

## Update on COVID-19 Dr. Eileen de Villa, Medical Officer of Health June 5, 2020 at 3:45 p.m. Members' Lounge, Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen St. W.

- Thank you Mayor Tory and good afternoon. Today there are 198 new COVID-19 infections in Toronto. To date, 9,304 people have recovered, an increase of 173 since yesterday. For more data on the status of COVID-19 cases in our city, I I encourage you please visit our website.
- As you've just heard from Mayor Tory, today we are providing guidance to support local restaurants and personal services settings such as hairstylists, nail salons and other aesthetic services to safely reopen once the provincial emergency management order has been lifted. When the time comes to reopen, these businesses will have to modify their practices to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection for their customers and staff.
- To help these businesses to prepare to safely reopen, we have posted guidance documents online today that we encourage local business owners and operators to review. A few key highlights of what these businesses are asked to do and their customers can expect include:

--Physical distancing measures are in place and practised as much as possible between customers and staff;

--Spacing tables will be required and barriers such as plexiglass are recommended and;

--Frequent cleaning and disinfection of surfaces and frequent hand washing will also be required;

--Staff will require additional training and will have to ensure they are not sick before they start work;

--The use of non-medical masks or face coverings in all indoor public spaces is strongly encouraged. Operators may require their customers to wear them too, except when eating. Any customer with symptoms of COVID-19 should be denied entry; and

--Operators will have to maintain a log for customers and staff contact information with a check-in time. This will ensure that public health can notify



staff and customers in a timely fashion if there is a positive case of COVID-19 at a restaurant or other business.

- For more details, I encourage local business owners to visit our website.
- The weekend is upon us and I know that many are looking forward to spending time outdoors. Parts of major roads continue to be closed in our city each weekend through ActiveTO so residents can exercise outside and practise physical distancing.
- We all know that increasing our physical activity helps keep us healthy both physically and mentally. This is why I am so pleased to see more weekend recreation space being created through ActiveTO. These protected spaces means we can all get outside to exercise and do it safely.
- This weekend, expanded road closures through ActiveTO will make more than 10 kilometres of roadway available for walking, running and biking. The closures include:

--Eastbound lanes on Lake Shore Boulevard West, from Windermere Avenue to Stadium Road;

-- Eastbound lanes on Lake Shore Boulevard East, from Leslie Street to just south of Woodbine Avenue; and

--Bayview Avenue from Mill Street to Rosedale Valley Road, and River Street from Gerrard Street East to Bayview Avenue.

- The many road closures will give us all lots of space to walk, jog and cycle. While the risk of becoming infected with COVID-19 while passing someone on the street, walking trail or bike path is low, I do ask that you please give each other space. Please step aside or pass others quickly and courteously when you are outside. The weather forecast looks promising, and I encourage everyone to get active and enjoy some sunshine and fresh air outdoors.
- Please also keep hydrated by drinking lots of water, even before you feel thirsty, and wear a hat and sunscreen while you are outside. And please remember to only go with members of your household. It is still not time to gather with people outside of our immediate household bubbles.

## **M Toronto** Public Health

• I will close by wishing everyone a good weekend. I know that it is difficult to stay the course and it gets harder and harder as the weather gets nicer, and especially as we miss seeing our friends and family. However, we need to keep trying our very best to follow our public health measures as we battle COVID-19 so that we can keep our community safe. So once again I ask you that while you are outside getting some much needed fresh air and exercise, please remember to continue practising physical distancing and please continue to take care of each other.

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