



INFORMATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members Board of Health
DATE:	January 29, 2020
SUBJECT:	Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) January 29, 2020 Update (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City-Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Dr. Bart Harvey, MD, PhD, MEd, FRCPC Associate Medical Officer of Health Public Health Services
SIGNATURE:	<i>Michelle Baird on behalf of Dr. Bart Harvey</i>

Hamilton Public Health Services (PHS) is continuing to work with our health system partners, Ministry of Health colleagues, and other key stakeholders as part of our emergency preparedness planning related to the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV). Our continued priority every day, and as this situation evolves, remains focused on ensuring the health, wellbeing and safety of staff and residents.

To this end, PHS is taking measures to support the health and safety of our community. This work includes regular meetings with the Health Sector Emergency Management Committee which includes representation from PHS, paramedics, as well as local hospitals and post-secondary institutions.

Partial Activation of PHS Incident Management System (IMS)

To ensure our preparedness, effective today, PHS has initiated a partial activation of the Incident Management System (IMS). This partial activation involves the activation of key roles needed to support the current situation as it relates to 2019-nCoV preparedness, and includes participation from the Medical Officer of Health, Associate Medical Officer of Health, and representation from occupational health and safety, operations, planning, finance and communications.

A partial activation, as opposed to a full activation, has been activated at this time given there are currently no cases of 2019-nCoV in Hamilton, and the risk to Ontarians and Canadians for transmission remains low according the Ministry of Health (MOH) and

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.

Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), respectively. Additional positions within the IMS may be activated as needed.

Occupational Health and Safety

We are currently maintaining our regular precautionary practices and will adjust as needed if the risk level changes, and as recommended or required by the Public Health Agency of Ontario as well as the Ministry of Health. PHS is also working to ensure we have an adequate supply of personal protective equipment to protect our staff in the event its needed.

Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Information and Updates

Access to the latest information about 2019-nCoV is available at the Ministry of Health website at www.ontario.ca/coronavirus.

To prevent the spread of all types of respiratory illness including the flu, PHS recommends taking the following everyday actions:

- Washing your hands often with soap and water;
- Avoiding close contact with people who are sick;
- Staying home when you are sick;
- Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue;
- Avoid touching your face, eyes, mouth to prevent illness;
- Cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces; and,
- Getting the flu shot.

We will continue to share regular updates and information as this situation evolves.

For further information, please visit the resources found below:

- **Ontario Ministry of Health – 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCov)**
<https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov>
- **Government of Canada – Travel Advice and Advisories**
<https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories>
- **Public Health Ontario**
<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/>
- **Public Health Agency of Canada**
<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health.html>

- **World Health Organization – Novel Coronavirus 2019**
<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Not Applicable.