

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – December 17, 2020

As of December 17th, 2020, Canada has a total of 484, 062 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario itself has 148, 967 cases with Toronto having 50, 745 cases.

GTA may need to be put into strict COVID-19 lockdown

Ontario Premier Doug Ford seems to be receptive to the idea that a widespread lockdown is needed to stop the spread of COVID-19 in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). It is apparent that the GTA and Hamilton area are generating the majority of the virus spread, as the highest numbers of daily infections are coming from these regions of the province.

Toronto Mayor John Tory recently said that the city was in talks with other regions in order to implement broader restrictions that affect many areas. This would be done to reduce the amount that people are travelling outside of the areas that are in lockdown. Mayor John Tory and Mississauga's mayors have asked the province to enact a GTA-wide lockdown.

The province will have to either extend the current lockdown in Toronto on Monday, as it is set to expire on Dec. 21st, or move the city back into the red zone of the tiered framework. Today, the Ontario Hospital Association called for the province to enact a 28-day lockdown that would essentially affect the entire province. Premier Ford said that a decision around tougher restrictions and how they would be implemented has not yet been made.

Source: <https://www.cp24.com/news/ford-warms-to-idea-all-of-gta-may-need-to-be-put-into-strict-covid-19-lockdown-1.5235655>

Ontario sets new daily record of COVID-19 cases yet again

The province has set another record for the highest number of daily infections of COVID-19, with 2, 432 new infections reported. There were also 23 deaths reported in the last 24 hours, and intensive care unit occupancy and ventilator use continues to rise. Locally, there were 737 new cases reported in Toronto, 434 in Peel Region, 209 in York Region, 190 in Windsor-Essex and 142 in Hamilton.

There are now currently 17, 484 active cases of the virus in the province. Infectious diseases

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specialist and Ontario COVID-19 vaccine distribution task force member, Dr. Isaac Bogoch, said that the current lockdown in Toronto and Peel Region has not really had the desired impact. He said that the rates of infection have not decreased in these areas, and that soon hospitals will be overwhelmed, if they are not already.

Source: <https://www.cp24.com/news/ontario-sets-new-daily-record-for-covid-19-cases-yet-again-with-2-400-reported-1.5235536>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

March of Dimes

Caregiver Webinar Series:

How to be “Caregiver Smart” and changing roles

Date: Thursday, Dec. 17th, 2020

Time: 2:00pm

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/caregiver-workshop-session-4how-to-be-caregiver-smart-changing-roles-registration-130266000113>

Harmony Place

Online Music Therapy Sessions

Date: Wednesdays and Fridays, starting Friday August 7th, and Wednesday August 19th, 2020

Time: 2:30 – 3:30pm

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82054622001?pwd=Z2xyZjFZQUpNRFB6YzAwU085N3pGUT09>

Meeting ID: 820 5462 2001

Passcode: 051424

For more information, contact Wanda by email at: wanda@harmonyplace.on.ca

If you or someone you know uses Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), and requires resources related to COVID-19, please contact Sarah (sarah.nydp@gmail.com) and she can assist you in accessing and/or creating various communication tools.

If you think you may be experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, take the self-assessment at North Yorkers for Disabled Persons, Inc. Updated December 17, 2020

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 Sarah, at 416-222-4448 or sarah.nydp@gmail.com