



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 14, 2020

COVID-19 AND TOWNSHIP OF PUSLINCH FACILITY CLOSURE UPDATES

Puslinch – Today the Province of Ontario moved the Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health Region into the Red-Control category of the Provincial framework effective at 12:01 a.m. on Monday December 14, 2020.

“These are unfortunate measures, however we need to get COVID-19 under control across our entire public health region” said Warden Kelly Linton. “I strongly urge all residents to follow these important public health rules. We must act responsibly to protect our community’s most vulnerable people and avoid overwhelming our healthcare system. Let’s get through this pandemic together.”

Provincial Red/Control measures include stricter gathering limits, impacts to sports and recreation, increased screening at businesses and more. New restrictions for Township facilities and recreation as a result of moving into the Red (Control) Phase include a 25 people maximum for outdoor programs.

The Township is currently preparing ice for the Optimist Recreation Centre rink and will release the use and rental protocols under the Red designation on the Township’s website shortly. Any available ice will be available to rent by **Wellington County** residents only. In Red Control level, based on the size of the facility, ice use is reduced to 15 participants plus coaching staff and 1 parent spectator allowed per child under 18. No games or scrimmages, only skills and training are permitted. Participants must be 2 meters apart while on the ice and while in the facility. Public Skate will have a capacity of 25 participants.

The Township will continue to monitor the situation and make adjustments to services as needed. Any changes in operations will continue to be communicated and posted on the Township’s website.

Quick Facts:

- This Framework has been implemented across the Province in order to help avoid broader closures and allow for additional public health and workplace safety measures to be introduced or removed incrementally.
- It categorizes public health unit regions into five levels and outlines the types of public health and workplace safety measures for businesses and organizations for each level. These include targeted measures for specific businesses, institutions and other settings.
- Each public health unit will remain in its level for 28 days, unless indicators worsen at which point it may move to the next highest level.
- Adjustments to the category each public health unit is in under the Framework will be decided by the Provincial government using indicators to assess the previous two weeks of information, or sooner if there is a rapidly worsening trend and by looking at local context and conditions. Thresholds within a region may not all be met at the same time; decisions about moving to new measures are based on overall risk assessment by government with input from local medical officers of health.

For more information on COVID-19, and tips on taking care of your mental health during physical distancing and social isolation, please contact Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph Public Health at 1-800-265-7006 or visit www.wdgpublichealth.ca.

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