

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – December 8, 2020

As of December 8th, 2020, Canada has a total of 424, 733 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario itself has 130, 910 cases with Toronto having 45, 486 cases.

Ontario reports 1, 676 new COVID-19 cases, 10 more deaths

The province is reporting fewer COVID-19 cases today as well as fewer deaths, as testing rates fell considerably from over the weekend. Today's case count is 13 percent lower than Monday's record high, with the province reporting 1, 676 new cases compared to the 1, 925 recorded yesterday. Locally, there are 588 new cases in Toronto, 349 in Peel Region and 141 in York Region.

Provincial labs processed 39, 198 tests in the past day, which is significantly lower than the 59, 000 that were processed on both Saturday and Sunday. There are currently more than 16, 000 active cases of infection in the province, and close to 800 hospitalized patients. There are currently 219 patients with COVID-19 in intensive care, and 132 are breathing with the help of a ventilator. Today marks the largest single-day increase in hospitalizations for patients with COVID-19, as 69 people were admitted to hospital in the last 24 hours.

Source: <https://www.cp24.com/news/ontario-reports-1-676-new-covid-19-cases-as-hospitalizations-near-800-1.5221610>

Toronto's top doctor warns people to stay home for holidays, as poll suggests some may ignore advice

Dr. Eileen de Villa, Toronto's Medical Officer of Health, is warning the people of Toronto not to gather with people outside their households for the holidays. A new poll conducted by Angus Reid Institute found that about 27 percent of residents in Ontario plan to visit friends and family locally during the holiday season. Another 8 percent of Ontarians said that they plan to visit people in another community or outside of the province.

Dr. de Villa said on Monday; "The guidance from the province advises that the safest way to spend the holidays this year is by celebrating only in-person with the people you live with and celebrating virtually with everybody else. If you live alone, consider exclusively celebrating with one additional household."

On Monday, Premier Doug Ford told reporters at a news conference that for people wanting to drive to their secondary residences and cottages for the holidays in other cities and towns they are still able to, but they must take precautions. This includes completing all their shopping and food buying in their original home cities, and not leaving their secondary residence after arriving. The province is also advising university students to first self-quarantine or reduce close contact with people on campus for a 2-week period before arriving to their homes for the holidays.

Source: <https://www.cp24.com/news/toronto-s-top-doctor-warns-people-to-stay-home-for-holidays-as-new-poll-finds-some-may-ignore-advice-1.5220773>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

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 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