



City of Sarnia

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE:	February 23, 2021	RELEASE DATE:	Immediate
From:	City of Sarnia Primary Control Group		
SUBJECT:	COVID-19 Update		

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.

As of February 22, the provincial government announced that Sarnia-Lambton has transitioned into the <u>Red-Control Zone of the Province's</u> <u>COVID-19 Response Framework</u>. This decision was made to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 in Lambton County and based on an overall risk assessment of local indicators.

LPH is reminding the public to be patient and kind as businesses implement new control measures and requirements under the COVID-19 Response Framework. Please stay home as much as possible; avoid social gatherings; limit close contacts to your household; work from home if possible, and avoid travel except for essential reasons.

Bluewater Health began its Vaccination Clinic for high-risk frontline hospital healthcare workers today. The Bluewater Health clinic will administer the Pfizer vaccine to hospital staff and physicians following the sequential, phased rollout as per the province's direction (COVID-19: Guidance for Prioritizing Health Care Workers for COVID-19 Vaccination). For additional information, please visit <u>https://www.bluewaterhealth.ca/news/vaccination-for-high-risk-hospital-workers-begins</u>

The focus of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout in Sarnia-Lambton continues to be <u>Phase 1 priority groups</u>, as identified by the provincial government. The next vaccine shipments to Sarnia-Lambton are expected this week and next. Visit <u>www.getthevaccine.ca</u> for more information from Lambton Public Health.

The Provincial Government is working to roll out an online scheduling system and call centre to coordinate appointment bookings for mass immunization clinics. Further information will be shared once it's available.

Provincial Update:

Red-Control Summary

The Red-Control zone places further restrictions on gatherings, businesscontrolled settings, retail limits, cinemas and performing arts facilities.

- Gatherings (formal/informal) 5 people indoors, 25 people outdoors
 - Religious and other ceremonies: 30% capacity of the room indoors, 100 people outdoors
- Business-controlled settings (restaurants, foot courts, gyms, casino & gaming)
 - 10 people indoors, 25 people outdoors
- Retail limits
 - 75% for supermarkets and other stores that primarily sell groceries (includes pharmacies & convenience stores)
 - 50% for all other retail
- Cinemas & performing arts closed (with specific exemptions)

Full details can be found listed under the <u>COVID-19 Response</u> <u>Framework</u> and <u>O. Reg. 263/20</u>: Red-Control.

For more information on COVID-19, visit:

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

As of 11:30 a.m. on February 23 the SPCG can report that:

Summary of COVID-19 cases in Lambton County

Confirmed Cases	2,035
Resolved Cases	
Deaths	46
Active Cases	
Current Active Outbreaks	
Incidence Rate per 100,000 - Week of February 7-February 13, 2021	
Percent Positive - Week of February 7-February 13, 2021	
Total immunizations given – Updated February 17, 2021	

By-Law Enforcement COVID-19 Reporting System

Total number of complaints and inquiries received	1702
Total number of emails received	1,436
Total number of phone calls received	266
Total number of charges issued	8

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For further information, please contact:

City of Sarnia, Customer Service <u>customerservice@sarnia.ca</u> or 519-332-0330 Ext. 3131