

Coronavirus: COVID-19
Current Update – October 13, 2020

As of October 13th, 2020, Canada has a total of 182, 839 confirmed cases of COVID-19. Ontario itself has 59, 139 cases with Toronto having 22, 737 cases.

Ontario reports 807 and 746 new COVID-19 cases in past two days; 12 deaths

The province reported 807 new COVID-19 cases on Thanksgiving Monday, the second highest daily count since the pandemic began. Today, Ontario is reporting 746 new cases, and over the past two days there have been 12 COVID-19 related deaths confirmed. Locally, there were 311 new cases reported in Toronto, 135 in Peel Region, and 116 in Ottawa today.

Epidemiologist, Dr. Isaac Bogoch, said that it will likely take about two weeks to see any impact from newly imposed provincial restrictions. These include the restrictions imposed in the three regions of the province considered “hotspots” of the virus, whereby they were moved into a modified Stage 2 on Friday. According to Dr. Isaac Bogoch, the delay in seeing any major changes in the number of cases per day is due, in part, to the sometimes lengthy incubation period of the virus.

Source: <https://www.cp24.com/news/ontario-reports-746-and-807-new-covid-19-cases-over-past-two-days-12-deaths-1.5142920>

For a full list of businesses and services that are impacted by the imposed restrictions in Toronto, Peel Region, and Ottawa, check out this article: <https://www.cp24.com/news/full-list-of-businesses-and-services-impacted-by-new-covid-19-restrictions-1.5139796>

Coronavirus can remain infectious on surfaces for weeks: study

A new study that looks at how long COVID-19 can survive on surfaces, has found that it can remain infectious on some surfaces for at least 28 days. Published this week in the Virology Journal, the study describes how researchers tested the virus on several surfaces, at different temperatures. They found that the virus dies significantly faster on surfaces in hotter temperatures, and that it can survive on non-porous surfaces for up to four weeks. This is much longer than previous studies have shown.

In this study, researchers tested the virus on Australian bank notes, which are made of the same materials as Canadian bank notes. They also tested on paper bank notes, glass, vinyl, stainless steel

and cotton. The samples were tested at 20, 30 and 40 degrees Celsius, and were inspected after 1 hour, 3, 7, 14, 21 and 28 days. What was found was that at 20 degrees C, the virus could survive for at least 28 days on every material except for cotton, which is the most-porous.

The results from this study showed that the virus could survive on certain materials under certain conditions for much longer than previously thought, however, the study was done under lab conditions. Therefore, factors such as sunlight, and items rubbing against each other were not taken into account, both of which can have impact on the decay of the virus.

Epidemiologists reflecting on this study recognize the significance of contracting the virus from surfaces, especially in colder climates. As Canada moves into our second wave and the weather gets cooler, it is extremely important to follow proper hand hygiene protocols, including hand washing and using hand sanitizer when in public spaces.

Source: <https://www.ctvnews.ca/health/coronavirus/coronavirus-can-remain-infectious-on-bank-notes-other-surfaces-for-weeks-study-1.5141970>

UPCOMING EVENTS:

March of Dimes

New Four-Part Series for Caregivers: Navigating the Rough Waters of Care Transitions

- Becoming a Caregiver
 - Date: Wednesday, Oct. 14th, Time: 2:30
- Hospital to Home Transitions: When Accidents Happen
 - Date: Wednesday, Oct. 21st, Time: 2:30
- Transitioning to Long-Term Care
 - Date: Wednesday, Oct. 28th, Time: 2:30
- After Caregiving, What's changed in you?
 - Date: Wednesday, Nov. 4th, Time: 2:30

Registration for all events can be done here: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/o/march-of-dimes-canada-27715764721>

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