

COVID-19 Information Bulletin #119

Date issued: June 3, 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 [our website](#).

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 [vaccination progress in WDG](#) can be found on our website

New or Amended Guidance

- Ministry of Health's [Considerations for Antigen Point-of-Care Testing](#) (updated June 3)
- Ministry of Long-Term Care's [COVID-19: Visiting Long-Term Care Homes](#) (updated June 3)
- Ministry of Long-Term Care's [COVID-19 Guidance Document for Long-Term Care Homes in Ontario](#) (updated June 3)

Camp, Child Care and School Resources

- PHO's [Daily Camp Operations: COVID-19 Preparedness and Prevention for Day Camps](#) (May 31)
- PHO's [Pre-camp Planning: COVID-19 Preparedness and Prevention for Day Camps](#) (May 31)
- PHO's [Preventing COVID-19: Refresher Presentations for Schools and Childcare Settings](#) (May 30)

Vaccine Resources

- [NACI Rapid Response: Interchangeability of Authorized COVID-19 Vaccines](#) (June 1)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Bulletin #25](#) (May 31)
- [COVID-19 Vaccination Recommendations for Special Populations](#) (May 27)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Individuals that Received a First Dose of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccine/COVISHIELD Vaccine](#) (May 25)

Ontario Continues Remote Learning for Remainder of School Year

The province has made the decision to continue with remote learning for all elementary and secondary students across the province for the remainder of this school year. Schools will continue to remain open for in-person learning for special education students who cannot be accommodated through remote learning until the end of June. For more information read the [media release](#) from the Government of Ontario.

Ontario Maintains COVID-19 Restrictions

On June 2, Ontario's Stay-at-Home Order expired. All other public health and workplace measures remain in place provincewide until Ontario enters Step One of the Roadmap to Reopen, at which point some restrictions will ease with an initial focus on outdoor settings. A summary of restrictions can be found on the province's "[Reopening Ontario](#)" [webpage](#), which provides details on what public health measures are in place before the province enters Step One of the [Roadmap to Reopen](#). Emergency orders currently in effect under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act have been extended until June 16, 2021. For more information read the [media release](#) from the Government of Ontario.

Immunization Policies for Long-Term Care Homes

Effective July 1, 2021, all long-term care homes in Ontario must have COVID-19 immunization policies fully implemented. These policies must include the requirement for each staff member to do **one** of the following:

- Provide proof of vaccination of each dose; **or**
- Provide a documented medical reason for not being vaccinated; **or**
- Participate in an educational program about the benefits of vaccination and the risks of not being vaccinated.

Homes will be required to track and report on the implementation of their policies, including overall staff immunization rates. The immunization status of individual staff members will not be shared with the province. For more information read the [media release](#) from the Government of Ontario and the [Minister's Directive](#).

COVID-19 Vaccines and Youth

For trusted information about the COVID-19 vaccine for youth, visit [Kids Health First Website](#). More information and resources on this topic are available on our [website](#) in the "COVID-19 vaccines and youth" section.

Announcements and Changes to Services

- On June 3, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced it is allowing long-term care residents to enjoy more social connections with their loved ones effective Wednesday, June 9.

- On June 3, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced that is providing updated guidance for individuals who received the first dose of the AstraZeneca vaccine and who have not yet received their second dose, to allow for the mixing of COVID-19 vaccines if desired.
- On June 2, the [Government of Canada](#) announced that the new Canada Recovery Hiring Program, would be available retroactively to June 6, 2021 to help hard-hit businesses hire the workers they need to recover and grow as local economies reopen.
- On June 2, [The Public Health Agency of Canada](#) announced that The National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI) has provided [updated guidance on the use of mixed vaccine schedules](#) in COVID-19 vaccination programs.
- On June 1, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced it is providing over \$31 million to help improve access to specialized mental health treatment services, reduce waitlists and wait times, and support the mental health and wellbeing of children and youth by addressing the increased demand for services during COVID-19.
- On May 31, [WDG Public Health](#) issued a media release advising anyone who has returned to Wellington County, Dufferin County or Guelph from the Baffinland Mary River Mine site in Nunavut since April 30, 2021 to immediately begin self-isolation and contact us for further instruction.
- On June 1, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced it is investing more than \$900,000 in free virtual training and work experience in the science or engineering fields for 50 students who have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.
- On May 30, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced it is tabling a motion in the Legislature to appoint Dr. Kieran Moore as the province's next Chief Medical Officer of Health to succeed Dr. David Williams upon his retirement on June 25, 2021.
- On May 29, [Health Canada](#) announced it has approved an extension, supported by scientific evidence, to the expiry dates of two lots (MT0055 and MT0056) of the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine by 30 days.
- On May 28, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced it is preparing to roll out the eligibility for accelerated second dose appointments starting with individuals aged 80 and over, beginning on May 31, 2021.

Additional Resources

- PHAC's [Going out Safely During COVID-19](#) (updated May 28)
- PHAC's [For Persons Exempt from Mandatory Quarantine](#) (updated May 31)
- PHAC's [For Travellers with COVID-19 Symptoms Returning to Canada by Air](#) (updated May 31)
- PHAC's [For Travellers without Symptoms of COVID-19 Returning to Canada by Air](#) (updated May 31)
- PHAC's [For Travellers without Symptoms of COVID-19 Returning to Canada by Land or Water](#) (updated May 31)
- PHAC's [For Travellers with COVID-19 Symptoms Returning to Canada by Land or Water](#) (updated May 31)
- PHO's [COVID-19: Non-Medical Masks: Q & A's](#) (revised May 14)



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.

For vaccine registration and booking help (1st doses):

- Call 1-844-780-0202
- Available Monday – Friday from 12:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- For second dose status information including who is eligible and when/where to call, visit the [Appointment Booking Status page](#).

Please do not call Public Health for your COVID-19 test results. Visit [how to get your COVID-19 test results](#).

Local Assessment Centres and Testing

Visit our website for hours and information about [local assessment centres and testing](#).

Reliable Information Sources

Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health: www.wdqpublichealth.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