



Town of East Gwillimbury

MEMORANDUM

To: Council

Date: May 4, 2021

Subject: COVID-19 Update 2021-8

Origin: COVID-19 Control Group

The COVID-19 Control Group continues to meet and is in regular communication with Council, neighbouring municipalities and York Region. The group also continues to work closely with Provincial and York Region Public Health Officials regarding this public health crisis.

East Gwillimbury COVID-19 Data and Statistics

Residents can access COVID-19 data through York Region's website at www.york.ca/covid19. This information can be drilled down to show positive cases through an interactive dashboard for each municipality. This dashboard is available under *maps* at www.york.ca/covid19data. The below image and data is from April 30, 2021:



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East Gwillimbury Metrics	April 15, 2021	April 30, 2021
Total Confirmed Cases	867	965
Total Resolved/Recovered Cases	778	909
Total Active Cases	85	52
Total Confirmed Deaths	4	4
Total Cases Reported in last 7 days	71	62
Total Current Outbreaks (Institutional and workplace)	5 (3 institutional; 2 workplaces)	2 (workplaces)
Total Closed Outbreaks	32	37
Total Variant Cases Identified	160	264
School Closures	Moved to remote learning – effective April 12, 2021	Moved to remote learning – effective April 12, 2021

Provincial Stay-At-Home Order

The Province continues to remain under a stay-at-home order until May 20, 2021.

As part of this closure, residents may continue to access outdoor amenities for walk through access only, with members of the same household. Playgrounds, benches, and off leash dog areas remain open for use with members of the same household. Where physical distance can not be maintained, masks are required. All other outdoor amenities are closed, including sport fields, tennis courts, sport courts (basketball), and skate and bike parks.

As a result of these restrictions, the COVID-19 Control Group is recommending social gatherings, including community organized/led litter clean-up events be deferred until the Stay-at-Home Order is lifted. Understanding that many residents want to pitch in, Town staff will continue to deliver clean up kits in response to requests to residents who wish to clean up their own neighbourhood with members of the same household. Residents may request a kit through Customer Service.

L9N Postal Code to continue to be monitored by York Region Public Health

York Region Public Health has locally identified postal code L9N as an emerging area of concern in relation to numerous COVID-19 cases. At this time, the Province has not identified L9N as a hot spot.

There has been 200 community related cases in this area since February 28, 2021. Of these cases, 77 were individuals between the ages 40-59. This includes local transmission, close contact, workplace-related outbreak acquisitions.

Although this area has not been formally designated as a hot spot by the Province, York Region Public Health have indicated that the current case trends forecast that this is an emerging hot spot and it may be designated in the coming weeks. Town staff continue to work with York Region Public Health to identify and prepare for potential vaccination sites, should Public Health designate a site in East Gwillimbury.

York Region Public Health has reported that 50 per cent of the L9N population has currently been vaccinated. Public Health recommends that those who are not vaccinated should check eligibility and vaccine availability at www.york.ca/COVID19vaccine and book an appointment as soon as possible. Residents are also reminded to follow all public health guidelines including wearing masks and staying at home, leaving only for essential purposes.

York Region Vaccination Current Eligibility

As of May 2, 2021, the following **York Region residents** are eligible for vaccines.

- 60 years of age and older
- 45 years of age and older in 13 high priority communities — through [Provincial Booking System](#):
 - L0J, L3S, L3T, L4B, L4E, L4H, L4J, L4K, L4L, L6A, L6B, L6C or L6E
- 40 years of age and older — through [pharmacy clinics](#) and select York Region clinics
- **UPDATED as of Sunday May 2, 2021:** effective Tuesday, May 4, 2021 beginning at 8:30 a.m., individuals age 35+ living or working in the following identified high priority communities in York Region:
 - City of Vaughan postal codes: L0J (NEW), L3L (NEW), L4H, L4J, L4K, L4L, L6A
 - City of Markham postal codes: L3T (NEW), L6B (NEW), L6C (NEW), L6E (NEW), L3S
 - City of Richmond Hill postal codes: L4B (NEW), L4C (NEW), L4E (NEW)
 - **Town of East Gwillimbury postal code: L9N (NEW)**
- Special education staff who live or work in York Region (Board-issued letter required)
- Individuals with highest and high risk health conditions and one essential caregiver, including pregnant individuals
- Highest, very high and high priority health care workers
- Staff, residents, essential caregivers and alternate level of care patients in long-term care home, retirement home, First Nation elder care home and other congregate care settings for seniors
- Indigenous adults and adult members of their households
- Adults receiving home care services (appropriate documentation will be required)
- Faith leaders who live or work in York Region and provide end of life care, care of the deceased, care of those who are unwell or provides pastoral services in vulnerable settings
- Child care staff from licensed child care facilities who **live or work** in York Region – **NEW, as of April 29, 2021**

Eligibility varies at each clinic and is updated on a continuous basis. Residents are encouraged to visit york.ca/covid19vaccine for continuous updates on eligibility and vaccine availability.

CPRC Updates

Farmers Market Opening Extended to Ensure Public Safety

The EG Farmers Market was scheduled to open Thursday May 13, 2021 at the Civic Centre Precinct. Given the extended Stay-at-Home Order the Market opening is now being planned for Thursday June 3, 2021. CPRC staff will continue to work closely with York Region Public Health to ensure all public health regulations are met prior to opening.

Summer Camps

The Town continues to prepare for safe delivery of Summer Camps for the 2021 season. As such, the Summer Camp Guide is now available online for resident review. The Town remains in a holding position pending further Provincial health recommendations. Further details and registration are on hold and will be shared as available.

Business Recovery

Business Survey

In recognition of the ongoing impact of the pandemic on local businesses, the Economic Development Department will be launching a Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) interview initiative. The project will use phone interviews to survey businesses. Analysis of the survey results will provide a more comprehensive understanding of the future plans and needs of local businesses, the key issues they face and the types of supports that will be most helpful to them. The results of this analysis will directly inform the development of future economic development activities, programs and services.

To support this initiative, the Town has retained MDB Insight, an economic development consulting firm with specific expertise in market research and data analysis. MDB Insight will be working with staff to analyze the feedback and highlight areas of greatest potential impact or need for local businesses and employers. Telephone interviews will be conducted from May 17 through to June 7.

In addition to the phone interviews, all businesses are being encouraged to complete the online Business Check-In on the Town's [Help for Businesses](#) page.

Mother's Day Local Product Gift Boxes

The Town is once again partnering with the EG Chamber of Commerce to support local businesses through the sale of a curated assortment of local products in time for Mother's Day (May 9). The product boxes are available for online purchase at the following link [Mother's Day Gift Box](#). All proceeds go directly to the participating businesses. Sales have already doubled previous local product boxes and are providing local businesses and producers with a much-needed opportunity for revenue generation.

Contact-less, curbside pick up will be arranged for Saturday, May 8 in accordance with established Covid health and safety protocols.

Vaccine Appointment and Transportation Assistance

The Town continues to work with local community partners to provide support for residents to book vaccines and book transportation to and from vaccine appointments. At present, the Town has funded one trip through the Routes Connecting Communities partnership to support a local resident to access an assessment centre.

To date, the library has fielded 104 calls, and assisted with booking 28 appointments for residents. Customer Service continues to connect residents with the library and York Region booking sites, based on resident request.

Library staff developed a vaccine step by step video to assist residents with walking through the booking process. To date, the video has been viewed 165 times.