

## Update for Partners

### COVID-19

July 22, 2020

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### Current Situation

<b>Simcoe Muskoka COVID-19 Case Status</b> (As of July 22, 2020 at 13:00)			
Total cases	Recovered	Deaths	Current Hospitalizations
639 + 2 since yesterday +23 since last report	566 +0 since yesterday +6 since last report	36 No change since last report	4 No change since last report
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Locally, there are currently 35 people with known active cases of COVID-19.</li> <li>The overall median age of people who have had COVID-19 is 48, however it is dropping as the age of those acquiring the virus continues to decrease.</li> <li>Of known active cases almost half are in people under 35 years of age.</li> <li>Last week 46% of new cases had no known epidemiological link.</li> <li>Four people are currently hospitalized with none in the ICU.</li> <li>There are no ongoing outbreaks in Simcoe or Muskoka.</li> <li>The local cumulative rate of COVID-19 per 100,000 population in Simcoe Muskoka is 107.6</li> </ul> <p>SMDHU <a href="#">COVID-19 HealthSTATS page</a> and the <a href="#">COVID-19 Case Explorer</a></p>			
<b>Ontario COVID-19 Case Status</b> (As of July 22, 2020 at 10:30)			
Total cases	Recovered	Deaths	Current Hospitalizations
38,107 +1,055 since last report	33,812 +892 since last report	2,755 +23 since last report	128 +13 since last report

**Highlights:**

- In the last day, there were 165 new cases and two additional deaths in Ontario.
- There are currently 1,540 known active cases of COVID-19 in Ontario.
- Of these active cases, 128 people are currently hospitalized, with 37 people in ICU and 19 on ventilators.
- In the last week those aged 20-39 had the highest number of new cases.
- The provincial cumulative rate of COVID-19 per 100,000 population is 256.4
- Approximately one-third (11/34, 32.4%) of public health units in Ontario reported zero cases for the week of July 5-11.
- For the week of July 5-11, 55.4% of cases were outbreak-related or a close contact of a confirmed case, whereas 26.5% of cases had no epidemiological link.
- There are currently 62 active COVID-19 outbreaks in Ontario (37 long-term care homes, 22 retirement homes, 3 hospitals).

For more provincial data see [Province of Ontario COVID-19 case data](#) and [Public Health Ontario Data Tool](#)

### Canada COVID-19 Case Status

(As of July 21, 2020 at 19:00 EDT)

Total cases	Recovered	Deaths
111,697 +2,868 in the last week	97,757 (87.5%) +25,272 in the last week	8,862 (7.9%) +52 in the last week

- There were 573 new cases of COVID-19 reported from seven provinces yesterday. The majority of new cases were in Ontario (203), Quebec (180), and Alberta (141).
- There were four additional COVID-19 related deaths reported in Canada yesterday (Alberta: 2; Ontario: 1; Quebec: 1).
- The national testing rate is 96,217 per million with 2.9% positive across the pandemic. The percent positivity for the last three weeks is 0.8%, the lowest it has been since the peak in late April.
- Although Quebec and Ontario account for the majority of cases and deaths throughout the pandemic, there was an increase in the proportion of cases occurring outside of Ontario and Quebec from July 8-14.
- During the week of July 8-14 the highest case incidence rate among both males and females were among those aged 20-29 years and 65% of cases were under the age of 39. Of these cases 8.3% have been hospitalized.
- Nationally there continues to be a downward trend in the number of overall cases and the severity of cases, with fewer people requiring hospitalization or care in the ICU.
- Modelling forecasts predict 109,550 – 113,830 cases and 8,790 – 9,105 deaths by July 26, 2020.

National [weekly epidemiology report](#); National [daily epidemiology updates](#)

### Global Situation (As of July 22, 2020 at 10:30 CEST)

Confirmed Cases	Confirmed Deaths
14,881,616 +1,543,252 in the last week	613,994 +34,675 in the last week

- Globally, the highest number of cases were reported since the beginning of the pandemic during three days in the past week (July 17-19), peaking on July 18 with 259,848 cases. However there were fewer total cases in the last week than the previous week.
  - Weekly global deaths also decreased over the past week although the highest daily deaths since June 27 occurred on July 18 with 7,359 deaths.
  - Yesterday there were 213,637 new cases and 4,083 deaths around the world, with the highest case counts in the U.S., India, Brazil, South Africa and Colombia and the highest number of deaths in India, Brazil, the U.S., Mexico and Iran.
  - The U.S. continues to be the global epicenter of weekly and daily new cases.
- [WHO COVID-19 Disease Dashboard](#); daily [WHO Situation Report](#)

## Updates

### ***SMDHU Medical Officer of Health Key Messages from Tuesday July 21, 2020***

#### **Stage 3 reopening:**

Just because an activity is permitted in Stage 3, doesn't mean that the activity is low risk. Stage 3 openings allow for larger gatherings of people in indoor settings such as bars and house parties. As people begin to congregate in larger groups we are also seeing an upswing in COVID-19 cases in people under 39 years of age. In fact, in Simcoe Muskoka, the average age of people contracting COVID-19 has dropped from an average age in the 40s-50s to 32 years of age. In other jurisdictions in Canada, similar patterns were seen once larger gatherings were permitted and sectors like indoor restaurants and bars reopened. For example, public health officials have linked some 30 cases of COVID-19 to nine different bars in the Montreal area since bars reopened late last month. Ottawa news stories last week indicated that 44% of their recent cases were tied to people under the age of 30. Factors that may contribute to the spread of COVID-19 in bars and restaurants and private social gatherings are: loud music resulting in loud talking and being closer together, not wearing masks while eating and drinking, and exposure to high touch public surfaces such as restrooms.

Although it is important that we maintain our social relationships it is important to follow public health guidance while at restaurants, bars and parties. Not following public health guidance increases the risk of exposure and spreading of the virus. Although younger people may not become as severely ill, their increased social activity increases the number of case contacts public health has to follow up with (who also have to self-isolate for 14 days) and they may spread the virus unintentionally to someone more vulnerable. That puts everyone in your social circle at risk as well as community members you come in contact with on a daily basis.

It only takes one infected person to become a "super spreader" if those in attendance are not physically distancing. We cannot let our guard down regardless of one's age. Continue to practice public health measures:

- Protect yourselves and others with frequent hand washing, sanitization of surfaces.
- Keep to your social circle for close contact and ensure others in your circle are doing the same.
- Maintain a two-metre distance for anyone not in it.
- Monitor health, get tested if you are concerned you have been exposed or are feeling unwell.
- If you have symptoms, self-isolate and get tested quickly.

**Living with mask and face covering requirement:** We are hearing and seeing a great deal of community support for the use of face coverings/masks. People wearing masks protect others in close range, which we have learned as new evidence continues to be published. While transmission levels had been coming down, as we reopen we are seeing a rise in cases. Other areas that have reopened have also experienced spikes in COVID-19 cases. Across the country we are beginning to see the curve rising again. It's also happening in other countries (United States, [Hong Kong and the Philippines](#) are recent examples). That is why masking is so important when physically distancing cannot be guaranteed and it's why I issued instructions to require masking or face coverings inside businesses and buildings open to the public.

I have some concerns about how people are reacting to the call for face coverings and particularly the lack of compassion in general between the two factions that think everyone should wear a mask or stay home and those who think no one should. Lost in the middle are those individuals who cannot wear a mask for medical or other reasons. The public health instruction requires that people be asked to wear a face covering. It does not require anyone to produce proof that they can't wear one, nor does it give anyone the right to ask why someone is not wearing one. There is a need for kindness and patience as we continue to adjust to the new normal of wearing face coverings.

Several resources have been posted to our website to [help businesses and the general public understand the requirements of wearing a face covering](#) in all indoor public spaces as well as frequently asked questions for both the business community and the public. As always our Health Connection line is open to answer your questions.

### ***Local Media - July 16-22, 2020***

- Barrie bylaw handed out over 200 parking tickets over the weekend, but say beach-goers kept a safe distance from others ([article](#))
- Simcoe County Public School Board says three models for classes this fall are not without challenges ([article](#))
- Tay Council considering mass mask policy at tonight's council meeting ([article](#))
- County preparing to move into next stage of return to work program ([article](#))
- Indoor visits start at Simcoe County long-term care homes ([article](#))
- People can again visit patients at the region's hospitals ([article](#))
- Pandemic has 'been difficult' for those with special needs ([article](#))
- Wye Marsh continues day-camp tradition from a distance ([article](#))
- Tiny Township asks daytrippers to avoid beaches to address overcrowding ([article](#))
- Innisfil Town Hall reopens for walk-in services ([article](#))
- Trespassing charges against two people who refused to leave a store on Saturday that was at capacity ([article](#))
- Oro-Medonte company donates PPE to local emergency services ([article](#))
- HeyLocal e-commerce platform spreading across Barrie, Simcoe County ([article](#))
- Some City of Barrie playgrounds will be open as of Friday, others not so much ([article](#))

### ***Provincial Updates since the July 15<sup>th</sup> Partner Update***

- Ontario strengthens protections for tenants ([news release](#))
- Ford urges young people to respect public health rules ([video](#))
- Large indoor gatherings behind rapid rise in COVID-19 cases ([article](#))

- Young people behind the spike in COVID-19 numbers say ([article](#))
- Province invites Ontarians to safely enjoy summer at Ontario Place ([news release](#))
- Ontario legislature adjourns after significant sitting in response to COVID-19 ([news release](#))
- Ontario moving more regions into Stage 3 ([news release](#))
- Ontario extends expiry period of marriage licenses ([news release](#))
- Province takes steps to ensure all Ontarians benefit from local research and innovation ([news release](#))
- Ontario introduces measures to cap interest and fees on payday loans ([news release](#))
- Ontario extends emergency orders ([news release](#))
- What Ontario can learn from elsewhere about making schools safer from COVID-19 ([article](#))

### ***National Updates since the July 15<sup>th</sup> Partner Update***

The Government of Canada:

- Deputy Chief Public Health Officer responds on the uptick in cases in Canada ([video](#))
- Chief Public Health Officer urges young people to follow public-health advice ([video](#))
- Announces creation of Essential Services Contingency Reserve through Safe Restart Agreement ([news release](#))
- Provides emergency COVID-19 funds to nearly 1,000 organizations delivering essential frontline supports to those fleeing violence and abuse ([news release](#))
- Makes announcement on the Safe Restart Agreement ([remarks](#))
- Make [statement](#) regarding Major League Baseball in Canada during COVID-19
- Announces new details on proposed financial support for persons with disabilities during COVID-19 ([news release](#))
- Announced redesigned Canada Emergency Wage Subsidy ([news release](#))

### ***International Updates since the July 15<sup>th</sup> Partner Update***

The World Health Organization (WHO):

- Reinforced the importance of contact tracing stating [“No country can get control of its epidemic if it doesn't know where the virus is”](#).
- Shared highlights from the first global infodemiology conference – Building the Science behind Managing Infodemics. ([Situation Report – 183, Subject in Focus](#))
- Emphasized the need for [integrating psychosocial support and mental health services](#) as part of the COVID-19 response.
- Shared a [report](#) on “COVID-19 and Indigenous peoples in the region of the Americas”
- Published an interim [checklist](#) and [guidance](#) for local authorities (cities and urban areas) on strengthening preparedness for COVID-19.
- Summarized the measures implemented by 192 out of 196 State Parties (countries, territories and areas) to the International Health Regulations which have significantly interfered with international traffic. [Situation Update: Subject in Focus](#)

### **SMDHU Resources**

- SMDHU [COVID-19 HealthSTATS page](#) and the [COVID-19 Case Explorer](#).
- [SMDHU Vulnerable Populations for COVID-19 Response Interactive Map](#) highlights vulnerable populations in Simcoe Muskoka.
- Current COVID-19 information is available on our [website](#).
- **NEW**
  - Expander Bar – [Mandatory face covering policy](#)
  - Statement under [Landlords and Property Manager Expander Bar](#)
    - Although multi-dwelling units are typically restricted to the public without approved entry, the general public can enter such common spaces when

going to a residence/room within the location. Therefore, face coverings are required in common areas (e.g. elevators, reception areas) as these areas may not permit physical distancing to take place.

- [Public Signage:](#)
  - Physical Distancing ([Full Colour](#) / [Black & White](#))
  - STOP You must wear a face covering at this site ([Full Colour](#) / [Black & White](#))
  - Playground safety for Municipality ([Full Colour](#)/ [Black & White](#))
  - Playground Safety Generic ([Full Colour](#)/ [Black & White](#))
  - Do's and don'ts of wearing a Face Covering ([Full Colour](#)/ [Black & White](#))
- [Protecting against infection and toxic stress](#)
- [Supporting children and yourself during the COVID-19 outbreak](#)
- Expander bar [Healthy Food Habits](#)
- [For Health Care Providers: COVID-19: Update #19 SMDHU COVID-19 Epidemiological Update](#)
- [Guidelines for Personal Service Settings](#)

● **Updated:**

- [Gatherings expander](#) bar to reflect changes in gathering limits of Stage 3
  - [Social Circles](#) has been updated to reflect Stage 3
  - [FAQ's for Businesses and Organizations](#)
  - [COVID-19 Public Health Guidelines for Food Premises](#)
  - [FAQ – Recreations Water Facilities \(Public Pools, Spray/Splash Pads, Whirlpools\)](#)
  - Community garden [guidance document](#)
  - Cooling shelters [guidance document](#)
  - [COVID-19 Public Health Guidance for Farmers' Markets](#)
  - [Reporting Preventative Measures Complaints](#)
  - [Complaints about gatherings](#)
- SMDHU Health Connection line responds to calls and emails about COVID-19. Contact Health Connection at 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 ext. 5829 or via [email](#).
    - **HOURS:** Monday-Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Weekends/Holidays - 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Credible Sources of Information**

- [Ontario Ministry of Health](#)
- [Public Health Ontario](#)
- [Government of Canada](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [World Health Organization](#)