

**Coronavirus: COVID-19**  
**Current Update – December 18, 2020**

As of December 18th, 2020, Canada has a total of 493, 063 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario itself has 151, 257 cases with Toronto having 51, 495 cases.

---

**Ford confirms Toronto and Peel lockdowns will be extended**

Premier Doug Ford has said that the current lockdown orders that have been in place for Toronto and Peel Region will be extended as of Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup>. He also said that he will have “additional information on Monday for the balance of the province.” There will be an emergency meeting held over the weekend where a final decision will be made on the orders for certain regions of the province which will be announced on Monday.

Recently, there have been calls for schools to go remote for the first two weeks of instruction after the holiday break. Hospitalizations are continuing to rise, as there are nearly 900 people in the province receiving treatment for COVID-19. The province’s rolling seven-day average of new cases stands at 2, 089 now, which is up nearly 12 percent from this time last week.

Toronto Mayor John Tory has said that we have now reach a point where we “need to have further restrictions to stem the tide.”

Source: <https://www.cp24.com/news/ford-confirms-toronto-and-peel-lockdowns-will-be-extended-says-announcement-coming-monday-on-other-restrictions-1.5236938>

---

**Ontario reports nearly 2, 300 new cases of COVID-19**

The Ministry of Health says that there were 2, 290 new infections reported today, as well as an additional 40 deaths. The latest cases do come on a record of 68, 246 tests process in the last 24 hours, which has helped to push the positivity rate down to 3.9 percent. Locally, Toronto reported 691 new cases, Peel Region reported 361, and York Region reported 296.

Overall, the numbers province-wide appear to be outpacing the more optimistic scenario that was shown in the recent modelling projections released by the provincial government last week. The modelling suggested that daily case counts would only reach 2, 500 by mid-January, assuming a one percent rate of growth. The same modelling projections warned that new daily infections could top 5, 000 by mid-January assuming a growth rate of three percent.

Source: <https://www.cp24.com/news/ontario-reports-nearly-2-300-new-cases-of-covid-19-as-decision-looms-on-additional-restrictions-for-some-regions-1.5237201>

---

## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

### **Harmony Place**

#### **Online Music Therapy Sessions**

Date: Wednesdays and Fridays, starting Friday August 7<sup>th</sup>, and Wednesday August 19<sup>th</sup>, 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 [www.ontario.ca/coronavirus](http://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](mailto:sarah.nydp@gmail.com)