

COVID-19 Information Bulletin #38

Date issued: July 23, 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 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

- **New:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Guidance Checklist for Theatres and Concerts](#) (July 15)
- **New:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Playground Sign](#) (July 20)
- **New:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Guidance for Beaches](#) (July 20)
- **New:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Checklist for Special Events & Gatherings](#) (July 22)
- **Updated:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Guidance for Recreational Water Facilities](#) (July 22)

Visits to Long-Term Care Homes

Many of Ontario's long-term care homes are now able to resume indoor visits with certain procedures in place. Details include:

- Each resident can have two visitors at a time, so long as they confirm they have had a negative test for COVID-19 in the previous two weeks;
- Visitors must wear surgical or procedural masks while inside (to be provided by the long-term care homes);
- Homes must have procedures in place for visits to resume, including creating an information package for visitors on infection prevention and control.

For more information, refer to the Ministry of Long-Term Care's [Update to Visits at Long-Term Care Homes](#).

Announcements and Changes to Services

- On July 22, the [Ontario Legislature](#) adjourned after an unprecedented session that saw cross-partisan collaboration in the fight against COVID-19.
- On July 22, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced the increase of fines for unlawful evictions of tenants by landlords in response to the COVID-19 crisis.
- On July 21, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced the Accelerated Build Pilot Program that is part of a plan to create new long-term care beds across the province that meet modern design standards, including features such as air conditioning and private or semi-private rooms, beginning immediately.

Ongoing COVID-19 Action

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.

Check Your COVID-19 Test Results Online

The Ontario government has launched an online [COVID-19 Test Result Viewer](#). This offers fast and secure access to test results on your computer or mobile device. NOTE: **Online test results are only available to those with an Ontario photo (green) health card.**

If you receive a positive result via the online COVID-19 Test Result Viewer, you will have the option to report your information to Public Health through Contact +. Contact + is a voluntary, web-based service for positive results received via the COVID-19 Test Result Viewer. **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 our [Testing and Results](#) page.

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. 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 is in any way 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.

Learn more about the [wear and care of face coverings](#).



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@wdgpublichealth.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.

Contact Information for Additional Support

WDGPH COVID-19 Call Centre

Note: Call Centres are no longer open on weekends.

- **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