

**Coronavirus: COVID-19**  
**Current Update – February 4, 2021**

As of February 4th, 2021, Canada has a total of 792,380 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario itself has 273,660 cases with Toronto having over 87,969 cases (Toronto Public Health has halted its reporting).

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**Ontario reports 1,563 new COVID-19 cases and 88 deaths, test positivity falls to lowest point in months**

The province reported close to 1,600 new cases of COVID-19 today, as well as 88 more virus-related deaths. Thirty-six of the deaths reported today involved residents of Long-Term Care (LTC) homes. There are now 16,330 remaining active cases of COVID-19 in the province, which has declined by almost 5,000 in the past week.

Provincial labs processed 64,467 tests in the past 24 hours, which has generated a positivity rate of at least 2.6 percent. This is the lowest positivity rate that the province has recorded since Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

Locally, Peel Region reported 245 cases today, Toronto reported 584 cases, York Region reported 132, and Hamilton reported 78 new cases.

Source: <https://www.cp24.com/news/ontario-reports-1-563-new-covid-19-cases-and-88-deaths-test-positivity-falls-to-lowest-point-in-months-1.5295530>

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**Ontario government is considering whether to cancel March Break in a bid to limit spread of COVID-19**

The province is now considering the possibility of cancelling March Break for Ontario students, as concerns rise about new COVID-19 variants that are circulating in communities. The cancellation of the break will be announced well in advance of when it is set for, the province has said.

Schools in the province were switched to remote-learning only following the break in December, but the provincial government has gradually been allowing students to return to classrooms in recent weeks. It has been confirmed by the province that schools in an additional 13 public health units will reopen next week. Schools in Toronto, York Region and Peel will reopen on February 16<sup>th</sup> for in-person learning.

The reopening of schools has come as the province has seen a steady downward trend of new cases of COVID-19, and less transmission in the community.

Source: <https://www.cp24.com/news/ontario-government-is-considering-whether-to-cancel-march-break-in-bid-to-limit-spread-of-covid-19-1.5295508>

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

### **Caregiver Webinar Series**

Three-part series for Caregivers: Caring for Self While Caring for Others

Date for Session #2: February 8, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.

To register: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/caregiver-webinar-series-considering-others-feb-8-registration-136446235363>

### **Caregiver Connection Group**

Caregiver Conversation – Strategies for Caregiver Burnout

Date: Thursday, February 4, at 2:00 p.m.

To register: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/caregiver-conversation-strategies-for-caregiver-burnout-feb-4-registration-136448951487>

Caregiver Conversation – Coping with Difficult Emotions

Date: Thursday, February 11, at 2:00 p.m.

To register: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/caregiver-conversation-coping-with-difficult-emotions-feb-11-registration-136450488083>

Caregiver Conversation – How to Grocery Shop Smarter and Faster?

Date: Thursday, February 18, at 2:00 p.m.

To register: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/caregiver-conversation-how-to-grocery-shop-smarter-and-faster-feb-18-registration-136451198207>

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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)