



City of Sarnia

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE:	March 23, 2021	RELEASE DATE:	Immediate
From:	City of Sarnia Primary Contro	ol Group	
SUBJECT:	COVID-19 Update		

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

Local Update:

The group received an update from Dr. Ranade, Medical Officer of Health for the County of Lambton. LPH is reporting that, currently, a total of seventyone cases of COVID-19 in Lambton County have screened positive for a Variant of Concern (VOC).

LPH has opened pre-registration for individuals who are 75-79 years of age or who are turning 75 this year. If you are part of these eligible groups and would like to book an appointment, please book your appointment online at <u>Ontario.ca/bookvaccine</u> or call 1-888-999-6488. Learn more about <u>Ontario's COVID-19 vaccination program</u> on the LPH website <u>www.getthevaccine.ca</u> . Lambton County's fixed site clinic locations are operating by appointment only.

There is a current provincial mandate to wear a face mask or covering in any indoor area of the premises of a business or organization, some exemptions may apply.

Signage is not required, but is available from Lambton Public Health to supports businesses and workplaces to meet compliance and effectively communicate the requirement. Signage is available for download by visiting: https://lambtonpublichealth.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus/signage/.

Business owners/operators are not expected to engage in confrontations with members of the public who are not wearing a face covering. Businesses also have the right to create additional standards over and above the provincial mandate pursuant to the Trespass to Property Act and their responsibilities under the Occupier's Liability Act and the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

Provincial Update

Sarnia-Lambton remains in the Grey-Lockdown zone of the Province's COVID-19 response framework.

The Grey-Lockdown status is considered a declaration of emergency. Maximum measures are in place to implement wide-scale measures and restrictions, including closures, to halt or interrupt transmission of COVID-19. Full details can be found under the <u>COVID-19 Response Framework</u> and <u>O. Reg. 82/20</u>: Grey-Lockdown.

To support the Province's economic recovery, effective Saturday, March 20, 2021, the government cautiously adjusted dining capacity limits at restaurants, bars and other food and drink establishments, for regions in the Grey-Lockdown, Red-Control and Orange-Restrict levels of the Framework.

New to Grey-Lockdown as of March 2021:

Restaurants, Bars and Food or Drink Establishments:

- Indoor dining prohibited
- Outdoor dining, take out, drive through, and delivery permitted, including alcohol
- Capacity limited to allow physical distancing of 2 metres to be maintained
- No buffet style service
- Line-ups and patrons congregating outside venues managed by venue;
 2 metres distance and face covering required
- Screening of patrons is required, in accordance with <u>instructions issued</u> by the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health
- Require patrons to be seated; 2 metres minimum or impermeable barrier required between tables
- Patrons may only be seated with members of their same households, with limited exceptions for caregivers and people who live alone
- Require contact information for all seated patrons
- Face coverings required except when eating or drinking only

- Personal protective equipment, including eye protection required when is a worker must come within 2 metres of another person who is not wearing a face covering
- Establishments must be closed from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m.
- Liquor sold or served only between 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- No consumption of liquor permitted between 10 p.m. to 9 a.m.
- Dancing, singing and the live performance of music is prohibited
- Limit volume of music to be low enough that a normal conversation is possible
- Night clubs and strip clubs only permitted to operate as restaurant or bar
- A <u>safety plan</u> is required to be prepared and made available upon request

Businesses can access free training and assistance, including the <u>workplace</u> <u>safety plan toolkit</u>, live <u>webinars on how to operate a business safely</u> and comply with COVID-19 health and safety requirements, and a <u>30-minute</u> <u>online course on infection prevention and control</u> provided by the Public Services Health and Safety Association.

Assistance and support for small businesses is available from the Provincial <u>Employment Standards Information Centre</u> and <u>Occupational Health and</u> <u>Safety Contact Centre</u>.

Workplace COVID-19 safety fact sheets, guides and posters are available at <u>Ontario.ca/covidsafety</u>. These include multilingual tip sheets for employers.

For the latest City information and service updates during the pandemic visit: <u>https://www.sarnia.ca/covid-19/</u>

For public health information, visit:

- <u>www.ontario.ca/coronavirus</u> the Ontario Ministry of Health
- <u>https://lambtonpublichealth.ca</u> the Lambton Public Health Unit

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

Summary of COVID-19 cases in Lambton County

Confirmed Cases	2,643
Resolved Cases	2,376
Deaths	47
Active Cases	220
Current Active Outbreaks	

Incidence Rate per 100,000 - Week of March 7-March 17, 2021	119
Percent Positive - Week of March 7-March 17, 2021	3.3
Total immunizations given – As of March 17, 2021	12,017
First Dose	10,850
Second Dose	1,167

By-Law Enforcement COVID-19 Reporting System

Total number of complaints and inquiries received	1,811
Total number of emails received	1,521
Total number of phone calls received	290
Total number of charges issued	11

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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