

COVID-19 Information Bulletin #22

Date issued: May 28, 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

Surveillance

- Information about cases in WDG can be found on [our website](#) and information about institutional outbreaks can be found in our [Retirement and Long-Term Care Outbreak Bulletin](#).

New or Amended Guidance Documents and Directives

- **Updated:** Ministry of Health's [Directive #2 for Health Care Providers \(Regulated Health Professionals or Persons who operate a Group Practice of Regulated Health Professionals\)](#) [May 26]
- **New:** Ministry of Health's Operational Requirements for Health Sector Restart [May 26] **Will be posted to Ministry of Health website soon*
- **Updated:** Government of Ontario's [Manufacturing Guidance](#) [May 26]
- **Updated:** Public Health Agency of Canada's [Guidance for Providers of Services for People Experiencing Homelessness](#) (in the context of COVID-19) [May 25]

Ontario Extends Emergency Declaration

The Ontario government has [extended all emergency orders](#) in force under s.7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until **June 9**. Please be aware that there is always the potential for the Government of Ontario to extend the emergency orders past this date if deemed necessary.

Current emergency orders include the closure of outdoor playgrounds, play structures and equipment, public swimming pools and outdoor water facilities, as well as bars and restaurants except for takeout and delivery. Additionally, there continues to be restrictions on social gatherings of more than five people, and staff redeployment rules remain in place for long-term care homes and congregate settings like retirement homes and women's shelters. A full list of the emergency orders that have been extended is found [here](#).

Checklist for Reopening Businesses or Workplaces

To help support businesses and workplaces with the planning of policies and protocols for a safe reopening, WDG Public Health has developed a checklist for businesses and workplaces to be used alongside *WDGPH COVID-19 Guidance for Reopening Businesses* document. Both resources are available on our website at <https://wdgpublichealth.ca/your-health/covid-19-information-workplaces-and-living-spaces/workplaces-and-businesses>.

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.



Physical Distancing Floor Decal

- WDGPH 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@wdgpublichealth.ca

Announcements and Changes to Services

- On May 27, [Health Canada](#) announced changes to the process for clinical trials related to COVID-19. These changes include:
 - Allowing a wider range of health professionals to be involved in running clinical trials;
 - Allowing a wider range of investigators to be involved in running clinical trials for medical devices;
 - Reducing the burden associated with labelling and record-keeping requirements for clinical trials involving drugs that are already marketed for other indications and are being studied to treat COVID-19;
 - Enabling multiple-stream clinical trials to continue even when one stream has been stopped; and
 - Enabling more clinical trials by allowing trials where direct interaction with the participant is not feasible.
- On May 26, [Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada](#) announced an investment of \$9.2 million to enhance the Youth Employment and Skills Program (YESP) and fund up to 700 new positions for youth in the agriculture industry to ensure the resilience of the food supply chain during the pandemic.
- On May 26, the [Government of Ontario](#) outlined key findings from the Canadian Armed Forces report on the five long-term care homes at which the military has been assisting. An active investigation based on this report is in progress.

Contact Information for Additional Support

Updated: WDGPH COVID-19 Call Centre

- **For health-related questions**, including symptoms, close contacts, travel or if you are a health care provider:
 - Call 519-822-2715 ext. 7006
 - Available Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and weekends from 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
- **For non-health related questions**, including business or workplace concerns, social distancing 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