

COVID-19 Information Bulletin #47

Date issued: August 25, 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](#)
- 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](#)

Guidance Documents and Resources

- **New:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Daily Screening Tool for Children](#) (August 25)
- **New:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Daily Screening Tool for Secondary School Students](#) (August 25)
- **New:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Daily Screening Tool for School-Based Staff](#) (August 25)
- **New:** WDGPH's [Notice to Collect Patron Information Poster](#) (August 21)
- **New:** WDGPH's [Contact Information for Patrons Form \(for patrons to complete\)](#) (August 21)
- **New:** WDGPH's [Contact Information for Patrons Form \(for operators\)](#) (August 21)
- **New:** Government of Ontario [Guidance for professional meeting and event facilities during COVID-19](#) (Version 1 – August 21)
- **New:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Guidance for Schools](#) (August 20)
- **New:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for Schools Poster](#) (August 20)
- **New:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for Teachers Poster](#) (August 20)
- **New:** PHAC's [Federal/Provincial/Territorial Public Health Response Plan for Ongoing Management of COVID-19](#) (August 19)
- **Updated:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Guidance for Sports & Recreation](#) (August 21)
- **Updated:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Guidance Checklist for Fitness Facilities & Studios](#) (August 21)
- **Updated:** Ministry of Health's [COVID-19 Advice: Religious Services, Rites or Ceremonies](#) (Version 2 – August 21)
- **Updated:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Guidelines for Personal Service Settings](#) (August 7)
- **Updated:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Guidance for Hair Salons and Barbershops](#) (August 7)
- **Updated:** WDGPH's [COVID-19 Guidance for Nail Salons and Spas](#) (August 7)

Announcements and Changes to Services

- On August 21, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced the safe reopening of more of the economy by easing restrictions for facilities that rent out professional meeting and event spaces. Beginning August 21, 2020, facilities can have up to 50 guests for each indoor meeting room or event space within the facility. As well, regulatory amendments were made requiring the contact information for only one person in a party entering an indoor or outdoor dining area, with exceptions.
- On August 21, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced its partnership with the Federal government and 3M Canada to expand its Brockville manufacturing facility to produce made-in-Ontario N95 respirators. Both levels of government are investing \$23.33 million to support 3M's capital investment of \$70 million. The expanded facility will produce enough respirators to meet private sector, provincial and North American market demand throughout the pandemic and beyond.
- On August 20, the [Government of Ontario](#) released *Sustainable Growth: Ontario's Forest Sector Strategy*, the province's plan to create jobs and encourage economic growth in the forest industry. The strategy will support the Indigenous, northern and rural communities that depend on the sector, while ensuring the province's forests stay healthy for generations to come.
- On August 20, the [Government of Ontario](#) announced the hiring of an additional 200 Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) officers. These new recruits will provide OPP frontline officers with the additional resources they need to better protect communities, while safeguarding their mental health and well-being.
- On August 20, the [Government of Canada](#) announced changes to the Employment Insurance (EI) program and new income support benefits that will better support all Canadians. In preparation for this transition and to ensure support continues for Canadians whose employment has been impacted by the pandemic, the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB) will be extended by an additional four weeks to a maximum of 28 weeks.
- On August 15, [Health Canada](#) launched a 60-day consultation process on supervised consumption sites and services to evaluate what is working and what can be improved. The consultation will allow the Government of Canada to seek comments from Canadians, supervised consumption site operators, front-line health care workers, people who use the sites, people with lived and living experience and other stakeholders. Anyone interested in participating [can provide feedback until October 14, 2020.](#)

Ongoing COVID-19 Action

NEW Contact for 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 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 the [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](#).



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

- **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.wdpublichealth.ca

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

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