



City of Sarnia

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: August 26, 2020 RELEASE DATE: Immediate
FROM: City of Sarnia Primary Control Group
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update – August 26

The Sarnia Primary Control Group (SPCG) met via teleconference on August 26, 2020, at 9:30 a.m. regarding developments related to COVID-19.

The St. Clair Catholic District School Board has released their 'September Ready Framework' for the 2020-2021 school year. For additional information surrounding the Safe Return to School Project please visit the link below:
<https://newsdesk.st-clair.net/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/SeptemberReadySlideDeckBoardWebsiteAug2020.pdf>

The Lambton Kent District School Board (LKDSB) has released their 'Reopening Our Schools' plan for the 2020-2021 school year. For additional information surrounding LKDSB's 'Reopening Our Schools' plan please visit the link below:
<https://www.lkdsb.net/Board/Community/PublicHealth/2020-2021SchoolYear/Documents/ReopeningOurSchools2020-Final.pdf>

In order to improve physical distancing measures LKDSB has confirmed they have reduced elementary class sizes where able, for students returning to school in September.

As part of Ontario's plan for students to safely return to the classroom in September, the government released [today](#) the [Operational Guidance: COVID-19 Management in Schools](#) document. This guide was developed in consultation with public health experts, including Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, and aims to help schools identify and isolate COVID-19 cases, reduce the spread of COVID-19 in schools, and prevent and minimize outbreaks.

Residents are asked to place all masks, gloves, paper towels, tissues, wipes and plastic bags in the garbage. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) does not belong in the blue box or flushed down the toilet. This includes items that have come in contact with the mouth, nose, or eyes of a sick person. The City of Sarnia thanks you for keeping our community safe and clean.

As of July 24, 2020 the City of Sarnia entered Stage 3 of the Provincial Framework for Reopening Our Province. Details can be found online here: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/framework-reopening-our-province-stage-3>

The City of Sarnia Mask By-Law began on July 31, 2020. For more information visit: <https://www.sarnia.ca/mask-bylaw/>

Public health safety measures include staying home when sick, practicing physical distancing with others outside your social circle, use good hand hygiene, and wearing a mask if required or if physical distancing is not possible. For more information on social circles, gatherings and physical distancing visit: <https://lambtonpublichealth.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus/physical-distancing/>

As of 9:30 a.m. on August 26 the SPCG can report that:

Summary of COVID-19 cases in Lambton County

Test Results Received (as per last available daily update)	22,127
Percent of Test Results Positive	1.5%
Confirmed Cases	338
Recovered Cases	309
Number of Related Deaths	25
Active Cases	4
Current Active Outbreaks	0
Resolved Outbreaks	10

By-Law Enforcement COVID-19 Reporting System

Total number of complaints and inquiries received	1,296
Total number of emails received	1,072
Total number of phone calls received	224
Total number of fines issued	5

Stay up to date by frequently checking <https://www.sarnia.ca/covid-19/>. Visit the City's website www.sarnia.ca, [Facebook](#), and/or [Twitter](#) for additional updates.

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 Updates

Ontario's [COVID-19 website](#) includes resources to help stop the spread, sector specific resources, including helpful posters, mental health resources, and other information.

On July 30, 2020 the government released the [Guide to Reopening Ontario's Schools](#), which was developed in consultation with leading medical experts and approved by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health. This plan committed over \$300 million in funding to support the safe reopening of Ontario's schools, which is part of the evolving layers of protection the government is providing to students, parents, staff, and the communities they live and work in.

On August 21 The Province expanded [Indoor Capacity for Meeting and Event Facilities](#). Facilities can have up to 50 guests for each indoor meeting room or event space within the facility. The facility would have to adhere to a plan approved by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health. Additional information is available online: <https://www.ontario.ca/page/guidance-professional-meeting-and-event-facilities-during-covid-19>

The Ontario government, in consultation with the Associate Chief Medical Officer of Health, has amended orders [O. Reg 364/20](#): Rules for Areas in Stage 3, under the *Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act, 2020*,. For more information visit: <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/200364>

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