



*City of Sarnia*

***MEDIA RELEASE***

DATE: May 23, 2020 RELEASE DATE: Immediate  
FROM: City of Sarnia Primary Control Group  
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update – May 23

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The Sarnia Primary Control Group (SPCG) met via teleconference on May 23, 2020, at 9:00 am regarding developments related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The City of Sarnia encourages the community to get outdoors and enjoy the beautiful parks, beaches and trails the City has to offer, however it remains imperative that citizens do not treat these spaces as destinations and avoid congregating or gatherings. It is also extremely important to keep in mind the orders and directives that remain in place, such as the requirement to maintain physical distancing, proper hand hygiene, and not gathering in groups larger than 5 people.

We recognize and thank citizens, tasked with the significant responsibility of protecting one another in the community. We appreciate everyone's efforts, and together we will continue to help limit the spread of COVID -19 in our community.

City Council has made some difficult and fiscally responsible decisions to date, including but not limited to delaying or cancelling non-essential projects and not hiring summer students and seasonal staff. As a result, some seasonal programs may be cancelled and/or not operating as usual. City staff continue to work hard to maintain public spaces and amenities to the best of our abilities with limited resources.

As of 9:00 a.m. on May 23 the SPCG can report that:

**[Summary of COVID-19 cases in Lambton County](#)**

Confirmed Cases	245
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Recovered Cases	173
Number of Related Deaths	20
Current Active Long Term Care and Retirement Home Outbreaks	3
Resolved Long Term Care and Retirement Home Outbreaks	3

### **By-Law Enforcement COVID-19 Reporting System**

Total number of complaints and inquiries received	969
Total number of emails received	801
Total number of phone calls received	168
Total number of fines issued	5

### **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 Government of Ontario has extended all [Emergency Orders](#) currently in place until May 29, 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](http://www.sarnia.ca), Facebook, and/or Twitter for updates.

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### **For further information, please contact:**

#### **City of Sarnia COVID-19 Hotline**

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

City of Sarnia, Customer Service

[customerservice@sarnia.ca](mailto:customerservice@sarnia.ca) or 519-332-0330 ext.3131