

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – April 15, 2020

As of April 15, 2020, Canada has a total of 27, 557 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario itself has 8447 cases with Toronto having 2543 cases. **At this time, residents of North Yorkers continue to remain symptom free and staff members continue to self-monitor.** If this changes, we will notify all staff, residents and stakeholders as soon as possible.

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While COVID-19 continues to be on the rise, and our vulnerable population are at the highest risk of serious illness, we would like to ensure that access to communication support is adequately available to those who need it most. While it is challenging to have a communication assistant available in every circumstance, it is essential that tools are made available for medical professionals, family members and friends to help support communication in critical situations. Patient-Provider Communication has created free communication aids to use in the event that you are supporting someone with a communication disability who is sick with COVID-19. Please click the link below where you will find communication tips and tricks, pain scales, alphabet board, general needs board, medical decision making board, and so much more. This website is updated on a daily basis so continue to check back to see what's new.

Patient-Provider Communication at <https://www.patientprovidercommunication.org/covid-19-free-tools.htm>

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Communication Disabilities Access Canada (CDAC) maintains a Facebook page in which they update daily on various resources such as communication tools, or news articles related to COVID-19 and individuals with communication disabilities. Follow CDAC's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Communication-Disabilities-Access-Canada-167031386664276/>

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As it is getting increasingly challenging to access grocery delivery services, we would like to ensure that community members are receiving everything they need for day to day living. If you are having trouble obtaining any essential items, especially meals, please contact Jessica and she can link you to the appropriate resources for your needs.

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If you think you may be experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, take the self-assessment at www.ontario.ca/coronavirus. Follow all directions from your medical provider or your local health unit at the following phone numbers:

Telehealth Ontario: 1-866-797-0000

Toronto Public Health: 416-338-7600

Peel Public Health: 905-799-7700

Durham Region Health Department: 905-668-7711

York Region Public Health: 1-877-464-9675

Please refer back to previous updates as lots of important information has been provided that may still be relevant. If you have any questions or require more information on how you can protect yourself and those around you from the COVID-19 virus, please contact our Outreach Communication Facilitator Jessica, at 416-222-4448 or Jessica.nydp@gmail.com