

## UPDATES ON THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS

I am writing to provide an update on the *2019 Novel Coronavirus* or *2019-nCoV*. The outbreak situation in China is still evolving and new cases are being reported daily.

**It is important to note that to date there are no reported cases of the novel coronavirus in Halton Region. The risk of novel coronavirus infection for Ontario including Halton Region continues to remain low.**

Recent updates on the novel coronavirus are available on the Halton Region website at: <http://halton.ca/coronavirus>

Symptoms of novel coronavirus infection include fever or cough and/or breathing difficulty. At this time, there is no specific treatment for coronavirus infection and no vaccine. Most people with novel coronavirus infection will recover on their own. If you or someone you know has recently returned from China, please follow the recommendations below.

### Travelers from Hubei Province

Individuals who have travelled to Hubei province (including Wuhan) in the last 14 days should:

- Stay at home and avoid close contact with others, including those in their home, for a total of 14 days from the date they left Hubei province;
- Contact Halton Region Public Health within 24 hours of arriving in Canada.

### Travelers from Mainland China (excludes Hong Kong, Macao, and Taiwan)

Individuals who have travelled to mainland China in the last 14 days should:

- Self-monitor for symptoms of the novel coronavirus for 14 days after leaving China;
- Contact Halton Region Public Health if they develop any symptoms.



Halton Region Public Health can be contacted at: 311, 905-825-6000 or toll free at: 1-866-442-5866. Anyone with severe illness should seek immediate medical attention by calling 911 and inform paramedics of their travel history.

### **How to Prevent the Spread of Respiratory Viruses**

The best way to prevent the spread of respiratory viruses including novel coronavirus is to:

- Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer;
- Cover mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing; if no tissue is available then sneeze or cough into the sleeve or arm;
- Clean and disinfect objects and surfaces regularly; and
- Stay home if ill.

The health and well-being of our community remains our highest priority. Halton Region Public Health will continue to keep you updated as new information becomes available.

Dr. Hamidah Meghani  
Medical Officer of Health, Halton Region

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