



*City of Sarnia*

***MEDIA RELEASE***

DATE: July 17, 2020 RELEASE DATE: Immediate  
FROM: City of Sarnia Primary Control Group  
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update – July 17

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The Sarnia Primary Control Group (SPCG) met via teleconference on July 17, 2020, at 9:30 a.m. regarding developments related to the COVID-19.

Lambton Public Health has confirmed one additional COVID-19 case has been reported, bringing the total to 288. Currently, there are three active COVID-19 cases in Sarnia-Lambton.

Starting today a Pedestrian Friendly Zone will be created by closing Christina Street from George to Davis at 4:00 PM until 8 PM on Sunday. This street closure will allow merchants to utilize the entire sidewalk for their wares/patios and the street will be a space in which people can move freely and safely.

Front Street, as well as George, Lochiel, Davis, and Wellington Street will remain open to allow for traffic flow and access to parking. To support residents and visitors with mobility challenges we've added temporary accessible parking spots during the closure, inside the Parkway lot, next to Scotiabank, access from Front St.

Free parking is also available in the Victoria St Lot & at Ferry Dock Hill. Other municipal lots are free on evenings and weekends, as noted by signage.

For more information visit the Chamber website:  
<https://slchamber.ca/weekend-walkabout/>

At this time, the Government of Ontario has excluded Sarnia-Lambton from Stage 3 re-opening. Details regarding this decision can be found here:  
<https://news.ontario.ca/opo/en/2020/07/nearly-all-businesses-and-public-spaces-to-reopen-in-stage-3.html>

The SPCG is continuing discussions on what stage 3 of [A Framework for Reopening our Province](#) will look like for the City of Sarnia.

Due to COVID-19, cooling centers are limited. If you or someone you know require assistance due to the heat, please call Lambton Public Health at 519-383-8331 or 1-800-667-1839 for details on available cooling centres.

Lambton Public Health released a technical brief examining the case for mandatory mask use to further prevent the spread of COVID-19, found online here: <https://lambtonpublichealth.ca/lambton-public-health-releases-technical-brief-examining-mandatory-mask-use-in-lambton-county/>

[Lambton County Council](#) declared its support and encouragement for those who can do so, to wear masks that cover their mouth, nose and chin in public indoor settings where physical distance cannot be achieved. While it is not mandated to wear a mask indoors within public locations, some public buildings and businesses may require it.

Many local establishments have set rules for entry requiring masks, when medically possible. Bluewater Health, along with a number of other local establishments, remain a mandatory masking environment. Employers can assess worker risk of exposure to COVID-19 when considering source control in the workplace. Additional information is available on the [Public Health Ontario website](#) and [Lambton Public Health](#) website.

Throughout the pandemic, stay up to date with the City's latest response efforts by frequently checking <https://www.sarnia.ca/covid-19/>. Please visit the City's website [www.sarnia.ca](http://www.sarnia.ca), [Facebook](#), and/or [Twitter](#) for additional updates.

As of 9:30 a.m. on July 17 the SPCG can report that:

### **Summary of COVID-19 cases in Lambton County**

Test Results Received (as per last available daily update)	14,666
Percent of Test Results Positive	2.0%
Confirmed Cases	288
Recovered Cases	260
Number of Related Deaths	25
Active Cases	2
Current Active Outbreaks	0
Resolved Outbreaks	9

## By-Law Enforcement COVID-19 Reporting System

Total number of complaints and inquiries received	1,210
Total number of emails received	994
Total number of phone calls received	216
Total number of fines issued	5

## Lambton Public Health

- If you are in distress 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.
- Local COVID-19 testing information is available online:  
<https://lambtonpublichealth.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus/testing-criteria/>
- To view detailed reports of COVID-19 cases in Lambton County visit:  
<https://lambtonpublichealth.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus/summary-of-covid-19-cases-in-lambton-county/>

## Provincial

The Government of Ontario has extended the [Declaration of Emergency](#) currently in force under s.7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until July 24, 2020.

The Government of Ontario, has [extended all emergency orders](#) currently in place under s.7.0.2 (4) of the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* until July 29, 2020.

A full list of emergency orders can be found on the [e-Laws website](#) under the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act* and at [Ontario.ca/alert](https://ontario.ca/alert).

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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