

## CD Unit COVID-19 Weekly Teleconference Notes

Feb 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

10:00 EST / 09:00 CST

1-855-288-0982 Access Code: 95 29 25 79

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### COVID-19 in Ontario

- COVID-19 continues to circulate in Ontario with increased cases being reported, including cases identified as variants of concern (VOC)
- On 19 Feb 2021 it was announced that the [stay-at home order was extended](#) in Toronto and Peel Public Health Regions and North Bay-Parry Sound would be in place for two more weeks – other areas of the province have started re-opening as of 16 Feb 2021
- A revised [COVID-19 Response Framework](#) has been provided to outline restrictions

### **Public health measures like watching your distance, washing your hands, and wearing a mask remain very important**

- Avoid crowded places, close contact, and closed spaces
- Avoid gathering, and keep 2 m distance from those not in your household
- Wear a [face covering](#) (cloth mask, non-medical mask) when running essential errands
- Stay home and self-isolate if you are sick, feel unwell, or [have symptoms](#) of COVID-19

### Guidance Documents

The [Ministry website](#) still provides guidance documents and information about COVID-19 (last updated 19 Feb 2021)

A number of documents have been updated:

#### Case Definition

- Case Definition (18 Feb 2021)
  - Describes Probable Case, Confirmed Case, and Confirmed Case of Reinfection

#### Testing

- COVID-19 Provincial Testing Guidance Update V10.0 (17 Feb 2021)
  - Updates to
    - serology testing (page 2)
    - point of care testing including new table on interpretation of results from point of care testing
    - testing guidance for contacts
    - targeted testing campaign groups
    - testing in a long-term care or retirement home during an active outbreak
  - Clarification on the asymptomatic testing of residents who are being admitted or transferred to a long-term care homes, and retirement homes
  - New sections on variants of concern (VOCs), the Provincial Antigen Screening Program, and schools and childcares (page 10)
- COVID-19 Quick Reference Public Health Guidance on Testing and Clearance V12.0 (18 Feb 2021)
- COVID-19 Guidance: [Considerations for Rapid Antigen Point-of-Care Screening](#) V2.0 (17 Feb 2021)
  - remember, rapid antigen testing is used for screening purposes only and should NOT be used for diagnosis of acute COVID-19 infection; a positive result must be confirmed with a lab-based test
  - Updates to
    - eligibility including use of rapid screening in outbreak settings
    - specimen collection methods
    - conducting the test to reflect amendments to the LSCCLA
    - organisational responsibilities
    - reporting requirements
  - Information on accessing a rapid, point-of-care test
- [Flow Charts](#) for Rapid Molecular Test (RMT) and Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) – Testing Guidance V2.0 (19 Feb 2021)
  - For RMT (ex ID NOW) considers 3 scenarios - Symptomatic individual, Asymptomatic individual with known contact with a positive case, and Asymptomatic individual without known contact with a positive case
  - For RAT (ex Panbio) considered an asymptomatic individual

## Case and Contact Management

- [Case & Contact Management Appendix 8: Cases with Positive COVID-19 Serology Results and Management of Cases with Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children \(MIS-C\) Temporally Associated with COVID-19 V2.0 \(18 Feb 2021\)](#)
  - Updated section on Positive Serology Reports
- [Case & Contact Management Appendix 9: Management of Individuals with Point-of-Care Results V2.0 \(18 Feb 2021\)](#)
  - Updated Table 1 Interpretation and Classification of Results from Rapid Molecular Point of Care (POC) Testing and Table 2 Interpretation and Classification of Results from Rapid Antigen Point of Care (POC) Testing

The [COVID-19 Vaccine-Relevant Information and Planning Resources website](#) provides most of the resources shared around COVID-19 vaccine for Ontario (last updated 16 Feb 2021)

- COVID-19: [Guidance for Prioritizing Health Care Workers for COVID-19 Vaccination](#) V 2.0 (09 Feb 2021) was posted to the website 16 Feb 2021

## Further Information

The Public Health Ontario ([PHO](#)) website posts evidence summaries, scientific paper reviews, fact sheets and further information

- [Factors Affecting COVID-19 Period of Communicability – What We Know So Far \(21 Feb 2021\)](#)
- [SARS-CoV-2 Variants of Concern: Results of Point Prevalence Study \(16 Feb 2021\)](#)
- [Considerations for Public Health Measures](#) – multiple reports
- [Vaccination Information](#) – multiple reports
- [Interim Guidance for Infection Prevention and Control of SARS-CoV2 Variants of Concern](#)

The [Government of Canada website](#) also includes general COVID-19 information and vaccine information

## COVID-19 FNIHB-OR Epi Report

- As of February 22nd, 2021 at 4:00 pm we have 853 First Nations confirmed cases that is 116 more cases than last week. We currently have 138 active cases in 14 communities. Three communities have active cases over 10.
- Since the beginning of the pandemic, there have been 6 deaths. Two deaths occurred in the first wave and four occurred recently.
- In total, 14,292 tests have been reported to FNIHB-OR.
- A grand total of 37,331 tests (including tests done in SLFNHA and WAHA areas).
- As of February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021, Ontario reported an increase of 1,058 cases of COVID-19. The number of hospitalizations decreased to 758. Less patients are in the ICU from 299 to 277 and less patients are on a ventilator from 211 to 192. Ontario region has 7 active cases that are hospitalized and 5 are in the ICU.
- As of February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021, an estimated 576,310 COVID vaccine doses have been administered in Ontario. That is an increase of 121,215 from last week. Over 240,669 people are fully vaccinated.
- 75 out of 116 (65%) communities reported holding influenza immunization clinics. A total of 7,686 Influenza vaccines have been administered (11.1% coverage rate within reporting communities). Last Flu season we had a 9.1% coverage rate within reporting communities.
- To date, no influenza cases have been reported to FNIHB this flu season.

## Contact

General inquiry email set up for community leadership

- COVID19 General Inquiry Email: [sac.covid-19fnihbontario.isc@canada.ca](mailto:sac.covid-19fnihbontario.isc@canada.ca)

## Next teleconference:

Tuesday Mar 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 EST / 09:00 CST

Dial-in Number 1-855-288-0982 or 1-416-915-6530

Access code: 95 29 25 79