



Town of East Gwillimbury

MEMORANDUM

To: Council

Date: December 1, 2020

Subject: COVID-19 Update #14

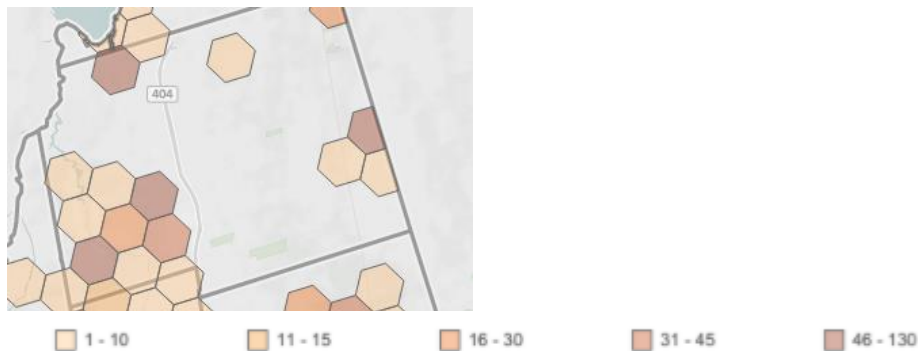
Origin: COVID-19 Control Group

COVID-19 Control Group Updates

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 is data as of November 26, 2020:



East Gwillimbury Metrics	Nov 12, 2020	Nov 26, 2020
Total Confirmed Cases	161	199
Total Resolved/Recovered Cases	150	172
Total Active Cases	10	26
Total Confirmed Deaths	1	1
Total Cases Reported in last 7 days	9	26
Total Current Outbreaks	N/A	0

Provincial Updates

The Town remains in the [Red/Control level](#). This level includes stringent measures including the implementation of broader-scale measures and restrictions, across multiple sectors, to control transmission. Restrictions are the most severe available before widescale business or organizational closure.

The Town will continue to monitor updates and provide further updates as available.

York Region to charge businesses that fail to take steps to prevent or stop spread of COVID-19

In response to the rising COVID-19 cases in York Region, Dr. Karim Kurji, the Medical Officer of Health for The Regional Municipality of York, has issued a Class Order under Section 22 of the Province of Ontario's *Health Protection and Promotion Act*. The Class Order was effective Monday, November 23, 2020 and requires meeting and event spaces, shopping malls and retail stores to establish safe capacity limits, actively monitor capacity limits and enforce physical distancing requirements within the specified establishments. The new order complements measures for individuals and businesses subject to the Province's response framework.

Failure to comply with the Order is an offence for which offenders may be liable, on conviction, to a fine of not more than \$5,000 (for a person) or \$25,000 (for a corporation) for every day or part of each day on which the offence occurs or continues.

By-law staff continue to attend bi-weekly meetings with the COVID-19 Regional Enforcement Task Force. Their goal is to ensure there is a consistent and coordinated approach to enforcement across all municipalities. Staff have worked collaboratively with the health unit as well as all enforcement agencies in an effort to reduce the incidence of COVID-19 cases. This included joint inspections with our By-law Officer and Health Inspector of local businesses to ensure compliance. To date, both business owners as well as our residents have been receptive, and compliance has been obtained. To keep Regional Council informed, staff are reporting weekly to identify areas of concern, emerging trends and to determine strategic allocation of resources.

Provincial Guidance – Holiday Gatherings

To support Ontarians as they begin to safely plan for the season, the Ontario government, based on the advice of the Chief Medical Officer of Health and input from the Public Health Measures Table, is providing preliminary guidance on how to safely celebrate this year. They are recommending that the safest way to spend the holidays this year is by only celebrating in person with the people you live with and celebrating virtually with everyone else. If you live alone, consider exclusively celebrating with one additional household as a safe way to spend the holidays. A new Provincial holiday web page will be launched shortly to provide more direct and up-to-date guidance on how

individuals and families can plan for a safe holiday season. The Town will continue to share this messaging with residents.

Civic Centre Staffing

With East Gwillimbury and York Region in the Red/Control level, the COVID-19 Control Group has re-evaluated the ability to have staff working in the Civic Centre. Only Priority One staff and Council members are permitted to work from the Civic Centre. These are individuals who are unable to complete their services remotely due to internet connectivity or service provision.

Following any Provincial modifications, the COVID-19 Control Group will review this position and will provide an update based on the current regional/provincial public health advice and restrictions.

Holiday Gift Card Drive

Due to the impacts of COVID-19, the Town will be holding a Holiday Gift Card Drive in lieu of the Town's Annual Toy and Food Drive. This new approach will be a safe way to continue to support our community while being mindful of public health recommendations.

Monetary donations as well as pre-purchased gift cards to locations such as grocery stores, local shopping centres, gas stations, and coffee shops will be accepted until Friday December 11th, 2020 through the drop box at the East Gwillimbury Civic Centre, and at both the Holland Landing and Mount Albert public libraries. Cheques, payable to The Town of East Gwillimbury Toy and Food Drive, will be accepted and financial donations can be made through the Town's website via credit card with our Customer Service team. The Town will make best efforts to connect donations of food and toys that may be received from local businesses with community agencies in need.

Residents who need a hand up this season, or know someone who does, are encouraged to reach out to the Town at: 905-478-4282 ext. (1276) or by email to gcasey@eastgwillimbury.ca. All information is kept confidential.

Continuing to Support Businesses

Working in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce, we have launched the [EG Loves Local Holiday Gift Box](#). Each gift box is brimming with a curated collection of goodies from businesses right here in East Gwillimbury. This is a great way to treat yourself or someone else!

Staff will also be launching an #EG Loves Local Gift Guide and promotional video that will celebrate the diverse selection of goods and services available in East Gwillimbury.

Virtual New Years Eve Event

Similar to the Virtual Canada Day Celebration the Town will be hosting a Virtual New Year's Eve Event. The event will feature a message from the Mayor, concert, entertainers, and crafts for children in partnership with the East Gwillimbury Public Library. Further details will be provided in advance of the event and advertised through the Town website and social media.

Outdoor Skating

Community Parks Recreation and Culture staff are now planning for outdoor skating at the lit sports courts at Mount Albert Community Centre Park and the new Ridgeview Park Phase 2 in Holland Landing. All outdoor skating must be compliant with provincial restrictions for occupancy limits for outdoor spaces.

East Gwillimbury Public Library Update

The Library continues to be the community's go-to for access to entertainment, which is free with an East Gwillimbury Public Library card. Early efforts to promote safety in library branches during the reopening allowed us to continue to deliver services for our community. With expanded curbside services and in-library pickup, there are more ways than ever to borrow books, movies, and music that will help make the holidays at home special. Additional information is available at egpl.ca.

Cold Weather Warming Centres

In partnership with the East Gwillimbury Public Library the Town will offer warming centres at both library branches in Holland Landing and Mount Albert. The occupancy at the warming centres will be monitored for compliance with COVID-19 restrictions.

Holiday and Christmas Closures at EG Community Centres & Libraries

The EG Sports Complex, Ross Family Complex and Holland Landing Community Centre recreation facilities will be closed from December 24 at 12 noon until 8:30 a.m. on January 4. The Library will remain open with the following schedule:

Dates	Hours
December 24-28	Closed
December 29	Open 3 to 8 p.m.
December 30	Open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
December 31-January 1	Closed
January 2	Open 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
January 3-4	Closed
January 5	Open 3 to 8 p.m.