



City of Sarnia

MEDIA RELEASE

DATE: April 13, 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) and Point Edward regarding developments related to COVID-19.

Local Update

The group received an update from Dr. Ranade, Lambton County's Medical Officer of Health.

After learning that [four local taxi drivers have tested positive for COVID-19](#), LPH is asking any members of the public who used the Blu Light Taxi service from March 21 to April 8, 2021, for a trip greater than 15 minutes, to get tested for COVID-19.

Lambton County needs more vaccine to keep its COVID-19 immunization clinics operating. Due to a [delay in the delivery of 4,000 doses of the Moderna vaccine](#), LPH has postponed two immunization clinics this week.

Based on a decision by the Provincial Government in March, [COVID-19 vaccination intervals have been extended](#) from four weeks to 16 weeks for three vaccines (Moderna, Pfizer & AstraZeneca).

LPH has opened vaccine registration for individuals who are 60-69 years of age and pre-registration for some Phase 2 groups. In addition, individuals under 60 years of age with [highest-risk, high-risk and at-risk health conditions](#) along with one essential caregiver from each of those groups are eligible to pre-register for their vaccinations. Learn more about [Ontario's COVID-19 vaccination program](#) on the LPH website www.getthevaccine.ca.

Those eligible are strongly encouraged to schedule a vaccination appointment by visiting [Ontario.ca/bookvaccine](https://ontario.ca/bookvaccine), or calling the Provincial Vaccine Booking Line number at 1-833-943-3900. For general inquiries, individuals can call the Provincial Vaccine Information Line number at 1-888-999-6488. The Provincial Vaccine Booking Line and Information Line are open Monday to Sunday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. providing assistance in 300 languages.

Pharmacies and primary care settings participating in the rollout are vaccinating individuals aged 55 and over. To book a vaccination appointment at a pharmacy, adults aged 55 and over can visit ontario.ca/pharmacycovidvaccine to find a participating location and can contact the pharmacy to make an appointment.

Provincial Update

The Ontario government, in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, has [moved elementary and secondary schools to remote learning following the April break](#). This move has been made in response to the rapid increase in COVID-19 cases, the increasing risks posed to the public by COVID-19 variants, and the massive spike in hospital admissions.

On Wednesday April 7, 2021, in response to an alarming surge in case numbers and COVID-19 hospitalizations across the province and in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer of Health, the government enacted a [Provincial Emergency and Stay-at-Home order](#). Ontarians are asked to limit trips outside the home to necessities such as food, medication, medical appointments, supporting vulnerable community members, or exercising outdoors with members of their household in their communities. Individuals should remain in their local communities and avoid all non-essential travel – even within the province – and stay home when ill even with mild symptoms.

The [COVID-19 Response Framework: Keeping Ontario Safe and Open](#) (colour-coded zones) remains paused. The impacts of these measures will be evaluated after 28 days to determine if it is safe to lift the restrictions or if they need to be extended.

This means you must stay at home. You should only go out for necessities, such as:

- the grocery store or pharmacy
- health care services (including going to medical appointments or getting vaccinated)
- outdoor exercise or walking pets in your community

- work that cannot be done remotely
- child care

Business Supports

Learn about changes to government programs and available supports: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/covid-19-help-businesses-ontario>. Businesses with questions about what will be open or impacts to your business or employment, can call the Provincial Stop the Spread Business Information Line at 1-888-444-3659.

Gathering limits

All events and social gatherings:

- Indoors: not allowed, except with members of your household (or one other household if you live alone)
- Outside: 5 people

Religious, wedding and funeral services:

- Indoors: 15% capacity of the room
- Outside: the number of people that can keep two metres physical distance from each other
- Receptions are not permitted indoors and are limited to five people outdoors

For more information, please read the [full list of restrictions \(O. Reg. 82/20\)](https://covid-19.ontario.ca/zones-and-restrictions): <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/zones-and-restrictions>

For the most up to date information regarding COVID-19 including current statistics, please visit the [Lambton Public Health website](#), [GetTheVaccine.ca](#) and the [Province of Ontario website](#). For the latest City information and service updates during the pandemic visit: <https://www.sarnia.ca/covid-19/>

As of 11:30 a.m. on April 13 the SPCG can report that:

Summary of COVID-19 cases in Lambton County

Confirmed Cases	3,058
Resolved Cases	2,889
Deaths	54
Active Cases	115
Current Active Outbreaks	2
Incidence Rate per 100,000 - Week of March 28-April 3, 2021	102

Percent Positive - Week of March 28-April 3, 2021	2.4
Total immunizations given – As of April 7, 2021	28,495
First Dose	26,934
Second Dose	1,561
% Eligible with \geq 1 Dose	25

By-Law Enforcement COVID-19 Reporting System

Total number of complaints and inquiries received	1,895
Total number of emails received	1,590
Total number of phone calls received	305
Total number of charges issued	11

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For further information, please contact:

City of Sarnia, Customer Service

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