COVID-19 Update #7

Durham Region Health Department is currently monitoring two positive cases of COVID-19 in Ajax. The Health Department is actively following up on all close contacts of these cases. Individuals who were not in direct or close contact with the cases are not considered at risk of being infected. At this time the virus is not circulating locally, however given global circumstances, Durham Region Health Department is actively working with health partners to plan for the potential of local spread.

Current information on local COVID-19 cases and the role of the health department are located at durham.ca/novelcoronavirus. This link will be updated regularly with new information.

The case definition remains unchanged and includes patients who are symptomatic and have travelled to: China, Hong Kong, Iran, Italy, Japan, Singapore, or South Korea.

For patient questions about travel, the Government of Canada has issued travel advisories for a number of areas. This is a changing situation. For current information, please refer to the Government of Canada website (or go to travel.gc.ca and see the section on COVID-19).

Returning travelers from impacted areas are advised to monitor their health for fever, cough or difficulty breathing and avoid places where they cannot easily separate themselves from others if they become ill. If they develop a fever, cough or difficulty breathing within 14 days they should:

- Isolate themselves from others as quickly as possible.
- Immediately call their health care provider, Durham Region Health Department, or Telehealth at 1-866-797-0000 for further instructions.

For Health Care Providers who are testing patients for COVID-19, please ensure to contact Durham Region Health Department at 905-668-7711 ext 2996 OR after hours at 905-576-9991 to report the suspected case, for assistance with facilitating the testing process, or with questions about testing patients.

The Ministry of Health will continue to finalize guidance documents and post them on its website. Durham Region Health Department will continue to monitor the situation and provide information as it becomes available. Information will also be posted on durham.ca/HCP.

March 2, 2020