

Update on COVID-19

Chief Pegg, Fire Chief & General Manager of Emergency Management

September 16, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.

Members' Lounge, Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen St. W

Good afternoon.

Today is the 190th day of continuous Emergency Operations Centre operations. Our EOC continues to operate, ensuring that both critical and essential services are being provided without interruption.

I am proud of every member of our team, who continues to work hard each day, in support of our residents.

From the outset of COVID-19, our overarching incident management system priorities have remain unchanged: to save lives and prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our city; and to prevent our healthcare system from becoming overwhelmed.

These priorities continue to guide all that we do in planning for and responding to COVID-19.

This afternoon, I will provide our weekly personal protective equipment update.

At present, our PPE levels remain stable, and our team continues to work hard to source the equipment that we need on a go-forward basis.

Based on current consumption rates, our PPE inventory levels are as follows:

- A 59 day supply of N-95 respirators;
- A 500 day supply of surgical masks;
- A 289 day supply of isolation gowns;
- A 765 day supply of face shields; and

- Between a 75 and 713 day supply of disposable gloves, depending on the specific model – as you can appreciate, we require a number of styles and sizes of gloves to meet the variety of needs on our frontlines.

In addition to our operating inventory of PPE, which I just outlined, we also maintain a pandemic PPE reserve, for use in the event that we are unable to maintain operating inventories.

At present, our pandemic reserve includes an inventory of both N-95 respirators and surgical masks.

As you know, managing PPE has been a constant challenge throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

As a City, we remain committed to achieving and maintaining a PPE inventory of no less than a 6 month supply, based on the maximum PPE consumption rate across our City.

We built, and continue to operate, a robust PPE management system and our PPE inventories are being actively managed and monitored on a daily basis.

Many of our frontline services have developed and implemented PPE conservation measures that are greatly assisting in our ability to maintain the supplies we need.

Further, a number of our frontline services, including our emergency services, are continuing to pursue alternate PPE solutions in order to continue to reduce our reliance on high-demand PPE, including disposable N-95 respirators.

We have developed comprehensive processes like these, ensuring that Toronto remains well-positioned to respond as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to evolve.

In closing, I want to thank everyone who continues to do their part to help us stop the spread of COVID-19.

As always, I remind everyone that [Toronto.ca/COVID-19](https://toronto.ca/COVID-19) is the best source for reliable and timely information on COVID-19 in Toronto.

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