Toronto Public Health COVID-19

Increased Measures to Save Lives

April 1, 2020



Observations



Situation

Given our current situation, we need stronger measures to avoid results seen in New York City, including:

- Substantial loss of life
- Overwhelmed health care system
- Significant social and economic disruptions

New Measures

Based on experience from jurisdictions who have managed outbreaks successfully:

- 1. Strengthened Case and Contact Measures
 - Use of Orders under the *Health Protection & Promotion Act* to emphasize the significance of the self-isolation

New Measures (Con't)

- 2. Enhanced Social Distancing
- a) Stronger public direction to stay home and only to go out for essentials:
 - access health care or get medication
 - shop once per week for groceries (wherever possible)
 - walk pets
 - get daily exercise
 - maintain physical distancing while out
- b) Reduced number of open workplaces and businesses
 - essential retail and services
 - remote access/online/on-call where possible
 - maximizing physical distancing for in-person
 - increased cleaning
 - active staff screening

New Measures (Con't)

- 3. Enhanced follow-up for recently arrived travellers
 - must stay home upon return (Federal order)
- 4. Greater protections for those most vulnerable to COVID-19
 - 70+ years
 - those experiencing homelessness
 - long-term care and retirement homes

Timing

- Effective immediately
- Based on the experiences of other jurisdictions, measures may need to be in place for up to 12 weeks
- Will monitor and adjust timing and measures, to minimize the short and long term health and economic impacts

The *more* we as Torontonians, can rally together, for the next 12 weeks, to comply with the measures, the **more** we can make it through this challenge and protect ourselves and our loved ones.