



## INFORMATION UPDATE

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Members Board of Health
<b>DATE:</b>	February 28, 2020
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) February 28, 2020 Update (City Wide)
<b>WARD(S) AFFECTED:</b>	City-Wide
<b>SUBMITTED BY:</b>	Dr. Elizabeth Richardson, MD, MHSc, FRCPC Medical Officer of Health Public Health Services
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>	

The novel coronavirus situation, recently renamed COVID-19, continues to evolve globally, for example, with local transmission occurring in additional countries. While the World Health Organization (WHO), and countries continue to work to contain the virus, the opportunity to do so is closing. Planning and preparing for a potential pandemic related to COVID-19 is important to do now, so that, if a pandemic occurs, we can reduce spread, protect those most at risk of becoming ill and wait for potential treatment and vaccine options to be developed.

It is important to note the current risk of contracting COVID-19 in Hamilton, like the rest of Canada, remains low.

To support this advanced planning work, both within PHS and in collaboration with the Health Sector, there has been an increase in the number of staff supporting the work led by the Incident Management System (IMS) team. A few more managers, supervisors and staff have been activated.

As part of business continuity planning, we will continue to monitor any impacts this may have, making adjustments as needed to ensure appropriate service delivery and staffing is maintained.

We encourage residents to continue taking everyday precautions to prevent the spread of all respiratory illnesses, as outlined on the City's website at [www.hamilton.ca/coronavirus](http://www.hamilton.ca/coronavirus).

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OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

**SUBJECT: Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) February 28, 2020 Update - Page 2 of 2**

Please continue to visit the Ontario government website for the most up-to-date information related to COVID-19 at [www.ontario.ca/coronavirus](http://www.ontario.ca/coronavirus).

For further information, or if there are any questions, please contact Dr. Elizabeth Richardson at (905) 546-2424 ext. 3501 or [elizabeth.richardson@hamilton.ca](mailto:elizabeth.richardson@hamilton.ca).

**APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED**

Not Applicable.