



City of Sarnia

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: May 18, 2020 RELEASE DATE: Immediate

FROM: City of Sarnia Primary Control Group

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update – May 18

The Sarnia Primary Control Group (SPCG) met via teleconference on May 18, 2020, at 9:00 am regarding developments related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As Ontario's first stage of reopening will begin on Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 12:01 a.m., the City would like to direct any inquiries from local business owners to the [Guidance Document for Essential Workplaces](#) for more information on how to reopen safely. Business-owners with questions concerning their essential business status are encouraged to call the Stop the Spread hotline at [1-888-444-3659](tel:1-888-444-3659). The hotline is available from 8:30 a.m.— 9:00 p.m. Monday to Friday and 8:30 a.m.— 5:00 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

As a general reminder, it remains imperative that businesses and citizens continue to follow public health directives needed to stop the spread of COVID-19, such as physical distancing, frequent handwashing, sanitizing surfaces, installing and using physical barriers, and using contactless payment options where practicable.

Any members of the public that require more information on workplaces that can safely reopen are asked to refer to the Government of Ontario's website where the [list of essential workplaces](#) can be found.

As of 9:00 a.m. on May 18 the SPCG can report that:

Summary of COVID-19 cases in Lambton County

Confirmed Cases	225
Number of Related Deaths	19

Institutional Outbreaks	3
Resolved Outbreaks	3

By-Law Enforcement - COVID-19 Reporting System

Total number of complaints and inquiries received	926
Total number of emails received	771
Total number of phone calls received	155
Total number of fines issued	5

Local Updates

Sarnia Transit services will not be running on Monday, May 18, and City Hall will be closed in recognition of Victoria Day.

Curbside collection of large bulk items will resume June 1st-5th, as originally scheduled, within the 2020 [Waste Calendar](#).

Lambton Public Health

- If you are in distress (e.g. significant trouble breathing, chest pain, fainting, or have a significant worsening of any chronic disease symptoms), do not go to an Assessment Centre. Call 9-1-1 or go to the nearest Emergency Department.
- If you think you may have COVID-19 symptoms or have been in close contact with someone who has symptoms, please self-isolate and use the [Ontario Self-Assessment Tool](#) to determine if you need to seek further care.

Provincial Orders

The Government of Ontario has extended the [Declaration of Emergency](#) under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until June 2, 2020.

The Sarnia 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.

- 30 -

For further information, please contact:

City of Sarnia COVID-19 Hotline

covid@sarnia.ca or 1-877-4-SARNIA (1-877-472-7642) or 519-332-0932

City of Sarnia, Customer Service

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