

COVID-19 Information Bulletin #21

Date issued: May 26, 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 [Guidance for Primary Care Providers in a Community Setting](#) [May 21]
- **Updated:** Ministry of Health's [Directive #3 for Long-Term Care Homes under the Long-Term Care Homes Act, 2007](#) [May 23]
- **Updated:** Public Health Agency of Canada's [Guidance for Providers of Services for People Experiencing Homelessness](#) [May 25]
- **Updated:** Public Health Agency of Canada's [Infection prevention and control for COVID-19: Interim guidance for outpatient and ambulatory care settings](#) [May 23]

Changes to Testing Criteria from the Ontario Government

Effective immediately, testing is available for people who are concerned they may have been exposed to COVID-19. No referral or appointment is needed to be tested at an assessment centre located in WDG. New asymptomatic, risk-based testing includes:

- People who are contacts of or may have been exposed to a confirmed or suspected case.
- People who are at high-risk of exposure to COVID-19 through their employment, including essential workers (health care workers, grocery store employees, food processing plants, etc.)

The Ministry of Health's [COVID-19 Reference Document for Symptoms](#) has been updated to include some additional language around how multisystem inflammatory vasculitis may present in children.

Visit the [WDG Public Health website](#) for assessment centre locations and hours.

WDG Public Health Website Updates

Remember to check the [COVID-19 information section for community stakeholders](#) on our website that includes information for: workplaces and businesses, long-term care and retirement homes, other congregate living settings, child care providers, schools, food premises and other sectors. Guidance documents and posters are also available. This page is being updated as new information arises, so please check regularly for updates.



Physical Distancing Floor Decal

- WDGPH has more 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

Announcements and Changes to Services

- On May 25, the [Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau](#) announced that applications are now being accepted for Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) for small businesses. Over the course of the program, property owners will reduce rent by at least 75 per cent for the months of April and May (retroactive), and June, for their small business tenants. CECRA will cover 50 per cent of the rent, with the tenant paying up to 25 per cent and the property owner forgiving at least 25 per cent.
- On May 25, the [Government of Canada](#) announced the launch of a four-week hotline service called the Business Resilience Service. This service will help entrepreneurs and small business owners in need of financial planning advice, particularly those who may not have access to an accountant. The service will also be open to not-for-profit organizations and charities. Small business owners with pressing financial needs can call 1-866-989-1080 (toll-free) seven days a week, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (ET).
- On May 22, the [Government of Canada](#) announced a web-based benefits finder tool, [Find financial help during COVID-19](#) to help people living in Canada determine which government benefits programs best meet their needs. The tool provides individuals with information on federal, provincial and territorial benefits programs available.
- On May 22, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced an investment into Virtual Action Centre, an online counselling and training portal, to support hospitality workers laid off or unemployed due to COVID-19. The portal will also assist apprentices by providing grants

to purchase tools, protective equipment and clothing for their trade, along with forgiving previous loans to purchase tools.

- On May 22, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced that the province is permitting Ontario corporations to conduct virtual meetings and to defer certain annual meetings in specified circumstances and is allowing the Ministry of Government and Consumer Services to accept copies of documents, electronic signatures on documents, and electronic filing of documents. These changes are part of *COVID-19 Response and Reforms to Modernize Ontario Act, 2020*.
- On May 21, the Government of Ontario announced funding research on preventing, detecting and treating COVID-19. These projects focus on such things as vaccine development, diagnostics, drug trials and development, and social sciences. research on preventing, detecting and treating COVID-19. These projects focus on topics such as, vaccine development, diagnostics, drug trials and development, and social sciences.

Additional Resources

New: PHO's Non-Medical Face Masks and Coverings [information sheet](#)

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 website: www.wdgpUBLICHEALTH.ca

Ontario Ministry of Health webpage: www.ontario.ca/coronavirus

Public Health Agency of Canada webpage: www.canada.ca/coronavirus