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.

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