



# City of Sarnia

# MEDIA RELEASE

DATE:	March 2, 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.

LPH reported that it is <u>one of six Ontario Public Health Units participating in</u> <u>a pilot of a new online Provincial Immunization Booking System</u>. The new online booking website, as well as a new Provincial call centre is expected to be open to the public on March 15. For updates and further information on these items go to <u>https://covid-19.ontario.ca/</u>.

Please visit <u>getthevaccine.ca</u> to learn more about how you and your family can access the COVID-19 vaccines as they become available in the community.

LPH remains in the <u>Red-Control Zone of the Province's COVID-19 Response</u> <u>Framework</u>. Full details can be found listed under the <u>O. Reg. 263/20</u>: Red-Control.

# Provincial Update:

Through the <u>Ontario Small Business Support Grant</u> to help eligible business owners affected by the COVID-19 restrictions, more than 78,000 applications from small businesses across the province have been processed representing more than \$1 billion in support. Upon approval, successful applicants will receive payment within 10 days. Applications are still open until March 31, 2021 and a detailed <u>step-by-step instructional video</u> on the application portal is available to help guide applicants through the process.

Eligible small businesses can also apply for additional financial supports including the newly expanded Main Street Relief Grant, which provides up to \$1,000 to help offset the costs of purchasing personal protective equipment (PPE). The grant is now available to main street businesses with 2 to 19 employees in all eligible sectors, helping up to 60,000 small businesses in the retail trade, accommodation and food services, repair and maintenance, personal and laundry services, gyms and yoga studios, and arts, entertainment and recreation.

The government is also providing eligible businesses with rebates for property tax and energy costs. Grant programs are available through a simple <u>online application</u>, and businesses can learn more by visiting <u>Ontario.ca/COVIDsupport</u>.

Ontario is helping small businesses go digital in order to reach more customers through the \$57-million <u>Digital Main Street</u> program, supported by the federal and provincial government. This initiative is expected to help up to 22,900 Ontario businesses create and enhance their online presence by April 2021.

Small businesses can visit <u>ontario.ca/smallbusiness</u> to learn about the many supports available to them. These include resources to find Ontario-made PPE through the Workplace PPE Supplier Directory, tailored local support through the Small Business COVID-19 Recovery Network, and obtain free financial advice. Fore more information visit:

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 March 2 the SPCG can report that:

## Summary of COVID-19 cases in Lambton County

Confirmed Cases	2,115
Resolved Cases	
Deaths	46
Active Cases	73
Current Active Outbreaks	
Incidence Rate per 100,000 - Week of February 14-February 20, 2021	
Percent Positive - Week of February 14-February 20, 2021	
Total immunizations given – Updated February 17, 2021	

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

Total number of complaints and inquiries received	1715
Total number of emails received	
Total number of phone calls received	266
Total number of charges issued	

- 30 -

#### For further information, please contact:

### City of Sarnia, Customer Service

customerservice@sarnia.ca or 519-332-0330 Ext. 3131