



Briefing Note

Date: May 5th, 2020
Prepared for: ONWA Staff & Senior Management, Chapters, Councils & Community Partners
Prepared By: Policy, Research, and Evaluation Portfolio
Issue: Briefing of Press Conferences – Provincial/National COVID-19 Announcements

Purpose: To inform ONWA, ONWA Chapters and Councils and community partners on recent developments on COVID-19 for May 5th, 2020.

As of 4:00 pm Tuesday May 5th, 2020

- **Globally:** 3,711,460 cases (+68,189); 257,034 deaths (+4,793); 1,235,503 recovered¹
- **US:** 1,230,976 (+18,141), 71,783 deaths (+1,862)
- **Spain:** 250,561 (+2,260), 25,613 deaths (+185)
- **Italy:** 213,013 (+1,075), 29,315 deaths (+236)
- **Canada:** 61,981 cases (+1,209), 4,037 deaths (+183).
- **Ontario:** 18,310 cases (+387); 1,361 deaths (+61),
 - 1,043 hospitalized, 223 in ICU, 166 on ventilators.²
 - 12,779 recovered, 4,170 active cases (+52)

Summary of Key National & Provincial Press Conferences:

Ministry of Health Emergency Operating Center (MEOC) COVID-19 Conference Call

- **Europe:** 1.5 million of 3.7 million worldwide, 142,000 deaths
- **U.K:** Slight decline in case count yesterday with 194,990 total
- **Russia:** still climbing with 10,000 new cases yesterday. Total 155,370
- **India:** highest daily case count so far with 4000 new cases. Total 49,400
- **U.S:** 1.2 million, close to matching European continent. 69,025 deaths
- **Brazil:** 7000 case increase, highest so far. Total 110,156
- **Quebec:** 33,417 total cases. **Alberta:** 5,800 cases, 95 deaths. **Nova Scotia** almost 1000.
- **Nunavut:** first case reported in Nunavut ended up being a false positive, so they are back down to zero.
- **Long-Term Care cases:** There are 175 long-term care home outbreaks, with deaths passing 1000. Staff deaths 3.
- **Retirement Homes:** no additional outbreaks with 66. 29 resolved, 147 deaths 251 staff cases. Resident cases is 599

¹<https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>

²https://covid-19.ontario.ca/?_ga=2.66843437.2079880679.1587402079-217522806.1582483804



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- Health care workers, close to 2892, up 131, total hospital 106 cumulative (up 3), 32 ICU, 4 deaths in health workers.
- Top 5 health units per capita. TO, Helmond, Peel, Durham, Windsor and Lampton.

Prime Minister Trudeau's Press Conference

- Announcing \$252 million in aid for the agri-food industry to get through this crisis.
 - \$77 million is allocated to food processors to help them procure sufficient personal protective equipment (PPE), adjust hygiene protocols, ensure physical distancing, and expand and adapt their capacity so they can produce more goods in Canada.
 - \$125 million is allocated to a National AgriRecovery Initiative that will help beef and pork farmers adapt to market changes. This is an initial investment and will do more if we need to.
 - \$50 million is allocated to a new surplus food purchase program that will allow the federal government to purchase large quantities of food at risk of going to waste and redistribute the food amongst food banks.
- We intend to increase the line of credit available to dairy farmers by \$200 million. This will require legislative change so we will be working closely with the other parties to pass this quickly.
- Approximately 90% of our expected foreign temporary workers have arrived in Canada.
- We understand that farmers still have long-term concerns and we are working closely with farmers, stakeholders, and provinces and territories to find lasting solutions.
- We are focused on responding in targeted ways to industries that need the most support. This is only an initial investment and there will be more help forthcoming.

Federal Ministers and Health Officials Press Conference

- We have tested over 940,000 people in Canada – approximately 6% positive test rate.
- Over 26,000 cases, which is roughly 43% of cases, are now recovered.
- We are seeing the epidemic slow-down in Canada, this is encouraging but we need to remain vigilant and diligent with our Public Health measures.
- Hand hygiene is a basic but lifesaving practice. Critical to continue hand washing.
- Various programs to help farmers and producers already exist in Canada and today's announcement is to further support where those programs cannot.
- Farmers and producers need to be accessing our already existing programs to help with revenue loss before accessing the newly announced funding.
- With regards to the \$50 million for the newly announced food surplus purchase program, we will be working with our 5 national food bank partners that already received the previously announced \$100 million for food banks to determine their needs and capacity. We will also be working with the agriculture sector to determine what their needs are (i.e. transportation, packing).



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- Federal government will be working very closely with the provincial governments to ensure the needs of farmers and producers are met across the country.

Premier Doug Ford's Press Conference

- Some have lost their jobs; some have lost their customers. But some have had bigger losses. They lost their father, mother, or loved one. Right now, people are stressed, and feeling anxiety.
- My message to you is we are here for you. During this time of Physical Distancing, lets continue to keep in touch. The good news is, help is here.
- To support those who are suffering from mental health. [Our government has implemented \\$12 million in mental health supports](#). These online and virtual MH supports can be accessed safely from home. You can take an assessment and receive a report from a professional.
- Online peer support groups and online access mental health workers.
- Mental health is health.
- Access to internet bases cognitive behaviour therapy for those who are struggling during this time, including our frontline essential workers.
- In addition, we are proud to announce, we have established a MHA COVID-19 response table, hosted by Ontario MHA center of excellence.
- Tomorrow there will be a parade for those lost in the military helicopter crash.

Ontario Medical Officer of Health Press Conference

- 4 pm yesterday Integrated Public Health Info System (IPHIS). 18310 confirmed cases. Increase of 387 cases or 2.2% increase. 57% are women, 44% are over 60. 60% of cases are in GTA.
- 15.8% or 2892 are in healthcare workers cumulative.
- Continue to see more people recovering 12709 cases, 1043 in hospital, up 59. 223 in ICU. 166 on vents.
- 1361 deaths, increase of 61 from previous report
- LTC: 175 active outbreaks. 1003 deaths, 3 deaths among staff.
- 352714 tests completed, 10654 in last 24 hours. Over 6000 under investigation

Question: Possibility of NHL having Toronto as a hub city to play games. How would you like to see this take place if it were to happen in Toronto? What would you do to make sure players stay safe?

Answer: Well we can't guarantee a Stanley Cup that is the challenge. We have to look at pragmatics, and economic aspects, with enhanced television viewing having people watch



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virtually. With large crowds, there are ways you can do it, with new norms and safe ways, but we need to have this discussion and I have not been apart of that conversation yet.

Provincial Press Releases May 5th, 2020

Ontario Expands Virtual Mental Health Services During COVID-19. Free Internet-based Programs Help People Cope with Unprecedented Situation. [May 5th, 2020, 1:00 pm.](#)