

MEMORANDUM

To: Council

Date: January 11, 2022

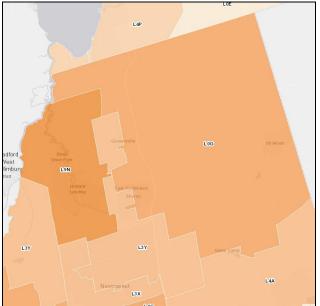
Subject: COVID-19 Update 2022-01

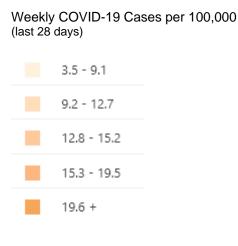
Origin: COVID-19 Control Group

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

With the rapid transmission of COVID-19 and recent provincial changes in testing eligibility and case management, case counts and outbreaks reported through the COVID-19 in York Region interactive dashboard are less than true number of individuals with COVID-19 and outbreaks in York Region. Case counts and trends should be interpreted with caution. Public Health Units across Ontario are prioritizing case management of high-risk individuals and settings. Workplace outbreaks are no longer reported. Residents can access COVID-19 data through York Region's website at <u>www.york.ca/covid19</u>. This information can be drilled down to show positive cases through an interactive dashboard for each municipality. This dashboard is available under *maps* at <u>www.york.ca/covid19data</u>. The image below represents COVID-19 cases in EG.





East Gwillimbury Metrics	December 9. 2021	January 5, 2021	
Total Confirmed Cases	1292	1872	
Total Resolved/Recovered Cases	1261	1667	
Total Active Cases	25	198	
Total Confirmed Deaths	6	7	
Total Cases Reported in last 7 days	26	224	
Total Variant Cases Identified	530	783	
Total Current Outbreaks	0	3	
(Institutional and workplace)			
Total Current Outbreaks	3	0	
(School and childcare)			
Total Closed Outbreaks	42	46	

Provincial Vaccine Stats

Ontarians vaccinated as of January 5, 2022

Total Ontario population Since December 15, 2020	Percentage Of 5+	Percentage Of 12+	Percentage of all ages
Partially vaccination	6%	3%	5%
Fully vaccinated	82%	88%	78%
Total	87%	91%	83%

Provincial Updates

Ontario Temporarily Moving to Modified Step Two of the Roadmap to Reopen

To combat the rising number of hospitalizations in the province due to the Omicron variant of coronavirus, effective January 5, 2022, at 12:01 a.m., the province return to the <u>modified version of Step Two of the Roadmap to Reopen</u> for at least 21 days (until January 26, 2022), subject to trends in public health and health system indicators.

These measures include:

- Reducing social gathering limits to five people indoors and ten people outdoors.
- Limiting capacity at organized public events to five people indoors.
- Requiring businesses and organizations to ensure employees work remotely unless the nature of their work requires them to be on-site.
- Limiting capacity at indoor weddings, funerals, and religious services, rites and ceremonies to 50 per cent capacity of the particular room. Outdoor services are limited to the number of people that can maintain 2 metres of physical distance.

Social gatherings associated with these services must adhere to the social gathering limits.

- Retail settings, including shopping malls, permitted at 50 per cent capacity. For shopping malls physical distancing will be required in line-ups, loitering will not be permitted and food courts will be required to close.
- Personal care services permitted at 50 per cent capacity and other restrictions. Saunas, steam rooms, and oxygen bars closed.
- Closing indoor meeting and event spaces with limited exceptions but permitting outdoor spaces to remain open with restrictions.
- Public libraries limited to 50 per cent capacity.
- Closing indoor dining at restaurants, bars and other food or drink establishments. Outdoor dining with restrictions, takeout, drive through and delivery is permitted.
- Restricting the sale of alcohol after 10 p.m. and the consumption of alcohol onpremise in businesses or settings after 11 p.m. with delivery and takeout, grocery/convenience stores and other liquor stores exempted.
- Closing indoor concert venues, theatres, cinemas, rehearsals, and recorded performances permitted with restrictions.
- Closing museums, galleries, zoos, science centres, landmarks, historic sites, botanical gardens and similar attractions, amusement parks and waterparks, tour and guide services and fairs, rural exhibitions, and festivals. Outdoor establishments permitted to open with restrictions and with spectator occupancy, where applicable, limited to 50 per cent capacity.
- Closing indoor horse racing tracks, car racing tracks and other similar venues. Outdoor establishments permitted to open with restrictions and with spectator occupancy limited to 50 per cent capacity. Boat tours permitted at 50 per cent capacity.
- Closing indoor sport and recreational fitness facilities including gyms, except for athletes training for the Olympics and Paralympics and select professional and elite amateur sport leagues. Outdoor facilities are permitted to operate but with the number of spectators not to exceed 50 per cent occupancy and other requirements.
- All publicly funded and private schools will move to remote learning starting January 5 until at least January 17, subject to public health trends and operational considerations.

- School buildings would be permitted to open for child care operations, including emergency child care, to provide in-person instruction for students with special education needs who cannot be accommodated remotely and for staff who are unable to deliver quality instruction from home.
- During this period of remote learning, free emergency child care will be provided for school-aged children of health care and other eligible frontline workers.

Municipal Impacts

Town's Response Framework

In September 2020, the COVID-19 Control Group developed a Response Framework to guide the resumption of public access to Town facilities. The framework has since been updated to align with the province's 3-Step Roadmap to Reopen. The 3-Step Roadmap to Reopen allows for a cautious and safe re-opening that aligns the actions of the Town of East Gwillimbury with the recommendations and guidelines from the Province of Ontario, York Region Public Health, and other authorities. The Town will only move from one phase to the next when prepared to do so safely and with all necessary precautions in place.

Due to the current increase in cases, and to align with the January 4 provincial announcement, the Town is limiting access to municipal facilities. Effective Wednesday, January 5, the East Gwillimbury Sports Complex, Ross Family Complex and Holland Landing Community Centre, and satellite facilities are closed for sport, recreation programs, drop-in activities, and meetings and indoor events. Town staff have notified participants and permit holders and credits will be applied to accounts where possible.

The library branches located inside of the Ross Family Complex and Holland Landing Community Centre will remain open with limited capacity of 15 customers per branch and public health measures are enforced including physical distancing and required face mask use for staff and visitors. Curb-side pickup is available, for more information, visit <u>www.egpl.ca</u>.

In addition to these changes, the Civic Centre will be closed to walk-in public access. As a result, the issuance of marriage licences and civil ceremony services are paused until provincial restrictions are lifted. Individuals who inquire about these services will be contacted as soon as services resume. All other appointments will be conducted online. Residents are encouraged to contact Customer Service at 905-478-4282, <u>customerservice@eastgwillimbury.ca</u>.Information is also available on the website at <u>www.eastgwillimbury.ca/covid19</u>

While indoor facilities are closed to the public, residents are encouraged to explore EG parks and trails. To find a park or trail near you, visit: <u>www.eastgwillimbury.ca/parksandtrails</u>. When weather conditions permit, the outdoor skating rinks located at Ridge View Park in Holland Landing and at the Mount Albert Community Centre will open. Updates will be shared on the website and social media channels.

With further restrictions in place due to Omicron and more residents working from home, staff have reinstated the five-bag waste limit on an interim basis.

Business continuity and prioritizing essential-business services

Emergency and Community Safety Services (ECSS)

ECSS has maintained staffing levels throughout the pandemic without significant increases to overtime. Following the implementation of the Mandatory Vaccination Policy, all full-time staff have received two doses. The ECSS department policies have contingencies and provisions in place for overtime callback of full-time staff with additional capabilities to utilize the paid-on-call firefighter group. Lastly, ECSS is in constant communication with other York Region Fire Chiefs to expand/flex the Mutual Aid Plan to provide personnel/apparatus support if staffing levels become critical in any municipality.

Community Infrastructure and Environment Services (CIES)

CIES has implemented a robust business continuity plan to maintain essential water/wastewater and winter maintenance services. The highlights of the plan include:

- Prioritizing work and resources to ensure essential services are maintained.
- Measures to isolate frontline staff to prevent the spread across different teams.
- Cross training staff to fill gaps as required.
- Engaging contractors and/or consultants who have experience with our operation and Drinking Water Quality Management System to provide support, if required.
- Provision to utilize water/wastewater staff from neighboring municipalities or through the Ontario Water Wastewater Response Network
- Deferring non-essential services such as our meter replacement program to reduce the potential risk of exposure.
- Implementation of tools that will maximize resources to support operations during significant weather events, applying provincially adapted legislation to accommodate and assist with maintaining the water and wastewater systems.