



*City of Sarnia*

***MEDIA RELEASE***

DATE: February 16, 2021 RELEASE DATE: Immediate  
FROM: City of Sarnia Primary Control Group  
SUBJECT: COVID-19 Update

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The Sarnia Primary Control Group (SPCG) met electronically with staff from Lambton Public Health (LPH), Bluewater Health, Lambton County, and Point Edward regarding developments related to COVID-19.

**Local Update:**

The group received an update from Dr. Ranade, Medical Officer of Health for Lambton County, regarding the COVID-19 situation in Sarnia-Lambton.

Today, Sarnia-Lambton transitioned into the Orange-Restrict level of the Provincial [COVID-19 Response Framework: Keeping Ontario Safe and Open](#).

The colour-coded system allows regions to gradually increase or decrease restrictions as needed. The Ontario government is taking immediate and decisive action to stop the spread of new [COVID-19 variants](#) throughout the province.

After returning to the framework, public health regions will stay in their level for at least two weeks, before the government will further assess the impact of public health and workplace safety measures to determine if the region should stay where they are or be moved to a different level.

The Lambton COVID-19 Immunization Task Force reported first doses of COVID-19 vaccines had been administered to every long-term care and high risk retirement home resident in Lambton County who wanted one. For additional information, please visit <https://lambtonpublichealth.ca/first-round-of-covid-19-immunizations-complete/>

The City of Sarnia issued another charge last week under the Reopening Ontario Act (ROA); this charge was linked to an individual who attended

multiple outdoor organized public events in contravention of the gathering limits through multiple organized outdoor events. Since the start of the pandemic By-Law Enforcement staff have issued 8 charges.

Preparations and plans to re-open Progressive Auto Sales Arena, and Clearwater Arena to the public as of March 1, 2021 are underway following the Provincial Government's [Guidance for facilities for sports and recreational fitness activities during COVID-19](#) and the City's COVID-19 Arena Operating Standards.

## **Provincial Update:**

### **Orange-Restrict Level Summary**

- Events and social gatherings in private homes, backyards or parks: 10 people indoors, 25 people outdoors
- Organized public events and gatherings in staffed businesses: 50 people indoors, 100 people outdoors
- Religious, wedding and funeral services: 30% capacity indoors, 100 people outdoors
- Restaurants: 50 people indoors, 4 per table - Closed by 10pm, no buffets
- Personal care services relating to the hair or body, including hair salons and barbershops, manicure and pedicure salons, aesthetician services, piercing services, tanning salons, spas and tattoo studios, may open if they comply with the conditions as specified. Guests must give their name and contact information. Services that need guests to remove their mask or face covering not allowed.
- Sports and recreational fitness facilities: Facilities for sports and recreational fitness activities, including gymnasiums, health clubs, community centers, multi-purpose facilities, arenas, exercise studios, yoga and dance studios and other fitness facilities, may open for sports and recreational fitness activities if they comply with the conditions within the Orange Zone.
- Meeting and event spaces: Capacity limits for indoors 50 people per facility and outside 100 people per facility. 4 people per table. Guests must give their name and contact information. Establishments must close by 10 p.m.

### **Orange-Restrict Level - Rules for All Open Businesses**

- Screen employees (use the [COVID-19 Screening Tool for Workplaces](#))
- Post signs at all entrances informing people how to screen themselves for COVID-19 before entry

- Limit capacity so guests can stay at least 2 metres apart
- Make sure anyone indoors wears a mask or face covering, or separated by plexiglass, including workers who have to come within 2 metres of anyone else (with some [exceptions](#))
- Clean and disinfect often-touched surfaces, such as equipment, washrooms, locker rooms, change rooms and showers frequently
- Manage line ups to make sure customers are at least two metres apart wearing face coverings or masks
- Create a [safety plan](#), post it in a place where workers and patrons will see it and have it available upon request

Read the [Ontario Regulations](#) for more details on the requirements for each zone and to learn more on further details within the Orange - Restrict: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/zones-and-restrictions#what-each-zone-means>.

For more information on COVID-19, visit:

- City of Sarnia website: <https://www.sarnia.ca/covid-19/>
- County of Lambton County website: <https://www.lambtononline.ca/en/resident-services/covid-19.aspx>
- Lambton Public Health website, including local COVID-19 Testing Assessment Centres: <https://lambtonpublichealth.ca> and [COVID-19 Case Map](#)
- Public Health Ontario website: <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/>
- Province of Ontario website: [www.ontario.ca/coronavirus](http://www.ontario.ca/coronavirus)
- Visit Ontario's COVID-19 vaccine [web page](#) to view the latest provincial data and information on COVID-19 vaccines.
- Government of Canada website: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>

As of 11:30 a.m. on February 16 the SPCG can report that:

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

Confirmed Cases	1,961
Resolved Cases	1,831
Deaths	45
Active Cases	85
Current Active Outbreaks	9
Incidence Rate per 100,000 - Week of January 31-February 6, 2021	28
Percent Positive - Week of January 31-February 6, 2021	1.0
Total immunizations given – Updated February 10, 2021	739

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

Total number of complaints and inquiries received	1,691
Total number of emails received	1,428
Total number of phone calls received	263
Total number of charges issued	8

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**For further information, please contact:**

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