



Renfrew County and District Health Unit
"Optimal Health for All in Renfrew County and District"

Memorandum

Date: January 29, 2020
To: Health System Partners
From: Renfrew County and District Health Unit
Subject: Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Update

Dear Primary Care, Long Term Care and Retirement Home Partners,

Yesterday, the Council of Chief Medical Officers of Health met, and the Ontario Ministry of Health has updated the case definition to reflect Hubei province. This will require changes to existing screening recommendations.

Attached you will find the case definition for Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV), initial guidance document for Primary Care Providers as well as signage in English and French to support screening of patients and visitors. The Ontario Ministry of Health added the 2019-nCoV as a designated disease reportable under Ontario's public health legislation. Physicians, hospitals and other healthcare facilities are now required to report any suspected or confirmed case of the new coronavirus to **Renfrew County and District Health Unit at 613-735-8654 Extension 555 and after hours at 613-735-9926.**

Guidance documents for **other sectors** are in progress and are proceeding as quickly as possible. Please refer to Public Health Ontario's website at <https://www.publichealthontario.ca/en/diseases-and-conditions/infectious-diseases/respiratory-diseases/novel-coronavirus>, Government of Ontario website at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/2019-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov> and the Public Health Agency of Canada website at <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection.html> for updated information as it becomes available.

RCDHU would like to remind our partners about the Public Health Ontario PIDAC document Best Practices for Prevention, Surveillance and Infection Control Management of Novel Respiratory Infections in All Health Care Settings.

The situation in Ontario is 23 persons are under investigation with lab results pending. Two case have been confirmed with 2019-nCoV. This information is updated on the Government of Ontario website daily at 10:30 am.

British Columbia announced its first presumptive case of 2019-nCoV on January 28, 2020 in a BC resident who had recently returned from Wuhan, China.

Please contact Renfrew County and District Health Unit at 613-735-8654 ext. 555 in you have any questions.

Warm Regards,

Melissa Botz

Coordinator, Communications and Emergency Preparedness