

CD Unit COVID-19 Weekly Teleconference Notes

Dec 1st, 2020

10:00 EST / 09:00 CST

Note: On/after Dec 1, the Dial-in number will be **1-855-288-0982** Access Code: **95 29 25 79**

COVID-19 in Ontario

- COVID-19 continues to circulate in Ontario with increased cases being reported
- On 25 Nov 2020 the province issued a statement on [celebrating more safely](#) during the holiday season, requesting people gather in person only with members of their own household
- On 27 Nov 2020 the province announced [moving a number of regions](#) into more restrictive levels effective 30 Nov 2020
 - The most updated [COVID-19 Response Framework](#) has information on the requirements of each level, and the categorisation of the regions

Public health measures like watching your distance, washing your hands, and wearing a face covering 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 where you'll be indoors
- Stay home and self-isolate if you are sick, feel unwell, or [have symptoms](#) of COVID-19
- A free [app](#) is available to inform users if they may have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus – you can [learn more here](#)

Guidance Documents

The [Ministry website](#) was last updated 25 November 2020

- [Gatherings, Ethno-cultural and Festive Occasions and Other Events](#) V3.0 (25 Nov 2020)
 - This guidance may change based on monitored indicators for COVID-19 epidemiology
 - General advice for all people living in Ontario is to limit close contact to those people in your own household, that is those you live with
 - Additional measures are outline for Red and Grey Zones

The Government of Canada also provided [advice around holiday celebrations](#), dated 23 November 2020, the first step of which is to follow local public health advice in total of 7 sections that are discussed:

- Follow advice from your local public health authority
 - Follow local guide for gathering size limits
 - Event cancellations due to region specific mandates
- When to stay home and away from others
 - Diagnosed with COVID-10 or awaiting lab results
 - Been in close contact with someone who has/suspected to have COVID-19
 - Are in quarantine or isolation
 - Feeling sick or having any [symptoms of COVID-19](#)
 - Recently returned from travel outside of Canada within the past 14 days
 - Recently returned from travel inside Canada to a province/territory that has quarantine requirements
- Think about the risks
 - Lower-risk
 - Higher-risk
 - People at risk of more severe disease (Immunocompromised, older adults and young children)
 - Substance use
- Safety precautions at gatherings
 - Before and after gatherings
 - Hosting

- Holiday travel
 - Car
 - Public Transit
 - Rideshare, taxi or limo services
 - Air travel
- Shopping during the holidays
 - Plan ahead
 - Follow standard precautions
 - Limit the number of people shopping with you
- Mental health during the holidays
 - Take care of yourself and [reach out if you need help](#)
 - If you live alone, consider spending it with another household
 - Limit use of substances

COVID-19 FNIHB-OR Epi Report

- As of December 1st, 2020, we have 192 First Nations confirmed cases and 7 non-First Nations confirmed cases. We currently have 12 active cases in 6 communities.
- Since the beginning of the pandemic, there have been 2 deaths. The two deaths occurred in the first wave.
- In total, 8,122 tests have been reported to FNIHB-OR.
- A grand total of 27,420 tests (including tests done in SLFNHA and WAHA areas).
- On November 30th, the Health Units with the largest numbers are: Toronto – 622, Peel – 390, York Region – 217 and Durham with 108.
- 11 other health units are reporting double digit increases such as Waterloo Region, Hamilton, Windsor, Halton Region, Ottawa, Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph, Simcoe Muskoka, Niagara, Thunder Bay, Eastern Ontario and Middlesex-London.
- 73 out of 116 (63%) communities reported holding immunization clinics. A total of 6,312 Influenza vaccines have been administered (9.2% coverage rate within reporting communities)

FNIHB CD Unit Activities

CD Unit: Survey for COVID-19 Public Health Response within Communities

- CD Team has developed a quick [survey](#) to collect information on the current status of COVID-19 public health response within communities.
 - The survey questions include areas of need for education, support or resources for community preparedness and response to COVID-19.
 - Information gathered from the survey will help the CD Unit identify areas for development and delivery of education, tools or resources.
- Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/6KYBZPS>
- **The survey is being extended until Friday December 11th, 2020**
 - To provide a clear understanding of the current status within Ontario region, we ask for only one member from the health facility (i.e. Health Director, CHN, etc.) to complete the survey

Contact

General inquiry email set up for community leadership

- COVID19 General Inquiry Email: sac.covid-19fnihbontario.isc@canada.ca

Next teleconference:

Tuesday Dec 8th 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