



*City of Sarnia*

***MEDIA RELEASE***

DATE: May 4, 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, and Point Edward regarding developments related to COVID-19.

**Lambton Public Health**

LPH created a new dedicated [Vaccine Call Centre](#) which will run from Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Vaccine Call Centre can be reached at [226-254-8222](tel:226-254-8222) or visit the [Contact Us](#) page on the LPH website.

LPH's main phone number ([519-383-8331](tel:519-383-8331)) is still in operation from Monday to Friday (8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) for those looking to speak to someone regarding case and contact management (contact tracing), queries related to the health unit's regular services/programs, and all other COVID-19 related questions.

Please visit [GetTheVaccine.ca](https://getthevaccine.ca) for the latest updates on the vaccine roll-out plan in Sarnia-Lambton.

The local COVID-19 Immunization Rollout continues with vaccinations to individuals 55 years of age and older, Indigenous populations and adult recipients of chronic home healthcare, along with the first group of essential workers who cannot work from home according to [Phase 2](#) of the Province's Immunization program. This includes elementary/secondary school staff, childcare and licensed foster care workers, faith leaders who provide end of life care, agriculture/farming and food manufacturing workers, etc. Vaccinations are also currently being administered to individuals with [eligible health conditions](#) along with one essential caregiver for those with the highest risk health conditions. An essential caregiver is defined as someone

providing direct, frequent and sustained in-person personal care and/or assistance with activities of daily living to the individual.

If you're eligible and would like to book your vaccination go to Lambton Public Health's [registration](#) page. Please be patient, clinics are booking quickly. If clinics are fully booked, check back often, additional clinics will be open for booking as vaccine supply is confirmed.

## **Provincial Update**

Due to a predictable and increased vaccine supply from the Federal Government, the Province will be able to further expand delivery channels in the coming weeks to vaccinate more Ontarians faster. To support this, the government has developed an [anticipated schedule](#) to expand eligibility to receive the COVID-19 vaccine throughout May.

Beginning Thursday, May 6, 2021, at 8:00 a.m. the following groups throughout the province will be eligible to book a COVID-19 vaccine appointment, through the provincial online booking system and call centre or directly through public health units that use their own booking system:

- Individuals turning 50 and over in 2021;
- Individuals with high-risk health conditions;
- People who cannot work from home who fall under Group One (including remaining elementary and secondary school workers); and
- First Nations, Inuit and Métis individuals in addition to the other channels previously available to book their appointment.

For more information visit: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/book-vaccine/>

The Provincial Stay-at-Home Order is in effect until May 20, 2021 and the [COVID-19 Response Framework: Keeping Ontario Safe and Open](#) (colour-coded zones) remains paused. These measures have been put in place to help stop the rapid transmission of COVID-19 variants in communities, protect hospital capacity and save lives.

The Stay-at-Home Order requires everyone to remain at home except for essential purposes, such as going to the grocery store or pharmacy, accessing health care services (including getting vaccinated), for outdoor exercise, or for work that cannot be done remotely.

It is strongly recommended to avoid all non-essential travel. Travel from Manitoba or Quebec into Ontario is also restricted. Exemptions will only be

allowed for specified reasons. For more information: <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/zones-and-restrictions>

### **COVID-19 Resources**

- City of Sarnia: <https://www.sarnia.ca/covid-19/>
- Lambton Public Health: <https://lambtonpublichealth.ca/2019-novel-coronavirus/covid-19-vaccines/>
- County of Lambton: <https://www.lambtononline.ca/en/resident-services/covid-19.aspx>
- Government of Ontario: [www.ontario.ca/coronavirus](http://www.ontario.ca/coronavirus)
  - [COVID-19 Vaccine Information](#)
- Government of Canada: [www.canada.ca/coronavirus](http://www.canada.ca/coronavirus)
- World Health Organization: [www.who.int](http://www.who.int)
- Bluewater Health Hospital: <https://www.bluewaterhealth.ca/covid-19-novel-coronavirus-information-frequently-asked-questions>
- Sarnia Lambton Chamber of Commerce: <https://slchamber.ca/covid-19/>
- Sarnia-Lambton Economic Partnership (SLEP): <https://www.sarnialambton.on.ca/home/covid-19-resources-for-business>
- Province Business Support Line: Toll-free line 1-888-444-3659 to provide support to Ontario businesses who have questions about the province's recent emergency order to close at-risk workplaces following recommendations by Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health.
- The Government of Canada's Coronavirus Hotline: 1-833-784-4397
- The Emergency Watch and Response Centre (EWRC) can be called 24/7 by Canadian citizens abroad in need of emergency assistance: 1-613-996-8885
- The Business Development Bank of Canada can answer questions for business owners: 1-877-232-2269
- Hotline to provide small businesses in need with financial planning advice amid COVID-19: 1-866-989-1080 (toll-free) seven days a week, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. (ET)
- Government of Canada, Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety: Pandemic (COVID-19) Health and Safety Resources <https://www.ccohs.ca/products/publications/covid19-tool-kit/?&orig=/products/publications/covid19/>
- Canada Emergency Business Account (CEBA), <https://ceba-cuec.ca/>.
- Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy (CEWS), <https://www.canada.ca/en/revenue-agency/services/subsidy/emergency-wage-subsidy.html>

As of 11:30 a.m. on May 4 the SPCG can report that:

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

Confirmed Cases	3,269
Resolved Cases	3,139
Deaths	56
Active Cases	74
Current Active Outbreaks	5
Incidence Rate per 100,000 - Week of April 18-April 24, 2021	57
Percent Positive - Week of April 18-April 24, 2021	2.1
Total immunizations given – As of April 28, 2021	45,341
First Dose	42,742
Second Dose	2,599
% Eligible with $\geq$ 1 Dose	39

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

Total number of complaints and inquiries received	2,019
Total number of emails received	1,692
Total number of phone calls received	327
Total number of charges issued	13

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**For further information, please contact:**

**City of Sarnia, Customer Service**

**[customerservice@sarnia.ca](mailto:customerservice@sarnia.ca) or 519-332-0330 Ext. 3131**