



City of Sarnia

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: April 2, 2020 RELEASE DATE: Immediate

FROM: City of Sarnia Primary Control Group

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update – April 2

The Sarnia Primary Control Group met via teleconference on April 2, 2020 at 9:00 am regarding developments related to the COVID-19 pandemic. We received confirmation that as of that time the number of deaths connected to the COVID-19 pandemic within the Sarnia-Lambton area has risen to 6 and that there are now 59 confirmed cases within this area.

The City of Sarnia would like to remind the public that, based on the advice of the Chief Medical Officer of Health of Ontario, all outdoor facilities and their associated parking lots will remain closed until further notice including all of the following:

- sports fields, playgrounds, basketball and tennis courts, off-leash dog parks, beaches, skateboard and BMX parks, picnic areas, park shelters, outdoor exercise equipment, condo parks and community gardens.

Please note that people who do not comply with emergency orders issued under the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act may be charged under the Provincial Offences Act and be subject to fines.

The advice of the Chief Medical Officer of Health Dr. Ranade remains that adopting safe hygiene practices such as physical distancing by keeping a safe distance of at least 2 metres from others and not gathering in groups of more than 5, regularly washing our hands, and not touching our faces will significantly help reduce the impact and spread of this pandemic.

We sincerely thank those who are taking the matter seriously. We acknowledge that this is a difficult and unusual time and ask that we all adhere to the recommended advice and orders related to the required safety measures and respect the closures, posted signage and barricades because these actions are the only things that will help us return to normal faster.

Given the rapidly changing situation, we would like to refer concerned community members to the websites for Bluewater Health and for Lambton Public Health for up to date information on the COVID-19 Virus, including the number of active cases within our community:

Bluewater Health:

- <https://www.bluewaterhealth.ca/covid-19-information>

Lambton Public Health:

- <https://lambtonpublichealth.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus/>

The City of Sarnia has established an Email and Hotline contact for members of the public to report their concerns regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic in the following ways, which will be monitored between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday:

- **By Email:** covid@sarnia.ca
- **By Phone:** 1-877-4-SARNIA (1-877-472-7642) or 519-332-0330

Be sure to include as much details as available to you when you report an event including your name, the date of the incident, the non-compliance event, time and location when making a report.

If you think you may have COVID-19 symptoms, or have been in close contact with someone who you believe may have been infected, first self-isolate and then use [Ontario's Self-Assessment Tool](#) to see if you need to seek further care.

We would like to reassure members of the public that we are currently continuing to work with our emergency partners to develop enhanced communication protocols to ensure that members of the public continue to have access to the latest up to date information available. We would like to take this opportunity to reiterate that it remains imperative that you continue to obtain your information regarding COVID-19 from trusted governmental sources such as Lambton Public Health who can be contacted directly at the following coordinates:

- Telephone: (519) 383-8331; or
- Internet: <https://lambtonpublichealth.ca>

To listen to a detailed listing of City of Sarnia closures and disruptions, you are encouraged to call our City of Sarnia Services Update Line at 226-778-4611 which will be updated daily.

Lambton Public Health Information:

If you are experiencing symptoms and have traveled internationally, please call your health care provider or Lambton Public Health (519-383-8331) or <https://lambtonpublichealth.ca/> (Please do not call 9-1-1 unless it is an emergency).

The Primary Control Group will continue to meet daily to ensure that all new and relevant information is being taken into consideration going forward. Daily public notifications will be issued. Please visit the City's website www.sarnia.ca, Facebook, and/or Twitter for updates.

Please continue to utilize the COVID-19 Hotline at 1-877-4-SARNIA (1-877-472-7642) and the City's website to keep up to date on any and all information pertaining to the city's current status.

- 30 -

For further information, please contact:

City of Sarnia COVID-19 Hotline

1-877-4-SARNIA (1-877-472-7642) or 519-332-0932

Andrea Lane, Customer Service Manager

andrea.lane@sarnia.ca or 519-332-0330 ext.3231

City of Sarnia, Customer Service

customerservice@sarnia.ca or 519-332-0330 ext.3131