

**COVID-19 Update**

	Ont. cases	Deaths	LTC cases	LTC deaths	% LTC deaths
May 18, 2020	21,966	1,825	2,953	1,456	75.9%
January 2, 2021	190,962	4,650	11,293	2,829	60.8%

The provincial data is from January 15, 2020. Troubling reports of incendiary outbreaks in homes such as Tendercare and Oakwood Manor are reminders of how vulnerable older homes with 4-bed rooms are. Staff are being vaccinated and vaccination of residents with the Moderna vaccine will start this week. The need for vigorous screening, staff testing, assiduous use of PPE and other IPAC measures will remain unchanged.

<https://www.ontario.ca/page/how-ontario-is-responding-covid-19#section-0>

**2020: THE YEAR OF COVID-19**

- Jan 1 Huanan Seafood Wholesale Market closes after it is determined that most cases are linked to it.
- Jan 23 The city of Wuhan is placed under quarantine and a few days later, so is the entire province of Hubei.
- Jan 25 First Canadian case of the novel coronavirus was reported by Health Canada
- Jan 31 Feb 1, 2 - Medical Director Course, North York
- Feb 7 Dr. Li Wenliang, a 34-year-old ophthalmologist who first warned of the new virus and was reprimanded by Chinese authorities as a result, dies from it.
- Feb 28 OLTC Board of Directors hold full day meeting, many virtual meetings will follow.
- Feb 28 First case of COVID in North America, King County, Washington State
- Mar 6 First Canadian LTC home to declare a COVID outbreak, Lynn Valley Care Centre, North Vancouver
- Mar 9 Italy locks down its entire population, restricting movement across the nation; its confirmed case count hits 9,000.
- Mar 11 Ontario's first death, a 77-year-old Barrie man.
- Mar 11 The WHO declares a pandemic; the global confirmed case count is 126,000.
- Mar 16 PM Justin Trudeau announces travel ban.
- Mar 17 Premier Ford declares a state of emergency in Ontario while ordering some business to be closed, including daycares, bars and restaurants, theatres, and private schools
- Mar 20 First confirmed COVID cases in Ontario long term care
- Mar 23 First reported death of an Ontario LTC resident
- Mar 24 Health Canada reports that local transmission had become the "primary source" of cases, rather than travel.
- Mar 26 The U.S. becomes the nation with the most infections globally; surpasses 100,000 cases within 24 hours.
- Mar 29 Ontario lowers the number of people who could gather in one place to five people.

- Apr 9 OLTCC/OMA virtual Town Hall with expert panelists from LTC: Drs. Julie Auger, Rhonda Collins, and Andrea Moser
- Apr 10 OLTCC participates with Office of Chief Coroner of Ontario in first of three webinars on Managing Resident Deaths Reports (MRDR).
- Apr 14 MRDR, on-line certification of death begins
- May 11 1,235 deaths in LTC represent three quarters of Ontario's COVID-19 deaths
- May 15 Editorial in CMAJ: "Many deaths [from COVID-19] could have been prevented if the same amount of effort that was put into preparing the hospital sector for COVID19 (which so far seems to be successful) had also been spent on preparing for the continuing care sector."
- May 19 LTC Minister, Dr. Merrilee Fullerton, announces an independent commission into Ontario's long-term care system beginning in September
- May 28 OLTCC/OMA Zoom Town present first line outbreak experience of LTC physicians with Drs. Jobin Varughese, Sandy Shamon, Benoit Robert, Ross Kennel and Celeste Fung.
- Jul 24 OLTCC Town Hall with Dr. Allison McGeer, "In the Wake of the First Wave"
- Sep 2 LTC Commission begins interviews.
- Sep 30 Representing OLTCC, Drs. Fred Mather, Evelyn Williams, Benoit Robert and Rhonda Williams present to the LTC Commission.
- Oct 16 First day of OLTCC annual conference, Practical Pearls in LTC. LTC Minister Fullerton gives opening remarks.
- Oct 21 PPLTC29 II – Dr. Nathan presents ~~Ten~~ Twelve Articles That Could Change Your Practice
- Oct 23 LTC Commission provides first interim report, the "relationships between LTC homes, local hospitals and public health units must be based on trust, collaboration and respect on all sides for the expertise all parties bring to the priority of ensuring the health, safety and well-being of residents."
- Oct 23 PPLTC20 III – Keynote address by Dr. Nancy Whitmore, CEO and Registrar of CPSO
- Oct 30 PPLTC20 IV – Dr. Larry Bacher receives LTC Physician of the Year Award
- Nov 7 New Framework categorizes public health unit regions into the following five levels, green, yellow, orange, red and lockdown.
- Nov 26 OLTCC Annual General Meeting. Dr. Katarina Lakovic elected new Director.
- Dec 1 OLTCC Board of Directors inaugural meeting. New Executive: Drs. Benoit Robert (President), Fred Mather (Past President), Rhonda Collins (Vice President), Sandy Shamon (Secretary) and Louis Kennedy (At large).
- Dec 4 LTC Commission provides second interim report, "this is not our last word... our final report will provide an account of what happened throughout the pandemic and provide a broad range of recommendations that deal with pre- COVID systemic challenges and factors that contributed to the tragedy in long-term care homes."
- Dec 7 Pfizer BioNTech vaccine approved in Canada.
- Dec 13 First doses of vaccine arrive in Canada
- Dec 14 First inoculation of Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine given in Ontario
- Dec 23 Moderna vaccine approved in Canada