



SPEAKING NOTES

COVID-19 media briefing notes – Bruce Lauckner

January 15, 2021

Welcome

Welcome everyone to this week's community update. I'm Bruce Lauckner, Regional CAO, and I will be hosting today.

On behalf of Chair Redman, I want to start by thanking the many, many people from across the region who have sent wishes to Chair Redman over the past few days. Chair Redman is continuing her duties at home, she's doing great and we're looking forward to having her back to host our community updates.

I also want to thank members of the media for giving Chair Redman some time over the past few days and for the days ahead.

This morning, in addition to medical officer of health Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang and Vaccine Task Force Chair, Deputy Chief Shirley Hilton, it's my pleasure to welcome **Karyn Lumsden**, Vice President of the Home and Community Care, and System Planning, Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (LHIN).

Thank you all for being here.

Rapid Testing Motion

Regional Council unanimously passed a motion on Tuesday to advocate to the province to take further measures to reduce the spread of COVID 19 in workplaces where the majority of community spread is currently happening.

Councillors want the province to take further measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in workplaces by:



SPEAKING NOTES

- providing access to rapid testing in all workplaces;
- increasing provincial enforcement and spot checks on COVID-19 compliance in workplaces;
- and provide more resources to the Region to ensure compliance of prevention protocols in local workplaces.

We want these resources made available to all Public Health agencies in Ontario as soon as possible.

Enforcement update

Today's enforcement update is from January 7 to the 14 and includes actions from our local enforcement partners. But before I relay the numbers, I want to take a moment to impress upon our community that although enforcement is necessary, we should really look at this latest stay-at-home order as an opportunity to get us where we want to be. A lot has been said about this over recent days, and there's not a lot of significant change, the message stays the same: stay at home.

It's really as simple as that. And what I want to say is that this approach will buy us time to ramp-up vaccinations and get ahead of the virus.

This is a critical time as we all know – and if you have to ask if your trip is essential, then your trip is not essential.

This approach is the only way to get to where we want to go. I'm confident that this approach will help us slow community spread, increase vaccinations in our community, and help us flatten this curve.

Today's enforcement update is from the period of January 7 to January 13 and includes 16 actions from our local enforcement partners. We are reporting another three charges for the previous period.



SPEAKING NOTES

The breakdown is as follows:

- GRT issued 2 tickets for failure to wear a face covering. Total payable \$240.00
- City of Kitchener By-Law issued 4 tickets
 - 3 were issued at private residences for gatherings. Total payable is \$880.00 for each ticket
 - 1 was issued to Sunnyside Asian Spa for failure to comply with an Order for a non-essential business open. Total payable is \$880.00
- City of Waterloo by-law issued a ticket at a private residence for gathering. Total payable is \$880.00
- City of Cambridge by-law issued a ticket at a private residence for gathering. Total payable is \$880.00
- 2 tickets were issued by Corporate Security for failure to wear a face-covering under the Code of Use By-law. Total payable is \$240.00 for each ticket
- 9 summons were issued by Regional By-Law, associated with the observations from January 3 at Trinity Bible Chapel.
 - 7 were issued for organizing a gathering exceeding the capacity limit at a place of worship (6 to individuals and 1 to the corporation)
 - 2 were issued to individuals for attending a gathering at a place of worship
 - The fine is to be determined by the court



SPEAKING NOTES

Dr. Wang's COVID-19 public health update

Deputy Hilton's Vaccine Task Force update

Special Guest

I'd like to introduce Karyn Lumsden, Vice President of Home and Community Care, and System Planning, for the Waterloo Wellington Local Health Integration Network (LHIN). Karyn has graciously offered to speak to us today about home and community care, as well as her role on the Vaccine Task Force. Thanks Karyn for joining us.