



SPEAKING NOTES

COVID-19 Community Update – Chair Karen Redman

February 19, 2021

Welcome

Welcome everyone to this week's community update.

Paramedicine program announcement

It's always nice to start a community update with good news and I'm happy Chief Van Valkenburg has joined us this morning as well.

Local MPPs Mike Harris and Amy Fee announced this morning that we will receive \$7.7 million in funding over three years from the Province of Ontario to expand our community paramedicine program for long-term care.

The program supports seniors on long-term care waitlists, or who are eligible for long-term care, to stay safe while living in the comfort of their own homes for a longer period.

Certified community paramedics provide in-home, non-emergency medical care to seniors and individuals living with chronic illness or ongoing health needs.

The expanded program to support long-term care will provide:

- Access to health services 24-7, through in-home and remote methods, such as online or virtual supports;
- Home visits and in-home testing;
- Ongoing monitoring of changing or escalating conditions to prevent or reduce emergencies;



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- Additional education about healthy living or managing things like chronic diseases;
- And connections for patients and their families to home care and community supports.

We're grateful for the support and partnership with the Province. This is a great program and we're excited to offer seniors, and their loved ones, the peace of mind of knowing additional support is available while they're still at home.

Enforcement update

Today's update is from February 11 to the 17 and includes actions from our local enforcement partners.

There have been 12 enforcement actions since the last media update.

- 7 for the reporting period Feb 11 to Feb 17
- 5 charges were from the previous reporting period, but were not reported at the time of the update.
- Region of Waterloo Public Health issued 1 ticket to Gus and Guido's Backyard restaurant in Ayr, for Failure to comply with a Continued Order, namely distancing, screening, signage and cleaning, under the Re-Opening Ontario Act. Total payable is \$880.00.
- City of Waterloo By-Law issued 2 tickets at private residences for gathering. Charged under the Re-opening Ontario Act. Total payable is \$880.00 each.



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- 7 tickets were issued by City of Kitchener By-Law at a private residence for gathering. Charged under the Re-opening Ontario Act - total payable is \$880.00 each.
- City of Cambridge By-Law issued 2 tickets:
- 1 ticket at a private residence for gathering. Charged under the Re-opening Ontario Act - total payable is \$880.00
- 1 ticket to the store manager at Pet Paradise Express, for Failing to Obey a Continued Order, for allowing access inside the store when only curb side pick up was allowed. Charged under the Re-opening Ontario Act - total payable is \$880.00.

Now we will move on to our weekly update from medical officer of health Dr. Hsiu-Li Wang and Vaccine Task Force Chair, Deputy Chief Shirley Hilton.

Dr. Wang's COVID-19 public health update

Deputy Hilton's Vaccine Task Force update

Closing Remarks

Our second annual State of the Region takes place next Friday, February 26. It's a free, virtual event in partnership with the Rotary Clubs of Waterloo Region. Attend to learn more about our vision beyond COVID-19, network and engage with Regional Council. Thank you to Nicole Lampa who is hosting and moderating the fireside chat. You can go to the Region's website for more information or to register.