



Region of Waterloo
PUBLIC HEALTH AND
EMERGENCY SERVICES

COVID-19 Update

Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang, Acting Medical Officer of Health

April 20, 2020 at 11:30 a.m.

Overall Trends

- I am sad to report that since yesterday, we have had two more deaths in our community.
 - Both were residents in long-term care facilities
- Each person who has passed way was someone's loved one. Each person will be greatly missed.
- I wish to express my sincere condolences to the families, friends and caregivers of those who have passed.

Forest Heights Revera

- We continue to receive testing results from Forest Heights Revera.
- As of 7 p.m. last evening, there are 101 cases among residents, 40 among staff, and sadly, 11 deaths.
- We expect to receive additional results this week for tests previously conducted.
- Testing will continue to occur, going forward, as appropriate.
- Strong outbreak measures have been put in place.
- Over the weekend, Ontario Health's Waterloo-Wellington Health System Response team composed of non-hospital, hospital and public health partners actively worked with Forest Heights and Revera on a plan to provide further support to the residents and staff of Forest Heights during their outbreak.
- More information on that will be coming soon.

Overall Trends:

- There are currently 14 long-term care or retirement homes in outbreak
 - Three long term care homes have had their outbreaks declared over.
- Since Friday's update, there has been an increase in the number of new confirmed cases to 503 as a result of the expanded testing for priority groups, in particular in long-term care and retirement homes.

- We expect to continue to see significant increases in the number of confirmed cases in the days ahead, as a result of expanded testing.

Closing remarks

- In closing, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the staff at long term care homes and retirement homes in Waterloo Region for the crucial and incredible work that you do.
- These are exceptionally challenging times for those who work in settings which are particularly affected by COVID-19.
- You carry on with your work, despite all challenges, with such care, commitment and compassion.
- Thank-you for your invaluable service.