



Briefing Note

Date: May 13th, 2020
Prepared for: ONWA Staff & Senior Management, Chapters, Councils & Community Partners
Prepared By: Policy, Research, and Evaluation Portfolio
Issue: Briefing of Press Conferences – Provincial/National COVID-19 Announcements

Purpose: To inform ONWA, ONWA Chapters and Councils and community partners on recent developments on COVID-19 for May 13th, 2020.

As of 4:00 pm Wednesday May 13th, 2020

- **Globally:** 4,399,165 cases (+61,728); 296,101 deaths (+3,650); 1,644,702 recovered¹
- **US:** 1,420,429 (+11,793), 84,355 deaths (+930)
- **Spain:** 271,095 (+1,575), 27,104 deaths (+184)
- **Russia:** 242,271 (+10,028), 2,212 deaths (+96)
- **Canada:** 72,196 cases (+1,039), 5,301 deaths (+131).
- **Ontario:** 21,236 cases (+329); 1,765 deaths (+40),
 - 1,018 hospitalized, 189 in ICU, 144 on ventilators.²
 - 15,845 recovered (+454), 3,626 active cases (-165)

Summary of Key National & Provincial Press Conferences:

Ministry of Health Emergency Operating Center (MEOC) COVID-19 Conference Call

- Daily global cases are still going up but not as much as previously.
- Many countries are continuing with upward trends. Hot spots are holding in UK, Russia, Brazil and Iran has seen a spike in cases.
- Saw an increase of 329 cases in Ontario since last report.

Testing:

Total tests completed	475,058
Total tests completed in the previous day	15,137
Currently under investigation	13,395

Hospitalizations:

Number of patients hospitalized with COVID-19	1,018
Number of patients in ICU with COVID-19	189
Number of patients in ICU on a ventilator with COVID-19	144

¹<https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>

²https://covid-19.ontario.ca/?_ga=2.66843437.2079880679.1587402079-217522806.1582483804



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Long-term care (LTC) homes:

Ministry of Long-Term Care Daily Report³

Outbreaks in LTC Homes	180
Confirmed Cases for LTC Residents	2690
Confirmed Cases for LTC Staff	1672
Total confirmed LTC resident deaths	1269
Total confirmed LTC staff deaths	<5

- Awaiting detailed information about outcomes with Indigenous communities and efforts there to ensure access to personal protective equipment, support for testing, and align with Public Health measures.
- Guidance document for congregate care settings will be coming soon.
- Many questions about MHA, PPE and Pandemic Pay details. All documents are in draft to be released as soon as possible.

Prime Minister Trudeau Press Conference

- Students and recent graduates who have seen their education and job prospects hampered by COVID-19 will be able to apply for the Canada Emergency Student Benefit.
- Under the Canada Emergency Student Benefit, eligible applicants will receive \$1,250 a month from May to August. For those who have a disability, or are taking care of someone else, they will receive \$2,000, which is equal to the amount received by those eligible for the Canada Emergency Response Benefit (CERB).
- The \$9 billion aid package for students passed Parliament during the last round of emergency sittings. Another is slated for Wednesday afternoon.
- Trudeau also provided some updated numbers on existing aid plans. More than 120,000 employers have been approved to receive the 75% wage subsidy, seeing nearly two million workers set to be kept or brought back on the payroll.
- Talks are underway to extend the restrictions prohibiting all non-essential travel across the border for the second time.
- This comes as Chief Public Health Officer Dr. Theresa Tam said that the severity of the outbreak in the United States means Americans “present a risk to Canada.”
- Trudeau vowed to move with caution when it comes to any eventual loosening of travel restrictions.
- As parts of both countries begin gradually reopening, federal officials are in discussion with Homeland Security to establish an agreement on pushing off the loosening of cross-border travel restrictions for another month, to June 21.
- The agreement, as it stands, exempts the flow of trade and commerce, as well as vital health-care workers such as nurses who live and work on opposite sides of the border.

³ <https://www.ontario.ca/page/how-ontario-is-responding-covid-19#section-0>



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Premier Doug Ford's Press Conference

- Provinces education sector to voluntarily place employees in staffing roles needed at congregate care settings.
- Eligible education sector staff who volunteer will be able to register through an online portal to be matched with congregate settings that are facing staff shortages.
 - Positions available in custodial, maintenance, food prep, social workers etc.
 - Those who are directly involved in continuity of learning are not eligible for redeployment.
- Recent reports in Canada indicate that there may be an increase in multisystem inflammatory vasculitis, a rare but serious multisystem inflammatory illness that impacts children who may have been diagnosed with COVID-19.
- While link between this illness and COVID are not confirmed, we are taking immediate action to better monitor this issue so we can effectively respond to the illness and protect Ontario's Children.
- As we learn more, we will determine if further actions are needed to support our response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Jill Dunlop, Assoc. Minister of Children and Women's Issues [Press Release](#)

- Ontario Further Supports Victims of Gender-Based Violence & Human Trafficking during COVID-19.
- May is Sexual Assault Prevention Month, an important time to recognize those on the frontlines who are working each day to prevent sexual assault, GBV and HT. These professionals are dedicated and compassionate individuals who give selflessly to support those in need.
- Due to COVID-19, there has been an increased risk of GBV for many individuals who have been staying at home for weeks now.
- It is crucial that Ontario's who are at risk have continued access to counselling and other services they need to stay safe, heal and rebuild their lives.
- Our government is investing \$1 million to help frontline agencies adapt to remote service delivery and ensure continued operations during COVID-19.
- Along with the [\\$40 million relief fund for residential service providers](#) and [emergency funding for victim services](#) we have already provided, this response fund will ensure a range of critical supports remain available at this time.



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Ontario Medical Officer of Health Press Conference

- Cautiously optimistic as trends we are seeing are improving
- 1.5 to 1.8% rate of improvement per day in terms of confirmed case counts
- Reproduction rate is below 1 across whole province, including TO
- We need to see this a little bit longer
- 329 new cases today
- 57% in female, 43% in 60 in over. 64% in GTA.
- HC workers = 3562
- 75% of cases resolved 15845 cases.
- 1018 people in hospitals
- LTC homes: 180 active outbreaks. 12 069 LTC home deaths. Now 5 deaths among staff.
- Retirement homes: 71 homes in outbreak. 169 deaths reported
- Lab testing: 475058 tests completed in Ontario. In last day 15,137 tests have been done. 13395 tests under investigation

Provincial Press Releases May 13th, 2020

Ontario Further Supports Victims of Gender-Based Violence and Human Trafficking during COVID-19. [May 13th, 2020, 3:00 P.M.](#)

Voluntary Redeployment of Education Workers to Fill Staffing Shortages. *Ontario provides further support for seniors and communities during COVID-19.* [May 13th, 2020, 1:00 P.M.](#)

Protecting Ontario's Children with COVID-19. [May 13th, 2020, 9:00 A.M.](#)

Ontario Takes Steps to Better Protect Long-Term Care Residents and Staff During the COVID-19 Outbreak. [May 13th, 2020, 7:00 A.M.](#)