COVID-19 Update
Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Acting Medical Officer of Health
June 12, 2020 at 11:30 a.m.

Dashboard Update

- To begin, I’d like to provide an update that our Waterloo Region COVID-19 dashboard will be updated Monday through Friday at 10:30 a.m. beginning today.
  - The next dashboard update will be on Monday, June 15 at 10:30 a.m.

COVID-19 is still circulating; continuing public health practices of upmost importance

- While our rate of new cases has improved since our peak in April, the risk is still present across our community.
- The pandemic is not over.
- With increased testing, we are able to pick up more cases.
- We have new cases reported every day - COVID-19 is still circulating in our community.
- This infection is spread from person-to-person.
- As restrictions are lifted and more people interact with others, we can expect to see more cases reported. Including more cases among workers.
- This is why it is of upmost importance that we all continue with the recommended public health practices.
- These public health practices need to be our ‘new normal’. And they need to be practiced all the time.

Our collective responsibility

- We all have a collective responsibility to do what we can to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in our community.
- Not only to protect our health and the health of our families, friends and neighbours, but also so that we can successfully lift restrictions and open our economy, and keep it open.
o That is also very important for our health & well-being.

- We have a collective responsibility to protect one another.
  o Continue to practice physical distancing between yourself and others outside of your household
    ▪ Remaining 2 metres apart from others is key
  o Wear a mask when you are around others, especially when you are indoors or on public transit
    ▪ While some of us cannot wear masks, ideally, the vast majority of us will wear masks when we are in close proximity to others.
    ▪ Please remember though that a mask does not replace physical distancing, which we should try to maintain wherever we can.
  o Continue to wash your hands often. Try not to touch your face.
  o Stay home, self-isolate from others, if you have any symptoms.
    ▪ And if you have symptoms, no matter how mild, it is essential that you get tested.

- These practices must become part of our daily lives.
- The health and wellbeing of our community depends on everyone doing our part and helping one another practice these measures and living our 'new normal'.
- Thank you.