

# Situation Report #47: COVID-19

Ministry of Health | Health System Emergency Management  
Branch

March 12, 2020

## Situation:

- Case counts as of March 12, 2020:
  - - China: 80,793 cases; 3,169 deaths
    - Asia & Oceania: 10,245 cases; 102 deaths (South Korea - 62)
    - Europe: 28,593 cases; 1,198 deaths (Italy – 1,016)
    - Middle East: 11,055 cases; 440 deaths (Iran - 429)
    - Africa: 130 cases; 3 deaths
    - Latin America and Caribbean: 195 cases; 2 deaths
    - North America: 1,445 cases
      - - United States – 1,336 cases; 36 deaths
        - Canada - 109 cases; 1 death
  - 17 new cases were reported today in Ontario, bringing the cumulative total to 59 (this includes 5 resolved cases).
    - - All cases in Ontario so far have been travel related, with investigation ongoing to determine the source of infection for one case announced yesterday.
    - In Ontario, there are 536 persons under investigation with lab results pending.
    - A [statement](#) was issued today indicating that, based on advice from Dr. David Williams, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health and the experts at the COVID-19 Command Table, the Minister of Education has issued a Ministerial Order to close all publicly funded schools in Ontario for two weeks following March break, in response to the emergence in Ontario of COVID-19. This order was approved by the Lieutenant Governor in Council.
    - At the 4:00pm press conference, Dr. Williams provided further guidance to Ontarians with respect to public health measures and social distancing.

## Actions Taken:

- The Chief Medical Officer of Health issued a directive to health care providers and health care entities on updated IPAC Recommendations for use of personal protective equipment. The directive has been attached to this Situation Report.
- Public Health Ontario has posted a technical brief *Updated IPAC Recommendations for Use of Personal Protective Equipment for Care of Individuals with Suspect or Confirmed COVID-19*.  
<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/updated-ipac-measures-covid-19.pdf?la=en>  
<https://www.publichealthontario.ca/-/media/documents/ncov/updated-ipac-measures-covid-19.pdf?la=fr>

- A status update memo to Health System Organizations and Providers on the work of the Provincial Command Table is attached to this Situation Report.
- The case definition has been updated and has been attached to this Situation Report. French translation is underway, and the ministry's [website](#) will be updated to reflect this change shortly. It is important to note that the case definition includes prioritization of who should be tested.
- The Public Health Agency of Canada has developed two new guidance documents for health system partners:
  - [Community-based measures to mitigate the spread of coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) in Canada](#)
  - [Risk-informed decision-making for mass gatherings during COVID-19 global outbreak](#)